



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH **SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



2025
ANNUAL REPORT



St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office

Annual Report 2025

Dear fellow citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish,

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of your sheriff's office, it is my pleasure to present you with this report on our activities. The stories in this issue comprise just a small sample of the many programs and activities we provide and sponsor as part of our constant effort to keep our parish safe.

As thought management leader Tom Peters says, "Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders."

I am exceptionally proud of the efforts made by our personnel to further enhance their professionalism and that of this entire department. Several have been chosen by their peers to head statewide law enforcement support organizations, providing leadership not only at that level, but to the officers under their supervision. A culture of continuous growth and learning fosters personal development, energizes our organization and empowers others to do their best.

In short, steel sharpens steel, iron sharpens iron and people get better when you allow them to get better.

We continue to upgrade our technology to stay ahead of the criminal element. In this issue, you'll see articles about an enhancement to our emergency communications network, activities at the Lloyd B. Johnson Law Enforcement Training Center (LBJ), our free Citizens Academy, a hurricane and rare snowstorm, a new church safety program and some of the many accomplishments and honors garnered by our dedicated team of law enforcement professionals.

Community involvement will always play a crucial role in fighting crime. We cannot be everywhere and rely on concerned citizens to alert us to potential criminal activity. Dial 911 immediately if you witness a crime or need help. The SJSO works exceptionally hard to take part in any event we can while striving to deliver a pro-law enforcement message. Please, consider inviting a representative from our office to your next meeting so you'll be up to date on our activities and help to further strengthen our relationship.

It is my honor to lead this exceptional, devoted team that continues to work hard every day to keep you, your family and St. John the Baptist Parish safe.

Please, contact me personally if I or this office can be of service to you in any way.

MIKE TREGRE

Sheriff, St. John the Baptist Parish

sheriff@stjohnsheriff.org



*Ours is a profession
where every day we
must be prepared
mentally and physically
to save a life, take a life
or give our own for the
citizens we serve.*

Ready For Anything

We are prepared to capably respond to whatever people or Mother Nature can throw at us and were tested in the past year as we handled a hurricane and an extremely rare snowstorm. A quick moving storm, Hurricane Francine made landfall far to our west in September of 2024 and affected us with heavy rain, downed power lines and damage to homes and outbuildings. Then in January, a freak storm covered Southeast Louisiana with some eight inches of snow.



SJSO personnel deliver water to Garyville residents affected by Hurricane Francine.



"Our entire department handled their vital roles of protecting and ensuring the well-being of our residents very well," Sheriff Tregre said. "We increased patrols and worked with other first responders to keep St. John safe."

Text 911

An upgrade to the communications capabilities of our 911 center now allows dispatchers to receive text messages.

"This enhancement could be a lifesaver for a person in a situation where making a voice call to 911 could endanger them," Sheriff Tregre said. "Just like any contact with our 911 system, dispatchers immediately see the location of the call and can quickly send the appropriate assistance."



Lending a Hand



SJSO SWAT Members outside the Superdome After the New Year's Day terrorist attack that killed 15 people and injured 57 on Bourbon Street, SJSO officers were a part of the enhanced security at the Sugar and Super Bowls.

"Along with personnel from many other public safety agencies, our Special Weapons and Tactics, or SWAT Team, that is trained to handle high risk and tense situations, supplemented the heavy law enforcement presence at these events," Sheriff Tregre said.

Church Safety

A new, free SJSO program works to enhance the safety of local churches by making faith leaders more aware of the potential dangers facing their congregations during services.

"Having a plan in place makes all the difference in the world," Sheriff Tregre said. "These training sessions teach practical methods to keep people safe including how to secure a church building should a threat be made or materialize."

For more information about the next class at the LBJ Training Center call 985.359.8685.



A Church Safety Seminar at the LBJ Training Center

New Cell Phone Law

It is now illegal to use a phone while driving in Louisiana unless it's for hands-free calls or navigation.

"Distracted driving is a leading cause of accidents," Sheriff Tregre said. "Texting while driving has been against the law for some time and this new measure should make drivers pay more attention."



