



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.

## BOTH CRIME AND NOW TAXES GOING DOWN IN ST. CHARLES PARISH!

Welcome to this year's edition of the *Update*. This is our 25<sup>th</sup> annual edition of this newsletter to provide you with this past year's activities of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office and our deputies.

First, I am pleased to report that crime in St. Charles Parish continues to remain at historically low levels. 2021 was a 25-year record low. In 2022, we experienced the 2nd best year with a modest 5.4% increase over 2021. Thus far in 2023 during the first 6 months, we are at about the same level as 2022. While we are not crime free, we are having great success in our efforts to keep St. Charles Parish a safe place to live, work, and raise a family.

Something else is going to be lower – your property taxes. I am happy to announce that the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office will reduce its millage rate by .50 mills for 2023. This will result in savings to all of our property taxpayers of OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS! We have been advised by Assessor Tab Troxler that several previously exempt industrial properties/

projects are coming out of exemption status which will result in increased ad valorem tax revenue for all taxing bodies. In light of this, it is only fair to reduce everyone's taxes for 2023. These savings will be realized on your tax bill at the end of this year. I am also pleased that we have been able to utilize our increased tax revenue by providing our employees with approximately a 15% increase in salary over the last 2 years.

In this issue, we also highlight many programs available to the citizens and youth of St. Charles Parish, including our Citizens Academy, National Night Out, TRIAD, Cub Scout Pack 211, and Eat on the Beat.

We also offer some warnings and tips regarding popular scams targeting our residents. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

As our children go back to school, remember – you can help us protect them by obeying traffic laws and driving safely.

I hope you enjoy Volume #25 of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office *Update*, and that you join us for some of the community and youth opportunities mentioned.



GREG CHAMPAGNE  
SHERIFF – ST. CHARLES PARISH

May God bless you, your family, St. Charles Parish, and the United States of America.

Sincerely,

## St. Charles Parish crime rate still low, but with some concerns

The Uniform Crime Reporting (U.C.R.) statistics for 2022 showed a modest increase in St. Charles Parish during the calendar year. From January through December of 2022, the total number of crimes according to U.C.R. rose from 1,213 in 2021 to 1,279 in 2022 – a 5.4% increase.

According to Sheriff Greg Champagne, "The two categories primarily responsible

for the increase in crime are thefts and auto thefts." Murders and rapes have decreased.

"This is still a team effort. I urge our residents not to become complacent. Please be vigilant and most importantly, secure your belongings and property! Many of the reported thefts were a result of unlocked vehicles and valuables left unattended in easily accessible places."

There is no one factor that leads to a rise in crime, but rather a totality of circumstances.

Sheriff Champagne continued by stating, *continued on page 2*

Offense	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Murder	2	4	4	8	5
Rape	5	4	6	5	3
Robbery	22	19	10	20	22
Assault	588	527	666	547	544
Burglary	184	133	137	136	126
Theft	598	592	776	440	499
Auto Theft	55	37	49	57	80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,648</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>1,279</b>

*Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics 2018 - 2022*

# Leading the Way in Leadership

## Congratulations, Graduates! St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Regional P.O.S.T. Basic Academy – Classes 36 & 37

Sheriff Greg Champagne is proud of all of the graduates from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office's Regional P.O.S.T. Basic Academy. For sixteen weeks, cadets learned the skills and techniques required of a Peace Officer in the discharge of his or her duties through Louisiana P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standardized Training). Training ranged from classes on Louisiana Law, First Aid, Defensive Tactics, Defensive Driving, De-Escalation Training, Crisis Intervention, Firearms Training, Scenario Training, Investigation Training, and countless other classes necessary for producing well-educated, professional law enforcement officers.

Graduation marked the day that these men and women took the next step in dedicating their lives to helping their respective communities as they changed their titles from "cadets" to P.O.S.T. certified law enforcement officers.

Academy classes were comprised of cadets from the following agencies: Harahan Police Department, Office of Juvenile Justice, St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office, St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office, Seventh Ward Marshals Office, Southeastern University Police, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office, Tulane University Police Department, and Xavier Campus Police Department.

Academy Class 36 graduated on November 10, 2022, with twenty-one graduates. St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office graduates are Joseph Dube, Philip Ibbitson, Michael Kinler, Dylan Nash, and Cameron Vance.

Academy Class 37 graduated on May 12, 2023, with twelve graduates. St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office graduates are Jessica



P.O.S.T. Academy Class 2022-36



P.O.S.T. Academy Class 2023-37

Gee-Wong, Clarissa Joyce, Corey Knight, and Melvin Matthews.



