

# St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office



Volume #20

# Update

2017 Annual Report

www.stcharlessheriff.org

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DEDICATED TO REPORTING THE NEWEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ST. CHARLES PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Postal Patron

This is a free annual publication mailed to St. Charles Parish residents, law enforcement professionals, community organization representatives, civic leaders and government officials. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to receive future issues, please direct your request to the Special Services Department at (985) 783-1355 or fax us at (985) 783-1195.



SHERIFF  
GREG CHAMPAGNE

Welcome to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office's twentieth issue of "Update". We want to continue to improve communication between our community and law enforcement, ensuring that residents can play an active role in helping us create a safe community. Our residents' involvement dramatically improves our effectiveness in protecting the lives and property in St. Charles Parish. We hope you will join us by reporting suspicious activity in your neighborhood as it occurs.

In this issue, we spotlight concealed carry and defensive handgun classes, our home inspection security & safety program, and the many youth programs offered in St. Charles Parish.

We also spotlight the launch of our new website and the 20th anniversary of "Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp", a summer program for parish youth.

## SHERIFF ON CRIME REDUCTION AND YEAR AS NSA PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2017 issue of *UPDATE*. First of all, I am pleased to report that crime in St. Charles Parish continues on a downward trend. In 2016, Uniform Crime Reporting with the F.B.I. revealed at least a 20 year low in the seven categories tracked by the Bureau. During the first six months of 2017, we were pleased to experience a 4.5% DECREASE from the first six months of 2016. We remain cautiously optimistic about the prospects for another annual record low even though we experienced somewhat of a spike during July with a number of automobile burglaries being reported.

I often hear from some citizens that crime seems to be on the increase from where it was years ago. This is an incorrect assumption that I believe is in large part due to the widespread increase in citizen communication including email and social media. When I first took office in 1996, email was just coming into existence. Social media was a distant concept. The only way citizens would hear about crime reports was by reading the parish journal on a weekly basis. Even then, due to space restrictions, not all crime was printed, and a small minority of citizens were subscribers. It was only the most serious crimes that would make televised news. Now, with the explosion of social media sites, we are able to provide almost immediate information about every crime that is reported, hence, the impression that crime is on the rise even though it is not. The difference is that you now hear about almost all crime whereas years ago, you did not. I do believe that social and electronic media is an effective tool for law enforcement to engage its constituencies and get them involved in the fight against crime. Awareness is key to having you as a useful partner in crime prevention.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your support during this past year as I had the great honor as serving as the 75<sup>th</sup> President of The National Sheriffs' Association and rep-



Sheriff Greg Champagne addresses the nation's sheriffs at the NSA Conference in Reno, Nevada.

*In 2016, Uniform Crime Reporting with the F.B.I. revealed at least a 20 year low in the seven categories tracked by the Bureau.*

resenting the 3088 Sheriffs of America. My term as president ended in late June as our new president, Sheriff Harold Eavenson of Texas, takes the reigns of this great organization. It was a great experience I will never forget. I had the opportunity to meet and have face-to-face conversations about law enforcement with national leaders at the highest level including President Donald Trump, Vice President Pence, Attorney General Sessions, Assistant Attorney General Rosenstein, Homeland Security Director Kelly, at least two cabinet secretaries and



During a February Meeting at the White House, Sheriff Champagne discusses with President Trump the role sheriffs and deputies have in Homeland Security issues.

other assistant secretaries. My travels took me out of state on many occasions as I also met with many Sheriffs around the country and worked with them on issues important to all.

I am thankful to all of our deputies and staff for diligently working to make sure that the people of St. Charles Parish were well served, and I am confident that was the case. I also learned many things during this experience, some of which have already been implemented here in the SCPSO. I can also tell you that nationally, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office is ahead of the curve in so many areas including leadership, ethics and effectiveness. All of us pledge to continue working diligently to bring our agency to an even higher level in the future.

