

St. John The Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office

Annual Report
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Dear fellow citizens,

Welcome again to our annual report, a summary of the activities of your sheriff's office over the past year. The stories and statistics you find in this issue are just a small portion of what we do every day to keep you and our parish safe.

Our entire department works towards the common goal of upholding the law and we never stop trying to solve a crime. Take for example the fact that we recently made an arrest in a nine-year-old murder case. Through a joint effort between our trained staff and the national media, two fugitives from our parish charged with murder were recently taken into custody after being on the run for some nine months. In both cases justice, although delayed, will be delivered.

For the past three years, official FBI statistics show crime is down 15 percent in seven categories in St. John. The most troubling trend is the total disregard for human life we often see in today's criminals. Petty disputes – once resolved with words or a shoving match are now settled with guns. Please, take every opportunity to talk to the young people in your life and let them know that violence is no way to settle a disagreement.

2012 marks the end of my 16 years of service as your sheriff and 32-year career in law enforcement. On July 1, Mr. Michael Tregre will become your new sheriff. He inherits not only a department of highly-trained professionals but one that has been fiscally responsible with the taxpayer dollars entrusted to it. Through careful budgeting and sound management, the SJSO has a surplus of some \$3.5 million in the bank. I will continue to work together with Mr. Tregre to ensure a seamless transition in administrations with absolutely no disruption in the outstanding service provided by this office. When you dial 9-1-1, we respond.

Over the years, this department and the expectations you have for it have changed dramatically. Amazing technological advances in crime-fighting have been installed, embraced and enhanced. Special units now handle dangerous situations. New equipment keeps us and you safer and numerous community outreach programs stop crime before it starts. More officers and more patrol units are on our streets than at any time in our parish's history.

We've come a long way and there is much to be proud of, in particular the constant dedication and professionalism of the 239 full-time and 27 part-time members of this department.

It has been my honor to serve you. Let's all continue to work together to keep our community safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sincerely,
WAYNE L. JONES
Sheriff, St. John the Baptist Parish



D.A.R.E. Graduate

Deputy Cindy Faucheux is a recent graduate of the D.A.R.E. Officer Training School held in Pineville, LA. As a D.A.R.E. officer, she interacts with students in local schools, teaching the skills needed to make better decisions.

For many years, the SJSO has sponsored a D.A.R.E. program, affecting the lives of countless young people. “D.A.R.E.,” or Drug Abuse Resistance Education, is just one of the many pro-active programs we sponsor to teach the youth of our parish the dangers of drugs and what they should do to live a life free of crime, gangs and violence,” Sheriff Jones said.

D.A.R.E. is implemented in 75 percent of our nation’s school districts and in more than 43 countries around the world.

Sheriff Jones congratulates Deputy Cindy Faucheux, a recent graduate of the D.A.R.E. officer training course, where she was cited as the most outstanding team member in her class.

Synthetic Marijuana Bust

Despite being banned in Louisiana, synthetic marijuana continues to be bought and sold in the state. As part of our efforts to rid the parish of illegal drugs, SJSO narcotics agents, State Police and personnel from the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control recently raided a Garyville store, seizing thousands of packets of laboratory-produced pot.



“This synthetic marijuana looks innocent enough as it is sold as herbal incense or bath salts, but users know what it is,” Sheriff Jones said. “When smoked, some people get a similar high as they would with marijuana, but others get very sick and need medical attention. Some users suffer from hallucinations and even suicidal thoughts.”

Agents confiscated more than 18,000 packets of synthetic cannabis, devices for smoking it, other drug paraphernalia and \$7,600 in cash during the daylight raid. “These herbal incenses and bath salts are schedule one, controlled dangerous substances in Louisiana, which make them illegal to possess, manufacture or distribute,” Sheriff Jones said. “We will continue to have zero tolerance for this activity.”

Special Unit Gets New Video Cameras

A SJSO special squad who regularly deal with dangerous situations have a new tool at their disposal. Members of the Felony Intercept Unit, FIU, are now equipped with miniature video cameras that record everything happening in front of them.

