

St. John the Baptist Parish **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



Annual Report 2022



Sheriff's Office

Annual Report 2022

Dear fellow citizen,

I'll start off this edition of our annual report with a few well-deserved 'thank you's.'

First, on behalf of the dedicated men and women of your sheriff's office, thank you for renewing a one-quarter cent sales tax that makes up a large part of our operating budget. These funds pay for salaries, training programs and the latest crime fighting technology, including our plan to outfit deputies with the best body cameras available.

Second, thank you to the citizens of our parish — who came together as they always do in tough times — before, during and after Hurricane Ida to help us and their neighbors. Our recovery continues and so does that 'St. John Spirit' of working collectively for the common good.

Thank you to the many law enforcement, first responder and government agencies as well as the volunteers who came to our parish's assistance in a time of great need. We will not forget you.

Lastly, thank you to the many local clubs and businesses who generously provide meals and snacks to our people (cops love donuts!) and to those in our community who offer words of encouragement or a 'thanks for your service' when they see a deputy.

Among other stories in this issue, you'll find articles about the new public safety complex on the West Bank, numerous awards, honors and certifications achieved by our personnel, our youth fishing camp, visits to local schools, training programs and our efforts to help residents before, during and after Hurricane Ida.

With your continued assistance — and we always need your help — our office has made great strides in my 10 years as your sheriff to keep St. John safe. If you see something, say something. We are as close as dialing 911. Teach young people that law enforcement officers are their friends and should they ever feel unsafe, seek out a deputy.

Please let me know if I or this office can ever be of service to you.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Tregre". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "M" and "T".

MIKE TREGRE

Sheriff, St. John the Baptist Parish
sheriff@stjohnsheriff.org



*The mission of the
St. John the Baptist
Parish Sheriff's Office
is to improve the quality
of life in our parish. We
will protect life and
property through
partnership with our
communities. We
respect the rights of all
citizens by upholding
the U.S. Constitution
and the Law of
Louisiana. We will
perform our duties by
adhering to our core
beliefs: Integrity,
Respect and
Professionalism.*

Hurricane Ida

Thankfully, there was no loss of life in St. John when Hurricane Ida, one of the most powerful hurricanes in history, struck our community. We continue to re-build from the tremendous damage inflicted from wind, rain and high water.

"We did all we could to help residents evacuate or prepare for the storm," Sheriff Tregre said. "We doubled the number of personnel on patrol before it hit and got back out on the roads as soon as we could once the wind died down."

Hundreds of people were rescued from their homes by the SJBPSO as fast-rising water caused widespread flooding. One person saved was trapped under a fallen tree.

"Many residents are still repairing homes and businesses and some dishonest people are taking advantage of the situation," Sheriff Tregre said. "Before agreeing to any work or signing a contract, check references and call us with questions."



We prepared and delivered many meals for residents, first responders, utility workers and volunteers.



New West Bank Public Safety Complex

The West Bank Public Safety Complex at the foot of the Veterans Memorial Bridge is open and meeting the needs of residents in that community.

"We teamed with parish government to build this outstanding facility that allows us to increase manpower in that area and ensure faster response times," Sheriff Tregre said. "Sharing the building with the Office of Fire Services saves taxpayer money and makes coordinating aid easier."

The \$2.2 million, 6,000-square-foot building moves sheriff's office personnel from cramped quarters at the Edgard courthouse. There is storage space for boats, four wheelers and search and rescue equipment. The complex will also serve as a voting location.

Contact our office for a tour.



The new complex has ample office, conference and storage space.

Lt. Michael Pugh in the large meeting area.



Training/Recruitment/Hiring



Firearms Certification



Restraint Training



Stop the Bleed Instruction

Training, Training, Training

The Lloyd B. Johnson Law Enforcement Training Center on Cambridge Drive continues to be a hub of activity as our deputies and other law enforcement personnel work to enhance their knowledge and skills.

"Our people train every day and we are hosting more groups from other agencies," Sheriff Tregre said. "These visitors get to use the finest facility in the state, buy meals and gas, rent rooms and spend money, contributing to our economy."



We're Hiring

Join the St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office and make a difference in our community.

Accepting Applications for All Positions

Starting Salary as High as \$49,500
With No Law Enforcement Experience

**\$6,000 Salary Increase with
P.O.S.T. Certification**

**100% Paid Life, Health, Vision
and Dental Insurance**

100% Paid Pension Fund

Paid Vacation and Holidays

Take-home Unit

Gym Access

Career Advancement Opportunities

Patrol Deputies

Medical Assistants

Corrections Officers

Crime Scene Investigators

Criminal Investigation Detectives

Training & Firearms Instructors

SWAT Officers

Court Security & Bailiffs

Transportation & Programs Officers

School Resource Officers

911 Dispatchers

Apply Today!

Visit stjohnsheriff.org and click on "Employment Opportunities." Download and complete the application and bring it to our office with a copy of your ID, high school diploma or equivalent or an advanced degree. Background checks, drug screenings and polygraph examinations are performed on all applicants.