Thank you,

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## ST. CHARLES PARISH CHIEF DEPUTY RETIRES

Joseph Cardella, the Chief Deputy of St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office retired after 21 years in his position.

With over 40 years of experience in law enforcement, Chief Cardella retired from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office on July 28, 2017. Cardella served as a Sheriff's Deputy, a Police Officer, and an FBI agent throughout his law enforcement endeavors but knew that the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office was the place from which he wanted to retire, honorably ending his long career.

Joseph Cardella joined the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office in 1981 where he worked his way through various divisions including the Patrol Division, Detective Bureau, and Internal Affairs. In 1996, Cardella was appointed to the position of Chief Deputy by the newly elected Sheriff, Greg Champagne.

From 1996 to 2017, Chief Cardella served as Sheriff Champagne's head advisor. As such, he was entrusted to make decisions on the Sheriff's behalf, reliably offering accurate information



Chief Deputy Joseph Cardella

and sound advice.

Cardella made a great name for himself, always being a pillar of knowledge to not just Sheriff Champagne, but all employees of the Sheriff's Office. He will be greatly missed by his co-workers as well as the community. Thank you for your service Chief! ★

## Sheriff Champagne Appears on Tavis Smiley Show



St. Charles Parish Sheriff Greg Champagne was invited to appear on Syndicated Talk Show Host Tavis Smiley's Program in July. The Sheriff is one of 5,000 Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police around the country who are members of the non-profit organization **Fight Crime Invest In Kids** which seeks to put the spotlight on federally funded programs that work. Sheriff Champagne was chosen by the group in light of his recent tenure as President of the National Sheriffs' Association and the work that he did promoting the "groups" agenda during the past year.

"This was an exciting opportunity for me to not only highlight what **Fight Crime Invest In Kids** is doing, but to also talk about all of the initiatives we have undertaken in St. Charles Parish to help make sure that our young people have positive alternatives to crime and bad behavior," said Sheriff Champagne.

During the show, various photos of youth programs sponsored by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office were shown in the background while Smiley conducted the interview. The program aired on PBS nationwide and can be viewed online at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/tavissmiley/interviews/sheriff-greg-champagne>. ★

## Major Rodney Madere Promoted to Chief Deputy of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

Rodney Madere was named Chief Deputy of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office by Sheriff Champagne. Rodney Madere has worked for the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office since 1990 and has been assigned to numerous divisions, working his way to the position of Major over enforcement personnel.

With the recent announcement of Chief Joseph Cardella's retirement, Sheriff Champagne had no doubt in his mind who the next Chief Deputy of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office should be. Sheriff Champagne announced in the beginning of March to all of his employees that when Chief Cardella retired, he would be replaced by Major Rodney Madere.

Sheriff Champagne stated, "I am pleased to announce that Major Rodney



New Chief Deputy  
Rodney Madere

Madere has become Chief Deputy. We are working with him to make this a smooth transition for everyone. He has proven his ability as an able and effective manager, especially in a crisis." ★

## Level II Defensive Handgun Courses Offered at St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

Level II Defensive Handgun is an intermediate level nine hour tactical handgun course with emphasis on efficient use of the defensive handgun during a critical incident. The course is offered to individuals who have completed a concealed handgun permit course and want to further increase their knowledge, confidence and handgun skills. This course meets the state's requirements outlined in LARS 40:1379.3 in order to carry a concealed handgun inside of a church or other place of worship. Students will receive a certificate of training upon successful completion of the course. The cost for the class is \$150.00.

### COURSE TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Recognizing traits of armed individuals
- Situational awareness and scanning techniques
- Defensive mindset
- Stress response during a critical incident
- Law enforcement response to an active shooter event
- Anatomical shot placement



Level II Defensive Handgun classes are also available.