Calls made using wrist-worn devices, or to report crashes or emergencies are permitted. After January 1, 2026, violators face fines of up to \$250 if the offense occurs in a school or highway construction zone. Until then, officers will issue a warning.

Activity at LBJ Training Center



SJSO personnel as well as more than 200 law enforcement and first responder agencies from across the country use the Lloyd B. Johnson Law Enforcement Training Center (LBJ Training Center) on Cambridge Drive to enhance their skills with classes, certification seminars and conferences.

With the absolute latest in instructional technology, a shooting range and a gym for SJSO use, the center serves as host to a wide variety of events from free CPR instruction, Women's Self Defense and Firearms Familiarization to LSU Master Gardener classes and numerous community events.

"Visitors using the LBJ Training Center spend a lot of money in our parish on travel, meals and lodging," Sheriff Tregre said. "Contact us for class details or a tour of the finest training center in the state."

Bulletproof Vests

Members of the Belle Terre Civic Association present a \$1,000 check to the SJSO for its bulletproof vest fund. Contact us for more information about this ongoing campaign. Donations of any amount are appreciated.



War on Drugs Continues



Report possible drug activity by calling 985.652.DRUG (3784). You do not have to give your name.

An anonymous tip from a concerned citizen led to a recent bust where thousands of dollars worth of illegal drugs, weapons and a large amount of cash were confiscated.

"Fortunately, there are many concerned citizens in our parish who help us stop illegal activity," Sheriff Tregre said. "I urge you to follow a very simple plan, if you see something, say something."

Awards / Honors / Recognition

"Our officers continue to garner recognition and attain personal achievement for their outstanding effort to keep our parish, state and nation safe. Individual professional development enhances our entire department and continues to raise even further our high standard of service." – Sheriff Mike Tregre

Beyond the Badge

Corporal Jacqueline Gabriel and Lieutenant Darlene Cooper were honored with the Heart of Law Enforcement Award from Beyond the Badge, a volunteer group that recognizes law enforcement officers for acts of kindness. Corporal Gabriel was recognized for raising money to assist a homeless man and a needy family at Christmas. Lieutenant Cooper helped a family move from sleeping in their car to proper living arrangements while providing food and clothing. She also works with young people in our school system.



Sheriff Tregre congratulates Corporal Jacqueline Gabriel (Left) and Lieutenant Darlene Cooper (Right) for their Heart of Law Enforcement awards.

Excellence in Law Enforcement Award



Governor Jeff and First Lady Sharon Landry with Sheriff Tregre at the Excellence Awards

Sheriff Tregre recently accepted the Metropolitan Crime Commission's Excellence in Law Enforcement Award, recognizing the SJSO's efforts in "Operation Clean House." By targeting high crime areas around New Orleans, officers made 155 arrests, seized 54 firearms and took a large quantity of dangerous narcotics off our streets.

FBI Associates



Major Wale

Major Chip Wale is the new president of the Louisiana chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates, representing more than 300 graduates of the comprehensive training program who are sheriffs, police chiefs and senior law enforcement leaders in our state.

Command Staff College Grad

Sergeant Destiny Trosclair recently graduated from the National Command and Staff College, an accredited graduate level program that enhances law enforcement leadership skills while emphasizing officer safety and wellness.



Sergeant Trosclair

Forgery and Fraud Investigators

Lieutenant Michael Shard recently completed his term as president of the Louisiana Forgery and Fraud Investigators Association after hosting the group's annual conference in LaPlace with more than 80 participants from the U.S. and Canada.

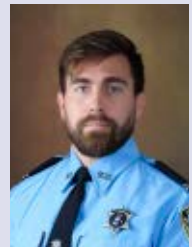


Lieutenant Shard

POST Certified



Sergeant Naquin



Deputy Traylor



Deputy Sensebe



Deputy Turley



Deputy St. Amant

Five more SJSO officers have achieved Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certification, the mark of a law enforcement professional. Sergeant Perry Naquin and Deputies Jared Sensebe, Andrea St. Amant, Joseph Traylor and Kyron Turley completed the 12-week rigorous program, training in firearms, physical fitness, Louisiana law and investigations. The SJSO has more POST certified personnel in its ranks than ever.