SJBPSO and Kids

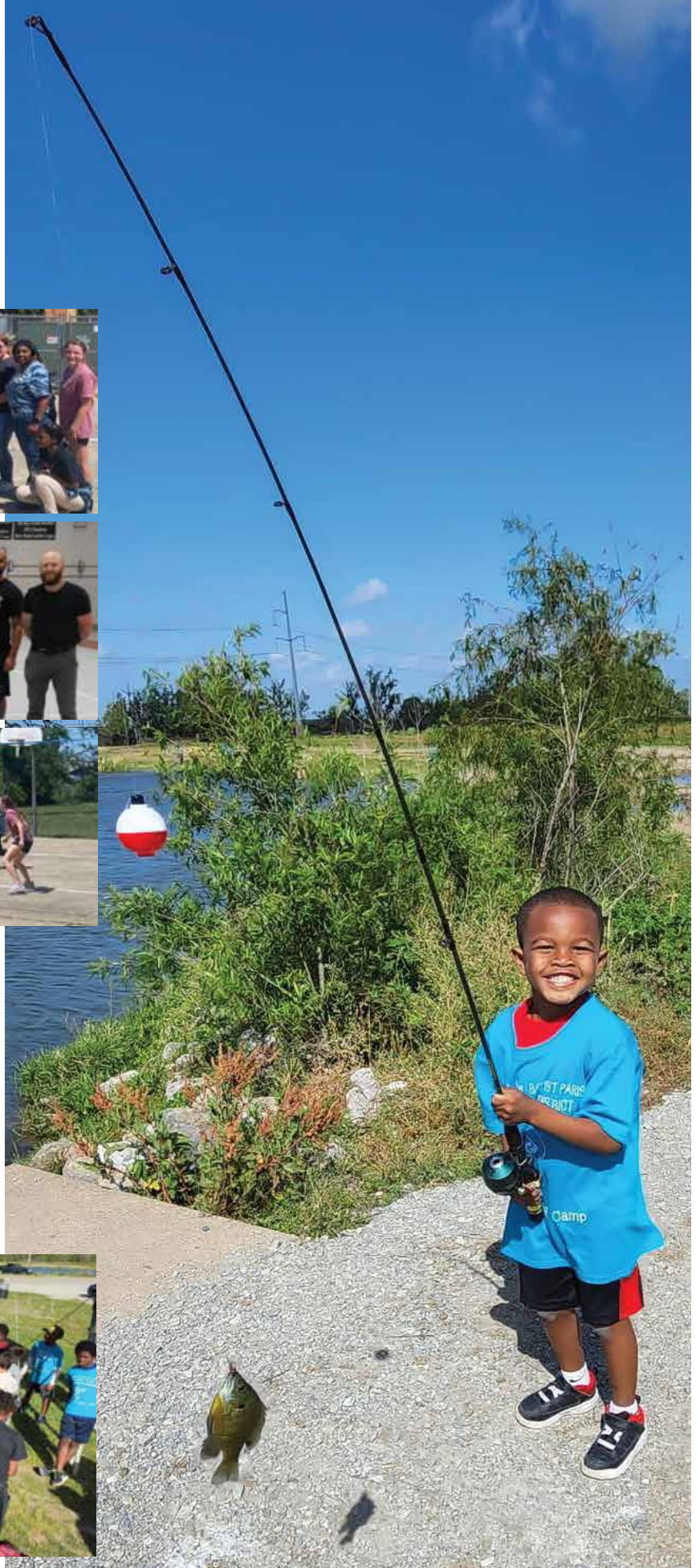
As part of our continuing effort to stay involved in our community and in particular the lives of young people, volunteers from the SJBPSO formed the “Blue Thunder” volleyball and basketball teams that will gladly come to your school and play a game with students or faculty and staff.

“Interacting with young people starts and builds relationships,” Sheriff Tregre said. “We want them to know that we are their protectors and they can come to us anytime.” Contact our office to schedule a ‘nowhere-near-serious’ game.



Kid's Fishing Camp

After a two-year absence due to COVID-19 and high water on the Mississippi River, the St. John Parish Kid's Fishing camp returned to the Bonnet Carré Spillway with more than 100 children participating. Special thanks go out to the many volunteers who helped put on the event as well as Gold Rod Fishing Club, Judge Sterling Snowdy, St. John Parish Government, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. John Parish School System, Cabela's, Armstrong's Crickets, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and the St. Charles Parish Parks and Recreation Department.



Honors and Recognitions

Investigator Completes Training



Sergeant Kendel Harris, who investigates sex crimes has completed special training to enhance our ability to examine these offenses. His instruction included studying the psychology of offenders, techniques for interviewing suspects and victims and special procedures for gathering and preserving evidence for prosecution.