- Selecting a defensive handgun, holster, and ammo
  - Aftermath of a defensive shooting
  - Review of shooting fundamentals
  - Presenting a handgun from concealment
  - Proper use of cover
  - Handgun reloads and malfunctions
  - Unorthodox shooting positions
  - Shooting while moving
  - Critical space shooting techniques
  - Shooting form and using a vehicle as cover
  - Qualification course fire
- For additional information or to register contact Sgt. Marlon Shuff at [mshuff@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:mshuff@stcharlessheriff.org). ★

## Follow Us Through Social Media

- Web Site: [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org)
- Vimeo: St. Charles Parish Sheriff  
<http://vimeo.com/stcharlesparishsheriff>
- YouTube: Sheriff Greg Champagne  
[http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_pTIDaMxbPGzMo\\_z9HycQ](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_pTIDaMxbPGzMo_z9HycQ)
- For updates on current activities, follow us on Facebook at St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, <https://www.facebook.com/SCPSheriff/>



# Community Strategies

## Amped Up Community Outreach Program

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office takes an active role in maintaining contact with community organizations, civic organizations and neighborhood watch groups. This partnership and trust with the community results in a better ability to deter crime.

A representative from the Sheriff's Office is always available to attend and speak at community and civic organization meetings. This liaison officer can provide information about identifying suspicious activity,

preventing crime, and reducing a citizen's chance of becoming a victim.

Anyone interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Group or who would like someone from the St. Charles Sheriff's Office to speak to their civic or community organization should contact Deputy David Sparacello of the Special Services Division at 985-783-1355. ★

(Right) Neighborhood Watch Groups are devoted to crime and vandalism prevention.



## HOME INSPECTION SECURITY AND SAFETY PROGRAM

The Sheriff's Office has partnered with St. Charles Parish Firefighters to offer free home inspections to residents who want to make their homes safe from criminals and fire hazards. The Home Inspection Program was established to look for potential safety hazards, such as those that could cause a fire or put occupants at risk for crime or injury.

Firefighters will look for frayed electrical cords and trip hazards. In addition, they will also look for hazards such as aging power strips or "daisy-chained" power strips, several power strips connected together. It is recommended that all homes have fire extinguishers, and if they do, the firefighters will also check to see if those extinguishers are up-to-date and functional.

The inspection also includes advice to make your home less vulnerable to burglars and other criminal activity.

Residents should try to eliminate places where burglars can hide outside the home. Since burglars seek large bushes in which to hide, overgrown vegetation should be trimmed and proper lighting should be installed.



If possible, residents should install a home security system along with video surveillance.

If a resident does have video surveillance or a monitored alarm system, it is recommended that it be one with a cellular backup. Burglars often cut a phone line to prevent the system from notifying the service provider. In addition, the system's battery should be fully charged. If a battery is dying, the resident will often hear a beep or other notification from the unit.

To request a home inspection, contact Crime Prevention Officer David Sparacello of the Special Services Division at 985-783-1355. ★



## Your Security Camera Can Help Us Solve Crimes

St. Charles Parish residents and business owners who own video security systems can help the Sheriff's Office solve crimes in their area by allowing detectives to view stored video in the aftermath of a crime.

Video of traffic passing in front of a certain location can provide crucial information about a crime to detectives, even if the crime occurred elsewhere in the parish. For example, video of a residential street may be of interest to detectives trying to solve a burglary, even if the burglary occurred on a different street.

The detective bureau maintains a confidential database of security cameras that may capture information that can be used in solving a crime.