Traffic Accident Investigation Honor

After hundreds of hours of course work, study and exams, Commander Captain Jared Seruntine and Corporal Jose Portillo have received the prestigious Fricke Cooper Achievement Award for Traffic Crash Investigation and Reconstruction. It recognizes professional development and efforts to deliver the finest traffic accident examinations.



Corporal Portillo and Captain Seruntine

OFFICERS OF QUARTER AND YEAR

2024



Sheriff Tregre with Deputy of the Year Adams and Brandon Mabile of Mabile's Restaurant, sponsor of the award

Our 2024 Officer of the Year is Deputy Ryan Adams, who – in an incident that resembled a scene from a movie – pulled a motorist from a burning vehicle that had crashed into a utility pole before it burst into flames. Had it not been for his and a colleague's quick action, the driver certainly would have perished. Deputy Adams is also a member of our SWAT Team and was honored by Crimestoppers of New Orleans for his heroics.

Third Quarter

For her continual efforts to maintain records for several divisions in the SJSO, Sergeant Kristin Chenier was selected as Officer of the Third Quarter. She also keeps officers updated on surveillance projects and reviews crime camera footage, leading to arrests and convictions. Sergeant Chenier also retains digital evidence from body and vehicle dash cameras.



Sheriff Tregre presents Sergeant Chenier with the Officer of the Third Quarter Award, sponsored by Cool Concepts.

Fourth Quarter



Sheriff Tregre, Detective Rodriguez and Kurt Becnel of IMPCO, the award's sponsor.

His work to recover a stolen vehicle and arrest a violent offender led to Detective Jesus Rodriguez being recognized as Officer of the Fourth Quarter. He apprehended the suspect – who had warrants for attempted second degree murder, home invasion, armed robbery, possession of a stolen firearm and burglary – while collecting evidence of additional crimes.

SJSO APP

Get the latest public safety updates through our free app which also provides more ways to communicate with us. Find 'St. John Parish Sheriff's Office' in your app store and stay in touch.



2025

First Quarter

Deputy Douglas Miller is the Officer of the First Quarter for 2025 for his work to apprehend an armed, convicted felon who was attempting to burglarize a LaPlace home. In responding to the call for service from an alert resident, he located and arrested the perpetrator who was in possession of a stolen handgun and burglary tools.



Sheriff Tregre with Officer of the First Quarter, Deputy Miller, sponsored by Kev's Glass

Second Quarter

Her valuable work as an instructor and coordinator of numerous SJSO training programs makes Lieutenant Denise Lowery the choice for Officer of the Second Quarter. She teaches CPR and Stop the Bleed, Taser use and self-defense while helping manage our busy training schedule, ensuring deputies receive timely instruction that adds to our agency's effectiveness.



Lieutenant Lowery

Lieutenant Lowery plays a critical role in ensuring that personnel are physically prepared and medically trained to respond to any situation. Her work as a physical fitness trainer elevates individual wellness and keeps our personnel ready for demanding incidents. The award is sponsored by Shannon's Body Shop.

The Numbers

In 2024, we received an average of more than 100 calls for assistance every day.



2024	2025 to Date
Calls for Assistance 38,527	Calls for Assistance 22,551
Bookings Into Parish Jail 2,264	Bookings Into Parish Jail 1,324
Automobile Accidents Worked 1,435	Automobile Accidents Worked 913
Drug Arrests 433	Drug Arrests 215
DWI Arrests 134	DWI Arrests 77

Car Seat Safety Checks

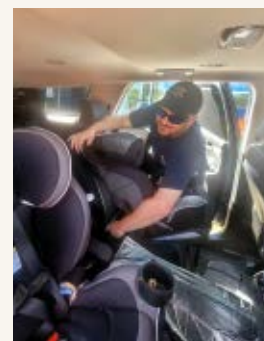
SJSO deputies certified as car seat technicians provide free safety checks for residents to ensure that children are in the right seat for their height, weight and age. Visit our web site, stjohnsheriff.org for info on the next event.



The seat event at our main office is always popular.