“Unlike a dashboard camera in a patrol unit, these tiny cameras go everywhere the officer goes,” Sheriff Jones said. “They can be mounted on a vest or shirt and record up to four hours of full color, high-definition video and audio while serving drug warrants or dealing with an unruly person or crowd. The FIU also gets into situations where it’s the officer’s word against someone else’s as to what happened. These cameras answer that question every time.”

The cameras are password protected to prevent any video from being erased.

“Video evidence is one of the strongest tools available to convict criminals,” Sheriff Jones said. “It also protects our officers from charges that a situation was mishandled.”

Video cameras virtually disappear on members of the SJSO Felony Intercept Unit. L-R: Corporal Matthew Woodruff, Deputy Travis Pitman, Deputy Mark Ceravolo, Lieutenant James Bessinger, Sergeant Charles Wale, Deputy Michelle Pearson, Deputy Scott Boyington and Deputy Anthony Bullock.





VFW Honors Sheriff Jones

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3337 recently presented Sheriff Jones with a plaque commemorating his many years of dedication and service to the citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish. Making the presentation are (L-R), Post Junior Vice Commander Ronald Boudreaux, Post Commander Ray Bass, Sheriff Jones, Quartermaster Wesley Mitchell and post members Henry Edler and Larry Vinet.

Post 3337 also took the occasion to make a monetary contribution to the SJSO D.A.R.E. program.



“We Will Never Forget”

SJSO personnel, elected officials, parish employees, firefighters, emergency responders, members of our military, St. John Young Marines, State Police, community organizations and many citizens from across the parish took part in a ceremony last September marking the 10 year anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

Bulletproof Vest Fund Donation

The St. Joan of Arc Thrift Shop recently donated \$500 to SJSO’s Bulletproof Vest Fund. Presenting the check are Thrift Shop volunteers (L-R) Emma Gilmore, Laurie Lambert, Cindy Cambias, Bailey Walters, Sheriff Jones, Hazel Tamplain, Gloria Dupuy and Velda Michel.

Donations from our community fund the purchase of bulletproof vests worn by SJSO members. We thank the many businesses, organizations and individuals who have generously given to this worthy cause.

Consider helping outfit a law enforcement professional with a bulletproof vest by making a contribution to this fund.





Deputy Amanda Roh is presented with a certificate of commendation from Sheriff Jones for saving the life of a newborn baby.

Deputy Saves Newborn's Life

A quick-thinking, well-trained SJSO deputy responding to a call for assistance saved the life of a newborn baby earlier this year.

SJSO 9-1-1 dispatchers received a call that a LaPlace woman had gone into labor and needed help. Deputy Amanda Roh was dispatched to the scene where she encountered a mother who had just given birth and a baby boy who was not breathing. Deputy Roh, a mother of two children herself, immediately took action and cleared the baby's airway with quick back slaps. The child then began breathing on its own and was transported along with the mother to River Parishes Hospital. Today, both are doing fine.

Deputy Roh was honored at a luncheon and received a certificate of commendation for her actions.

F.B.I. Academy Graduate

Major David Lozano of the SJSO has graduated from the F.B.I. Academy at Quantico, VA. He was among 246 law enforcement officers from 48 states and 22 foreign countries that made up the 245th session.

"Major Lozano's graduation from the F.B.I. academy raises the standard for professionalism in our department and we all take great pride in his accomplishment," Sheriff Jones said. "His completion of the course brings our number of F.B.I. academy graduates to nine."

Academy participants take part in investigative, management and fitness training to stay current with the latest developments in crime fighting and public safety.

A 1979 graduate of East St. John High School, Major Lozano earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice as well as a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Southeastern University. A 26-year SJSO veteran, he currently serves as Chief Investigator for the St. John District Attorney's Office.



Major David Lozano is congratulated by Sheriff Jones for becoming the SJSO's most recent F.B.I. Academy Graduate.

Mourning the Loss of Robinette & Remondet

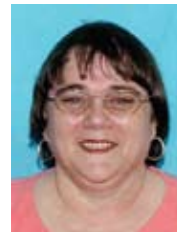
The SJSO recently lost two of its long-time employees with the passing away of Lieutenant Lanard Robinette and Deputy Suzette Remondet.