Information about participants in the



program will remain anonymous. Those who would like to help by registering a camera can do so by going to our website at [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). On the website's homepage, select "Security Camera Database" from the menu below the Social Media Updates section. You can also contact Captain Donnie Smith by email at [dsmith@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:dsmith@stcharlessheriff.org) or Sergeant Jeremy Pitchford by email at [jpitchford@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:jpitchford@stcharlessheriff.org) or call (985)783-1135. ★

Sheriff Greg Champagne invites all St. Charles Parish Senior Citizens to attend

## TRIAD Senior Day 2017



October 26 • 9:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**FREE**  
Health Screening  
Diabetic Foot Screening  
Give-a-ways • Door Prizes  
Information  
Entertainment • Lunch

Edward A. Dufresne Community Center  
274 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway, Luling, LA 70070

**FLU SHOTS** will be available through  
St. Charles Community Health Center.

**NO out-of-pocket expense with Medicare.**  
Please bring old and unused medication for disposal.



For more information  
call Joyce Gullage  
**985-783-1355**

For transportation  
call  
**985-783-6683**



# Youth Programs

*offered in  
St. Charles Parish*



*Sheriff Champagne is a strong believer that making good impressions with citizens, especially today's youth, is a vital part in preventing crime and creating life long bonds between law enforcement officers and the citizens in the communities they protect. The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office offers numerous programs, free of charge, to the community in efforts to connect with citizens and create lasting impressions with lifelong memories. Some programs are as follows:*



## First Class Sheriff's Camp

The First Class Sheriff's Camp, a program operated through a partnership with the New Orleans Council Boy Scouts of America, offers boys between the age of 12 and 16 the opportunity to attend a 5 day camping adventure. The boys are taken by bus to Salmen Scout Reservation in Kiln,



Mississippi, where they participate in activities such as tent camping, swimming, archery, firearms training, arts and crafts, and rock climbing. The camp also blends instructional skills, career education, values, ethics, and leadership development to combat the causes of violence and crime. The boys are chaperoned by Sheriff's Office Employees from various divisions such as Patrol, Corrections, Juvenile Investigations, and Special Services.

"This program is a tremendous success and a positive experience for the boys who participate, as well as the deputies who accompany them," said Sheriff Champagne. For more information visit [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). ★

## Youth Empowerment Rally

A program started in 2013, with the intentions of providing a fun and empowering way to prepare youth for the upcoming school year. The program is conducted in collaboration with numerous organizations including the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, St. Charles Parish Government Department of Community Service, Alpha Daughters of Zion, United Way of St. Charles, St. Charles Parish Public Schools, and Blessed to be a Blessing.

The Youth Rally event falls just prior to the new school year starting. At the event, children are entertained with numerous game activities, guest speakers, live performances by local singers and bands, as well as countless other activities. School supplies, food, and gifts are given to attendees. The entire event is provided FREE OF



CHARGE, with all donations coming from sponsors of the event.

The 2017 program was held on August 5, 2017. If anyone is interested in donating to the Youth Empowerment Rally for next year, please contact Lt. Sampson of the Juvenile Justice Division at (985)308-1700 or email [rsampson@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:rsampson@stcharlessheriff.org). ★

## Drug Abuse Resistance Education

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education "D.A.R.E." Program was implemented into the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office in 1989, making it the second such program in the State of Louisiana. D.A.R.E. is a uniformed deputy-led series of classroom lessons that teach children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive, drug- and violence-free lives. It teaches children the skills they need to recognize and resist the subtle and overt pressures that may lead them to experiment with drugs and alcohol. With its message of drug, gang, and violence prevention, the program accomplishes its goals by building students' self-esteem and teaching them to resist peer pressure. D.A.R.E. provides students with accurate information about alcohol and



drugs, teaching them decision-making skills as well as the consequences of their behavior, as well as how to say no to drugs while providing alternatives to drug use. ★

## EXPLORERS PROGRAM

The Explorers Program is aimed at teaching leadership skills, discipline, and giving teens first hand training into a law enforcement career. Established in 1962 by the Boy Scouts of America along with representatives of the criminal justice community, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office's Explorer Program has three guiding goals:

- Recruit young men and women to qualify for future careers in law enforcement, offering a positive relationship between police and the youth of our community.
- Provide a forum in which young people can perform non-hazardous community service, thereby relieving police officers for other assignments.
- Provide solid training toward the development of better citizens and better physical fitness for all who participate in the program.

