



St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

Public Information

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Greg Champagne
Sheriff

News Release

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Three Former St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Employees Arrested

Sheriff Greg Champagne announces the arrest of three former employees. On Thursday, July 25, 2024, Former Chief Deputy Rodney Madere, Jr., former Captain Derek Pertuis, and former Sergeant Zain Stillinger surrendered themselves to the Nelson Coleman Correctional Center in Killona on outstanding arrest warrants.

Rodney Madere, Jr. was charged with LRS 14:134.3-Abuse of Office (1 count), LRS 14:67-Theft Over \$25,000 (1 count), LRS 14:130.1-Obstruction of Justice (1 count), and LRS 14:138-Public Payroll Fraud (26 counts). Madere resigned from the sheriff's office in February 2024 while under investigation.

Derek Pertuis was charged with LRS 14:134.3-Abuse of Office (1 count), LRS 14:67-Theft Over \$25,000 (1 count), and LRS 14:138 Public Payroll Fraud (26 counts). Pertuis was terminated from the sheriff's office in March 2024.

Zain Stillinger was charged with LRS 14:134.3-Abuse of Office (1 count), LRS 14:67-Theft Over \$25,000 (1 count), and LRS 14:138-Public Payroll Fraud (26 counts). Stillinger resigned from the sheriff's office in February 2024 while under investigation.

These arrest warrants were obtained after a lengthy criminal investigation conducted by investigators with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. The allegations involve the misappropriation/misuse of Sheriff's Office resources, equipment, and manpower. No other prior or ongoing criminal matters are affected.

*All subjects are innocent until proven guilty