Polygraph Certification



Lieutenant Douglas Buckler recently completed a 10-week course to attain national certification in administering polygraph examinations. The American Polygraph Association and the Association of Police Polygraphists oversaw the training.



The K9 Team

The K9 team of **Detective Brian Schum** and **Milli** was selected as Officer of the Fourth Quarter of 2021 for their exceptional work with the Drug Enforcement Agency. In the past year, the team helped seize more than \$1 million in illegal drugs and cash. With Detective Schum and Milli are Sheriff Tregre and Dawn Butler of Moore New Homes, sponsor of the award.

SJBPSO App

Download our free app to access information about our office, receive notifications, view crime mapping, status of inmates, warrants and more.



Service Before Self Award



Detective Keniel Henry has received the top honor — the Service Before Self Award — from Beyond the Badge, a volunteer group that works to inform the public about law enforcement officers performing extraordinary acts of kindness in their Louisiana communities. Detective Henry was also one of 15 officers in the state to receive the group's Heart of Law Enforcement award.

Each year, Detective Henry and his family start a grocery list to prepare meals for people in need. On his birthday in July, they cook and deliver the food to homeless people in the New Orleans area, paying for everything himself.

In 2020, Detective Henry also began a drive to collect blankets, gloves and warm clothes for the homeless. He and his family as well as community members deliver the items each January.

Visit beyondthebadgelouisiana.org for more information.

Medal of Valor



Deputy Elton Breaux was honored with the Medal of Valor for his work in stopping the active shooter incident with Deputy of the Year Detective Walker. This award is given to an officer who performed a brave attempt to rescue someone from suffering severe bodily harm or the loss of life, or committing an act requiring great courage in the face of life-threatening danger. Despite being off-duty and traveling with his family, Deputy Breaux responded to the extremely serious situation and provided cover for one victim, getting him to safety while the shooter was located and apprehended.



We Will Never Forget

As part of National Police Week, the SJBPSO held its annual program on May 10, 2022, to honor the memory of officers killed in the line of duty while protecting the citizens of our parish.

End of Watch

Constable Ignace Rousselle
October 20, 1936

Deputy Harry Troxlair
August 1, 1969

Detective Sherman Walker
November 6, 1984

Deputy Barton Granier
January 27, 1996

Deputy Edmond Songy
July 9, 2002

Captain Octavio Gonzalez
June 16, 2006

Deputy Brandon Nielsen
August 16, 2012

Deputy Jeremy Triche
August 16, 2012



Sheriff Tregre, Det. Jonathan Walker and Nathan Stein of Assured Compliance Incorporated, sponsor of the Officer of the Year award.

Officer of the Quarter and Year

Detective Jonathan Walker, a member of our Special Weapons and Tactics Unit (SWAT) was named the SJBPSO 2021 Officer of the Year for his valiant effort during an active shooter incident on I-10 in LaPlace. After two people were injured by gunfire, Detective Walker located the shooter and following a struggle, took him into custody. He also received our office's Medal of Valor for his work. Detective Walker was also selected as Officer of the Third Quarter.



(L-R) Lt. Chris Crawford, Lt. Kaiana Knight and Capt. Marshall Carmouche

MAGNUS Command College Graduates

Lieutenants Chris Crawford, Kaiana Knight and Captain Marshall Carmouche have graduated from the National Command and Staff College, also known as MAGNUS.

The 10-week, intensive course enhances participants' leadership skills to keep our community safe while protecting officers. Graduates attend lectures, watch videos, participate in discussions, case studies and complete group projects.



Dep. Forestier



Dep. Johnson



Dep. Kennedy



Dep. McClelland



Dep. Richard



Dep. Thomas

P.O.S.T. Certified

Deputies Lawrence Forestier, Vachroan Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Cortney McClelland, Tiffany Richard and Jaris Thomas have completed the requirements for P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standards and Training) certification. The rigorous, 15-week program includes training in firearms, criminal and traffic law as well as the latest techniques used for interrogations and investigations. P.O.S.T certification is one of the marks of a professional law enforcement officer.

Body Armor Fund

Contributions of any amount to our body armor fund are always welcome. Over time, tactical gear loses its effectiveness and must be replaced. Please, consider helping protect us so we can protect you.

stjohnsheriff.org

St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office

Mike Tregre, Sheriff

Post Office Box 1600 • 1801 West Airline Highway

LaPlace, Louisiana 70068

985.652.9513 Fax 985.652.7916 8-4 M-F

Reserve/Garyville/Mt. Airy

985.535.8100

Edgard/West Bank

985.497.3435

IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Non-emergency 985.652.6338



stjohnsheriff.org



St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff



@stjohnsheriff

We're with you! The SJBPSO sponsors and participates in numerous community events. Let us know about yours so we may attend.



Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Career Day at West St. John High School



Honoring 911 Operators



Kiwanis First Responders Day at P.J.'s



Special Olympics Torch Run



Pinwheels for Child Abuse Prevention



Operation Christmas Cheer



Pack the Pirogue School Supply Drive