The members of Explorer Post #15 actively strive to create a better outlook



for their future. Their commitment to education and community service broadens members' goals and develops a sense of leadership. Explorers strive to build public awareness of their commitment to the citizens by working in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office. They better serve our community with the knowledge they've gained through training and accumulated experiences. The Explorer program keeps teens off the streets, encourages youth in the community to look to deputies as role models, and instills discipline and purpose in life.

If you are between the ages of 14 and 21 years old and are interested in participating in the Explorers Program, contact Sgt. Vicki Carter at (985) 783-1355. ★



## School Resource Officer Program

The School Resource Officer (S.R.O.) Program started as a partnership with the St. Charles Parish Public School System in 1994 and currently stations St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Deputies in the parish's two high schools, four middle schools, and one alternative school. The program is designed to quell violence by deterring student fights. The role of the officers, called "Resource Officers," involves more than just keeping the peace.

They teach law-related courses, act as counselors and role models, and provide a law enforcement presence on campus. ★



## G.R.E.A.T. PROGRAM

In 2016, St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Juvenile Justice Division and the St. Charles Parish Public Schools partnered together and introduced the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program. The G.R.E.A.T. Program is a law enforcement instructed school based curriculum that teaches life

skills, violence prevention, and decision making to elementary and middle school students. The lessons include topics such as bullying, anger management, communication and conflict resolution. After the students complete the curriculum, there is a graduation held in their honor. In one year's time it is estimated that 200 children have participated in the program, and after such a successful year, that number is only expected to grow. ★



## Community Garden Program

In March of 2017, the S.C.S.O Juvenile Justice Division found a fun and innovative way for law enforcement to connect with St. Charles Parish youth. Lt. Roanne Sampson and Sgt. Keysla Perrilloux adopted the concept of a community garden from Constable Donnie White and St. John the Baptist Church in Paradis. The garden is located at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Juvenile Justice Division, on Paul Maillard Road in Luling. The LSU Ag-Center assisted with this project by providing classroom instruction on basic gardening techniques. The community garden allows our youth to become more productive citizens by utilizing class-room



and hands on activities to learn about healthy eating and organic food. It also helps teach responsibility, builds leadership skills, cre-

ates ways of working collectively, and helps children become involved in beautifying their community.

The vegetables provided are donated to those in need. Since the community garden's development, it has received support from various agencies and companies such as, the United Way of St. Charles, The Home Depot and Walmart.

For more information or if you wish to participate in the program, please contact Lt. Sampson or Sgt. Perrilloux at (985)308-1700. ★



## Cops & Kids Program

Christmas was made extra special this past year by deputies who participated in the new "Cops and Kids Program". Employees were paired with a child in need of a little extra Christmas cheer, and then the fun began. Deputies took their new friends shopping for gifts at the local Walmart. The children were allowed to select any item that they would like to receive for

Christmas with the stipulation that they had to also choose one gift to give to someone else.

The program was made possible through a partnership with the local Fraternal Order of Police and the Sheriff's Office. The deputies and children all had a wonderful time, and life-long memories were made. ★



## Pillowcase Project

A new program by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, the Red Cross and Disney, started in August of 2017. The program allows youth, ages 8 to 11, to participate in decorating pillowcases by drawing items needed in preparation of emergency situations and evacuations. The program aims to increase awareness and understanding of natural hazards and teaches safety, emotional coping skills, and personal preparedness.



Anyone interested in enrolling their child into the program is asked to contact Sgt. Perrilloux at (985)308-1701 or email [kperrilloux@st.charlessheriff.org](mailto:kperrilloux@st.charlessheriff.org). ★

## Youth Programs Focus on Safety

As a service to the community, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office regularly visits schools, local events, and meetings. Also, the Special Services Division offers community programs designed to promote safety and crime prevention. The objective of these programs, which are offered at no charge, is to provide residents with vital information and needed skills to lessen their risk of becoming a victim. Through education, we hope to reduce crime locally.