"Lieutenant Robinette, or 'Mr. Rob,' will be greatly missed," Sheriff Jones said. "A civic and community leader, his easy-going manner

and true dedication to the citizens of our parish set a great example to the officers who served with him. We will all miss seeing his ever-present smile."

After joining the department in 1991, Lieutenant Robinette served in a variety of positions with the SJSO, ending his career in the Community Relations Division.



Deputy Suzette Remondet passed away in December, 2011. She starting her career with the SJSO as a 9-1-1 dispatcher in 2003

and later transferred to our civil division, handling phone calls, traffic fine payments and other office duties.

"Suzette was a terrific employee with a great attitude," Sheriff Jones said. "If ever there was a person who would do anything for someone else, it was Suzette. Her unselfishness was legendary and we are all better off for having known her."



stjohnsheriff.org

The latest information about your sheriff's office is just a few clicks away at stjohnsheriff.org or on our Facebook page, "St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office."

Our web site gives you quick access to a wide variety of time-saving and convenient services. A listing of services, divisions and contact information is provided. Forms needed for transactions with our office are easily accessible and there's even a special section just for children.

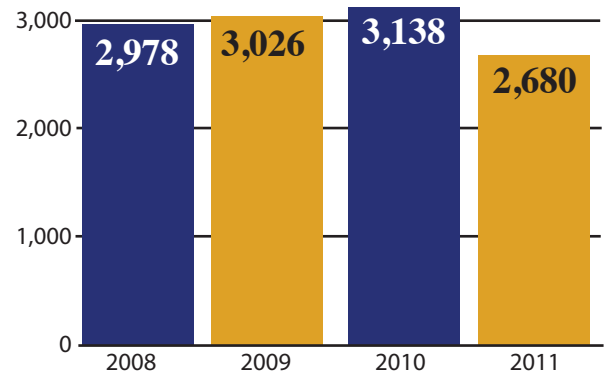
While you're online, consider visiting the official parish site; sjbparish.com and signing up for E-mail updates and/or emergency text notifications.

Visit stjohnsheriff.org frequently and stop by our Facebook page. Please give us input on how we can continue to improve our online presence to better serve you.

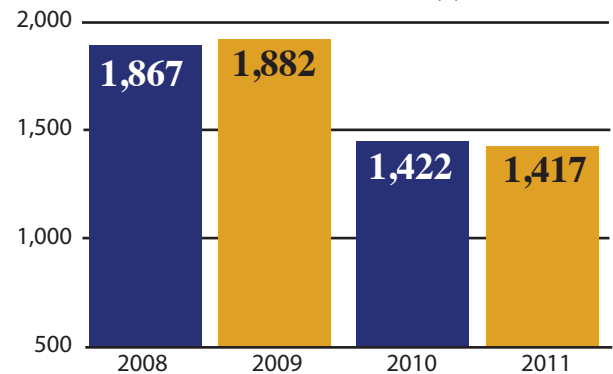
2012 Projected Expenditures

Salaries/Pensions.....	12,533,348
Unemployment/Social Security/Medicare.....	177,000
Automobiles.....	275,000
Radio.....	243,000
Computer.....	70,000
Deputy Equipment.....	25,000
Office/Other Equipment.....	270,000
Capital Projects – Jail Roof.....	280,000
Deputy Liability/Automobile.....	640,000
Deputy Liability.....	350,000
Hospitalization.....	3,500,000
Lease/Rentals.....	60,000
Accounting/Auditing.....	55,000
Attorney/Professional Services.....	70,000
Rescue.....	1,000
Auto Fuel & Oil.....	800,000
Auto Repair.....	400,000
Motor Pool.....	21,000
Uniforms.....	100,000
Equipment & Supplies.....	30,000
Training.....	100,000
Office Expense: Supplies.....	30,000
General Office.....	150,000
Maintenance.....	115,000
Telephone & Utilities.....	260,000
Radio.....	74,000
Prisoner Maintenance.....	300,000
Prisoner Medical.....	475,000
Prisoner Transport.....	1,000
Jail Maintenance/Expenses.....	225,000
Inmate Work Program.....	15,000
Criminal Investigation.....	110,000
Crime Scene.....	1,500
Dues & Subscriptions.....	11,000
Canine.....	5,000
Computer Costs.....	370,000
Community Education Programs.....	30,000
Other Expense.....	1,160,000
Total Projected Expenditure.....	\$23,332,848
Fund Balance as of 6/30/12.....	\$3,465,226
Total Funds Available.....	\$26,798,074