Louisiana Child Passenger Safety Laws

- **Infants** (less than 2 years old): Must be in rear-facing car seat in back seat
- **Toddlers** (2-4 years old): Must be in forward-facing car seat with harness in back seat
- **Children 4-9 years old:** Must be in a booster seat in back seat
- **Children 9 and Older:** May use regular belt if it fits across thighs and chest
- **Rear Seating:** Children 12 and under should ideally be seated in the rear of the vehicle



Lieutenant Scott Lacy checks car seats at the West Bank Public Safety Complex.

See Something?

You can provide confidential information about criminal activity and help keep our parish safe. Call our drug and crime tip lines. Your identity is not recorded nor revealed to anyone.



985.652.DRUG (3784)
985.359.TIPS (8477)

P.O.P.S. – Protecting Our Precious Seniors

Senior Citizens can benefit from our POPS program, with deputies providing check-ins and assistance. Call 985.652.7058 or visit stjohnsheriff.org for information on this free program.



We Will Never Forget

Each year during National Police Week, the SJSO honors the lives of its officers killed in the line of duty. Please contact us to learn how you can help sponsor a permanent memorial to these brave public servants at the LBJ Center.

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



SJSO Memorial Ceremony

Golf Cart Registration

Yes, we DO have more important things to do than police the use of golf carts in our community, but owners must adhere to laws governing their use. Visit our web site, stjohnsheriff.org, click on the 'programs' tab and then 'golf cart registry' for all the information you need to make your cart 'street legal.'



Four Wheelers



Four-wheelers, ATVs and other off-road vehicles are very familiar to St. John residents but operating them on public roadways or the walking/bike path at the base of the levee is illegal.

"We get numerous calls about ATVs and dirt bikes on streets, and some being operated recklessly," Sheriff Tregre said. "If you are

caught, you may get a citation, and your machine towed and impounded at your expense."

The SJSO also responds to complaints about extremely noisy ATVs and motorcycles. Operators of those vehicles also face citations and potential confiscation.

Help Us Help You

If you have video cameras at your home or place of business, register them with our office as knowing where cameras are located can speed up investigations. Sign up today at our web site as the footage you capture may help us solve a crime and keep St. John safe.



Citizens Academy participants watch a demonstration of restraint techniques.

Graduates of the seventh SJSO Citizens Academy recently completed the informal classroom and hands-on program, learning the inner workings of our department and the numerous proactive efforts we undertake to keep our community safe. This free program is open to anyone 21 or older who lives or works in St. John.

Text Scams

Criminals have tried to separate people from their money for centuries – it's nothing new. They just come up with new ways to do it. According to Proofpoint, a consumer protection company, text message scams increased 24% in the US and 69% globally last year. The Federal Trade Commission reports these scams cost US consumers \$131 million.

"One of the latest text scams uses messages that appear to come from the state, saying you owe money for an outstanding traffic ticket," Sheriff Tregre said. "It asks for a credit card number that the scammer will then use to make purchases. State government does not send out such messages and neither do we."

Sheriff Tregre advises people not to click on links in unsolicited messages and never send your personal information via text.

"If something looks suspicious, it likely is. Report it to our office," he added.



Join A Team of Dedicated Professionals and Keep Our Community Safe!

Now Hiring Entry Level & Experienced Deputies

Salaries:

911 Communications – Up to \$46,000

Corrections – Up to \$47,000*

Patrol – Up to \$61,200*

*With P.O.S.T. Certification

Benefits:

Take Home Unit Program

Free Medical, Dental, Vision & Life Insurance

Uniforms & Equipment Provided

24-Hour Fitness Center

Vacation & Sick Leave

Pension Retirement

...And Much More!

Answer The Call To Serve

Scan the QR code to apply or visit stjohnsheriff.org and click on "Employment Opportunities."



St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office

Mike Tregre, Sheriff

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Edgard/West Bank

985.497.3435

IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Non-emergency 985.652.6338



stjohnsheriff.org



St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff



Torch Run for Special Olympics



Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Meal



Youth Fishing Rodeo



Senior Self Defense Class



Lemonade Day



Blood Drive



Toys for Tots



Veterans Lunch



Community Meetings



Trunk or Treat

We're With You!

The SJSO sponsors and participates in numerous community events. Let us know about yours so we may attend.

STJOHNSHERIFF.ORG