Topics and demonstrations include child fingerprinting, K-9 demonstrations,

Crime Scene presentations, Halloween Safety, narcotics awareness, seatbelt safety, bicycle safety, vehicle safety, tips for Latchkey Kids, personal safety, and self-defense.

To arrange a presentation for your group or organization contact Susie Gauthier at (985)783-1355. ★





# Community Awareness

## New Website Launched

Sheriff Greg Champagne is excited to announce the recent launch of his modernized St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office website. The new design is very user friendly, giving easy and instant access to events throughout the parish, as well as information on the divisions within the Sheriff's Office that serve the citizens of St. Charles Parish.

There are also several alerts available for subscription, including calendar events, crime mapping, and sex offender notifications. It has been proven that an educated and engaged public assists in decreasing crime while enhancing services throughout the parish. You can check out the new website at [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). ★



## ANNUAL CITIZENS' ACADEMY

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office continually strives to enhance its relationship with the community in an effort to make St. Charles Parish a safe place to live and work. To strengthen this partnership with the community, the Sheriff's Citizens' Academy provides participants the ability to gain perspective on the many challenges faced by deputies.

The ten-week program is designed to provide residents with insight on the inner workings of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. Applicants must be 18

years of age or older and live or work in St. Charles Parish. Participants must agree to allow the Sheriff's Office to run a criminal background history to ensure the safety and security of the public, participants, and the Sheriff's Office personnel.

In addition, participants should plan to attend all or most of the sessions. Class size is limited. For more information, please call Cheryl Villere at (985) 783-0205 or visit our website at [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). ★



Citizens' Academy graduates for 2016.

## Level I Concealed Carry Class

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office offers Level 1 Concealed Carry Classes. The cost is \$100 per person for the CLASS ONLY. The instructor will go over the permit application process in the class, but anyone wanting more information on the application process can also go to <http://www.lsp.org/handguns.html>. Classes are held at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's

Office Firing Range located behind the Nelson Coleman Correctional Center in Killona, LA.

For more information or to register, email Sergeant Jeremy Pitchford at [jpitchford@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:jpitchford@stcharlessheriff.org) or you can register online at [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). If you register online you should receive a response within 48 hours. ★



The Sheriff's Office offers Level I concealed handgun classes.

## Sheriff Champagne Promotes Two Employees To Captain

Sheriff Champagne is pleased to announce that he has promoted two employees to the position of Captain.

**Captain Paul Adams** began his career with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office in 1992 in the Corrections Division. After attending the POST Academy, Adams was assigned to the Patrol Division where he has served for 24 years, rising through the ranks to the position of Lieutenant. His recent promotion to the Captain of the Patrol Division gives him oversight for all Uniformed Patrol Activities including the Patrol Division, K-9 Division, Marine Division, and Traffic Division. Captain Paul Adams also takes an active role in the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Leadership Program that teaches employees different practices for good leadership.

**Captain Maurice Bostick** began his career in Law Enforcement in

1978 at New Orleans Police Department where he worked until 1990. Captain Bostick left the NOPD to practice Law in New Orleans for 22 years.

Captain Bostick joined the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Reserves in 2008, completing the Reserve Academy. In 2012, Captain Bostick joined SCSO as a full time deputy completing the regular Training Academy and serving as a Correctional Officer, Special Operations Officer in Corrections, Legal Liaison, Legal Counsel, certified Academy Instructor, Crisis/Hostage Negotiator, Public Safety and Rescue Diver and now Director of Legal and Business Affairs.