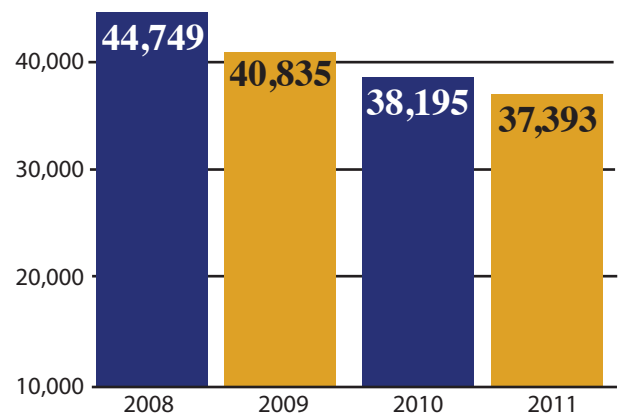
Arrests



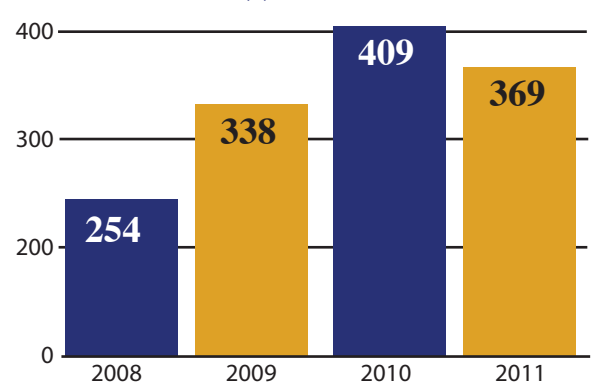
Traffic Accidents Worked



Calls for Assistance



DWI Arrests



We receive an average of 40,293 calls for assistance each year. This number includes calls to Acadian Ambulance and local fire departments as the SJSO also responds to these.

Park Gets Additional Security Measures

One of St. John's most popular public recreation spots is now under 24 hour surveillance by the SJSO as video cameras, monitored by 9-1-1 dispatchers, have been installed at Highway 51 Park.

"While we routinely patrol all parks in the parish, the wide-open spaces, walking trail, pond and playground at Highway 51 Park makes it a very popular recreation destination," Sheriff Jones said. "Sadly, criminals have also noticed this increased activity and may target parked cars or visitors. But, what they may not know is that we are constantly watching."

One camera visible to visitors sits atop an emergency call station. Park patrons can notify the SJSO of any suspicious or threatening activity by pressing the keypad, which is directly linked to our 9-1-1 call center. We plan to install emergency call stations and video cameras at other recreation areas.

Earn \$2,500 From **CRIMESTOPPERS** of Greater New Orleans

If you have information on a crime, call 504.822.1111 or 1.877.903.STOP to contact Crimestoppers of Greater New Orleans. Anonymous callers are given an ID number and directed to call back regularly to determine if their information has helped to arrest and indict a perpetrator. Once an indictment is secured, Crimestoppers pays out a cash reward to you for providing the information. For more information, visit crimestoppersgno.org.

Crimestoppers wants your information, not your name!

Call 985.652.DRUG (3784) to leave an anonymous tip about suspected drug activity. All calls are confidential.

Park Safety Tips

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Lock your vehicle, take your keys and don't leave valuables visible in your car.
- Don't exercise alone, particularly during periods when there are not many people around.
- If you wear headphones to exercise, don't have the volume so loud that you couldn't hear someone coming up behind you.
- Bring your mobile phone with you.
- Do not hesitate to dial 9-1-1 to report disturbances, lewd conduct or any suspicious activity – we will respond.

A new, emergency call station enhances security at Highway 51 Park.