## St. Charles Parish crime rate still low, but with some concerns

*continued from page 1*

"The men and women of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office are well-trained, dedicated, and motivated. They take crime prevention and apprehension personally and seriously, as they work, live, and raise their families here as well."

"Technology and social media play an important role as well in our prevention and apprehension efforts. We continue to have the full cooperation and assistance of District Attorney Joel Chiasson and his staff. Our partnership is essential in the fight against crime. Also, many years of community outreach through the D.A.R.E. Program, School Resource Officer Program, Sheriff's Summer Camp, and our many juvenile justice initiatives continue to solidify the already positive relationships we have built with the young people of St. Charles Parish. This cannot be understated and is vital in preventing crime."

"We will continue to be vigilant and appreciate the cooperation of the people of St. Charles Parish, who in most cases do not hesitate to provide information about suspicious behavior, actual and potential crime, and the perpetrators thereof. This is not the case in many other jurisdictions. Cooperation and assistance from the public are essential in the fight against crime," Sheriff Champagne concluded.

One of the main goals for the men and women of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office is to provide the highest quality of law enforcement services to enhance safety in our community and prevent crime. We accomplish this by engaging with the public, enforcing laws, and patrolling neighborhoods. It is an honor to serve the citizens of St. Charles Parish and with everyone's help, we can continue to maintain St. Charles Parish as one of the best and safest places to live, work, and play in South Louisiana. ★



## SHERIFF SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

St. Charles Parish Sheriff Greg Champagne was sworn in as President of the 3,080-member National Sheriffs' Association (N.S.A.) on January 26, 2023, to serve out the unexpired term of retiring N.S.A. President Sheriff William Bohnyak of Orange County, Vermont. The ceremony was held at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Training and Special Services Center in Luling, Louisiana.

On June 29, 2023, Sheriff Champagne was reinstalled as President of the N.S.A. at the organization's annual conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan to serve a term of one full year. He previously served as the N.S.A. President during 2016-17. Sheriff Champagne has also served as a board member of the N.S.A. for 20 years and has held virtually every leadership position of the organization, including chair of the Legal Affairs Committee. This is the first time any sheriff has been elected twice to serve as President in the organization's 82-year history.

The National Sheriffs' Association was chartered in 1940 and is a professional association dedicated to serving the Office of Sheriff and its affiliates through law enforcement education and training, and through the provision of general law enforcement informational resources. N.S.A. represents thousands of sheriffs, deputies and other law enforcement, public safety professionals, and concerned citizens nationwide. Leadership and board positions are unpaid, allowing those that hold these positions to continue serving their citizens and N.S.A. at the same time.



**Sheriff Champagne is joined by his wife Alice as he receives the Oath of Office from Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John Weimer**

Through the years, N.S.A. has provided programs for sheriffs, their deputies, chiefs of police, and others in the field of criminal justice to perform their jobs in the best possible manner and to better serve the people of their cities, counties, or jurisdictions.

The National Sheriffs' Association headquarters is located in Alexandria, Virginia, and offers police training, police information, court security training, jail information and other law enforcement services to sheriffs, deputies, and others throughout the nation. N.S.A. has worked to forge cooperative relationships with local, state, and federal criminal justice professionals across the nation to network and share information about homeland security programs and projects. ★

## Crimestoppers presents St. Charles Parish Deputy/Officer of the Year Award

Lieutenant Roanne Sampson and Sergeant Keysla Perrilloux were honored in being selected to receive Crimestoppers Deputy/Officer of the Year Awards for St. Charles Parish during the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Crimestoppers Awards Luncheon on March 14, 2023.

Lieutenant Sampson and Sergeant Perrilloux are assigned to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Juvenile Programs Division. They work together to lead many amazing programs that focus on the youth in St. Charles Parish. They constantly look for new programs and events to benefit and empower our youth.

Lieutenant Sampson and Sergeant Perrilloux build positive relationships and create trust with the youth in our parish, which not only helps to reduce crime, but also provides the youth with much-needed life skills. They also collaborate with community partners to offer a variety of programs and services, including



**Sheriff Champagne with Sergeant Perrilloux and Lieutenant Sampson**

the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Operation Girls' Camp, St. Charles Parish Youth Rally, St. Charles Parish Believe in Youth LA, St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Community Garden, and our GREAT Program (Gang Resistance Education and Training). Lieutenant Sampson and Sergeant Perrilloux truly make a difference in the life of every juvenile they meet.

Sheriff Champagne said, "I am very proud and appreciative of Roanne and Keysla for their efforts and dedication to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office and to the citizens of St. Charles Parish."