Sheriff Greg Champagne appointed Captain Bostick as the Director of Business and Legal Affairs in 2016. Captain Bostick is now the commander of the Civil Department of the Sheriff's Office and serves as in-house legal counsel. ★



**Captain Maurice Bostick**



**Captain Paul Adams**



# Community Outreach

## St. Charles Parish Participates in 20th Year of "Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp"

The 20th Annual "Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp" was held during the week of July 9th through July 14th at the Boy Scouts' Camp Salmen Reservation in Kiln, Mississippi. This year the Sheriff's Office took 71 boys, mostly between the ages of 12 and 16, for a five-day camp along with 16 Sheriff's Office Deputies and boys from the Explorer Program.

With only one real wet day, the young men had a wonderful time bonding with Sheriff's Deputies while participating in activities such as tent camping, hiking, first aid/survival skills training, swimming, rock wall climbing,



Campers and Law Enforcement Officers at Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp 2017

archery, firearms, field sports, and most importantly, enjoying a week without cellphones and technology!

The camp is traditionally held in

July, and serves as a great educational experience for boys aged 12 to 16 years. Throughout 20 years of First Class camping trips, over 1,000 boys from St.

Charles Parish have attended. For more information, Please call (985)783-1355 or visit [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). ★

## SENIOR PARTNERSHIP

TRIAD is a national concept operating under the belief that together, with sheriffs, police chiefs, and seniors globally joining forces, better programs and services can be provided to the elderly. "We have a growing elderly population in St. Charles Parish, so meeting the needs of these citizens is a big challenge for law enforcement and community agencies," Champagne said.

### TRIAD'S PURPOSE

- Support the involvement of law enforcement practitioners, as well as citizens of all ages, in the development, implementation, and evaluation of acceptable solutions to reducing crime against the elderly.
- Mobilize community resources to continually ascertain the needs and concerns of older citizens and provide a mechanism for meeting those needs.
- Enable law enforcement agencies to share resources that can be utilized to develop and achieve a highly visible and effective means of identifying available programs or possible solutions to reduce the criminal victimization of the parish's elderly population.
- Foster the development and maintenance of a local advisory panel to law enforcement called Seniors and Lawmen Working Together (SALT).



St. Charles Parish TRIAD has several outreach programs. As a non-profit organization, TRIAD has been supported by funding through United Way of St. Charles since 2002. The TRIAD program has been able to reach out to more senior citizens and provide additional services since funding by the United Way became available. For more information, please contact the TRIAD Coordinator at (985) 783-1355.

### Other Services for Seniors include:

#### ADOPT A SENIOR:

Law Enforcement officers meet with eligible senior citizens on a regular basis to provide reassurance of safety and open lines of communication between senior citizens and law enforcement officials.

#### SENIOR CITIZENS SELF-DEFENSE CLASS:

This class teaches senior citizens how to verbally and physically defend themselves. It also teaches them how to avoid being a victim of crime.

#### A SURVIVOR'S JOURNAL:

This small book acts as a guideline to assist senior citizens and their families to prepare and advise their own wishes during a disability and/or death.

#### DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM:

This service is designed to reinforce the safe use and disposal of expired and unused medications of all types.

#### OPERATION QUICK RESPONSE:

A house numbering project for those senior citizens who do not have visible addresses on their homes. Every second counts in an emergency! ★

## New Sign in School Zones

For the 2017-2018 school year, citizens will notice a new sign in the school zones. As a push for safety for our children, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office has received Cellphone Free Zone signs for all of the St. Charles Parish School Zones.

"Use of Wireless Telecommunications Devices in School Zones Prohibited", as titled in Louisiana Revised Statute 32:300.8, prohibits any non-emergency cellphone usage while traveling through a school zone publically marked with a sign.

When school is in session, this law will be strictly enforced. Please remember, that the lives of our youth are important and by putting your cellphone down while driving, you have one less distraction on the road! ★



[www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org)



24 Hour Drug Hotline (985) 785-4450

Part of combating crime and keeping the citizens of St. Charles Parish safe consists of help from our residents. With a 24-hour drug hotline, residents are urged to call and report drug activity. These anonymous tips will be used by deputies to aggressively pursue dealers and abusers of illegal drugs in St. Charles Parish.

