



St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

Public Information

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News Release

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STATEMENT BY SHERIFF GREG CHAMPAGNE

Recently, the St. Charles Sheriff's Office has done something not often done – we have taken on the difficult task of cleaning our own house. Since the recent arrests of 3 of our former officers, we have received numerous requests for information, including requests for the details of the investigations. As we have replied many times, we are unable to discuss the details of these cases. Criminal cases must be decided in the courts and not in the media or court of public opinion. Commenting on the details can only serve to jeopardize the prosecutions.

Experienced law enforcement officials and prosecutors know that building a solid criminal case can take many months. Information from all sources must be studied carefully, and facts must be sifted from rumor.

Although we would like to respond to several erroneous conclusions regarding this investigation, we cannot do so at this time. When the cases have reached their final disposition, it will become evident that we conducted these investigations honestly, efficiently, reasonably, and methodically.

Despite these recent arrests, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office remains an excellent law enforcement agency. Crime continues to fall steadily year after year. Our employees are dedicated and committed to their duty. We also utilize a nationally recognized leadership training model that is available to all employees. New applicants continue to want to join our agency.

With the hiring of a new chief deputy in October 2023, we have stepped up our efforts to improve the trust of our employees so that they can all have confidence that our hiring and promotional processes are indeed fair and objective—based upon merit, not favoritism. While we can never make everyone happy, we are taking all necessary steps to ensure that negative cultures do not again infect our organization.

We wish to thank the citizens of St. Charles Parish for their overwhelming support during this unusual and challenging time for all the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office employees.