Experts suggest that as much as 90% of all criminal activity has some correlation to illegal drugs, whether it is directly or indirectly related. “Those who abuse drugs often go to extreme levels to obtain them, even if it means robbing or stealing from those they love,” said Sheriff Champagne.



“The St. Charles Parish Sheriff’s Office is committed to the war against drugs, but we can’t do it alone; we need the residents to be our eyes and ears in efforts to rid our neighborhoods from illegal and harmful drugs.

Aggressive enforcement, education of children about harmful effects of illegal drugs, and community involvement are all key elements in battling drug activity,” added Champagne.

To report drug activity, call the drug hotline at (985)785-4450. All calls will be kept confidential and will be instrumental in making St. Charles Parish a safe community. ★

INTERNET EXCHANGE LOCATION



Buying and selling items online is a fast-growing trend, but the risk of being “ripped off” was high – until now. Sheriff Greg Champagne now has an area in his training academy parking lot at 220 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway in Luling where you can finalize sales of items you buy or sell on the Internet. Located at the entrance of the parking lot are two parking spaces designated as an Internet Exchange Location, which

is under 24-hour video surveillance. “With the increase in people buying and selling items online and through social media we wanted to offer a location where people could feel safe making the exchange,” Sheriff Champagne said. The lot helps limit the exchange of personal information or the potential dangers of meeting a stranger in a random parking lot and gives an alternative that is public, monitored, and accessible. ★

SERVICE PIN RECIPIENTS HONORED

Congratulations to the following personnel on receipt of the department’s service pins. We are indeed fortunate to have employees dedicated to this agency and community by providing many years of faithful service. Thank you for sharing your talents and experience with us! ★



10 YEARS

- Douglas Richardson
- Placide Boudreaux
- Darren Gros
- Jason Troxler
- James Grimaldi
- Alex Scott
- Yvonne Green
- Angel Bailey
- David Sparacello
- Terry Dabney
- Amber Gros

5 YEARS:

- Sally Rogers
- Lydia Kinler
- Kenneth Austin
- Christopher Waguespack
- Jason Tiliakos
- Maxine Zeringue
- Shawn Borey
- Joshua Deroche
- Timothy Ragas
- Maurice Bostick
- Blake Henry
- Lacy Perrin
- Nicole Stratton
- Jeremy Hotard
- Desiree Bodin
- Harold Kingsmill
- Darryl Richardson
- Jonathan Russell
- Lori Cantrell
- Alyssa Dubois

30 YEARS:

- Mark Candies
- Roxanne Granier
- Susan Gauthier
- Melissa Luquette

20 YEARS:

- Sandy Gilboy
- Kathy Perret
- Alice Cunningham
- Patrick Walker
- Shantrell Byrd
- Simone Cortez
- Troy Whitney

15 YEARS:

- Amanda Pertuis
- Derek Pertuis
- Justin Loupe
- Brock Lawrence
- Dwayne Chiasson
- Jody Weems
- Thomas Mayville



The 2017 Torch Run for Special Olympics raised **\$4,223.64** for Special Olympics. T-shirt sales, dress-down days and lunch sales all were held to benefit the cause. Participants ran, bicycled, or joined the caravan that traveled from Destrehan to Norco on May 19, 2017. The proceeds were donated to the Louisiana Special Olympics regional meet in Hammond. ★

### SEND YOUR GIFT HOME

SCSO employees enthusiastically gave to the United Way of St. Charles in 2016 with contributions reaching **\$12,501**. All money donated stays in St. Charles Parish unless an employee requests to have their donation sent to another United Way. United Way of St. Charles serves only St. Charles Parish and is governed by a Board of Directors who are volunteers from our community.

By their generous donations SCSO employees made sure parish residents received crucial services during their time of need.