Sheriff Champagne continues, "Law enforcement is about more than just arresting people. Without planting the seeds in our young people that they can live productive and crime-free lives with value, we would not be truly serving society. Lieutenant Sampson and Sergeant Perrilloux are changing the lives of young people one at a time."

Congratulations to Lieutenant Sampson and Sergeant Perrilloux! ★



# Sheriff Champagne Presents Distinguished Service Awards and Letters of Commendation

Sheriff Greg Champagne was honored to present Distinguished Service Awards and Letters of Commendation to several employees during a staff meeting on March 23, 2023.

On July 27, 2022, deputies were dispatched to Ash Street in Hahnville in reference to a shooting. Sergeant Steven Mahan began directing assets and responses of incoming units while prioritizing the actions of officers on the scene. Detective Isaac Genova located a gunshot victim, triaged him from head to foot, located an entry/exit wound, and properly applied a tourniquet. Deputy Timbrel Lewis located a second gunshot victim who was bleeding heavily from the leg and applied a tourniquet. The victim continued to bleed, so she applied a second tourniquet and was able to get the bleeding under control.

The St. Charles EMS Director and ER Physicians stated that Deputy Lewis and Detective Genova's proper tourniquet applications saved the lives of the two gunshot victims. ★



Distinguished Service Award recipients Sergeant S. Mahan, Deputy Lewis, and Detective Genova with Sheriff Champagne

On September 10, 2022, deputies were dispatched to Dianne Drive in St. Rose in reference to a stabbing. Deputy Henry Sill was the first to arrive on the scene and could hear someone inside the residence calling out for help. While searching for an entry point, he discovered that all of the doors and windows of the residence were locked. Deputy Sill had to force entry into the residence, where he located the victim lying on the master bathroom floor surrounded by a large pool of blood. He then triaged the victim, applied a tourniquet to the victim's leg, and began directing incoming units.

An EMT reported that had Deputy Sill not been proactive with the application of the tourniquet, the victim would have more than likely progressed into irreversible shock. He added that Deputy Sill's quick thinking, perfect location selection, and applying adequate pressure, directly impacted the chances of a positive outcome.

Attending hospital staff reported that due to the amount of blood loss and the location of the stab wound, the victim was lucky to be alive. His quick action and immediate lifesaving efforts saved the victim's life. ★



Distinguished Service Award recipient Deputy Sill with Sheriff Champagne

On August 27, 2022, deputies were dispatched to Maryland Drive in Luling in reference to a medical emergency involving two possible overdosed patients. After locating an unresponsive male, Deputy Douglas Miller and Detective Paul Quick administered four (4) total doses of Narcan, which were ineffective. Deputy Miller and Detective Quick determined that CPR was necessary and they began administering lifesaving techniques until EMS arrived. EMS Personnel were able to locate a pulse and transported the patient to the hospital.

The EMS Director advised that the actions of Deputy Miller and Detective Quick, specifically CPR, resulted in maintaining the blood flow to and from the brain which helped to stabilize the patient for transport and ultimately saved his life. ★

On January 23, 2023, a van drove up to the sallyport at the Nelson Coleman Correctional Center and a female exited the vehicle stating, "We couldn't make it to the hospital! Can you



Distinguished Service Award recipients Deputy Miller and Detective Quick with Sheriff Champagne

help my baby?" Deputy Philip Schaefer observed a young male subject holding what appeared to be blood-soaked towels around his right wrist. He then directed them to the visitation lobby and immediately began rendering aid. Deputy Schaefer began applying direct pressure as Deputy James White made an improvised tourniquet with his belt. When he realized that it was not working he made a second improvised tourniquet from an accompanying

family member's belt, but the wound continued to bleed profusely. Sergeant Jared Yancy arrived with his department-issued trauma kit and provided an actual tourniquet, which was applied. Deputy Chris Spencer arrived with his personal tourniquet, which was also applied. Deputy Schaefer continued to apply direct pressure to stop the bleeding. He noticed that the patient's skin was cool and clammy, indicating the beginning stages of shock, and requested blankets to keep him warm. Deputies Schaefer and White then moved the patient into the back seat of Sergeant Yancy's unit to be transported to a local hospital. Sergeant Darryl Richardson provided an



escort in his marked unit. While enroute to the hospital, Deputy Schaefer maintained direct pressure to control the bleeding.

Medical Staff advised that the quick action of the deputies applying tourniquets and direct pressure resulted in stabilizing the patient and minimizing blood loss. Without the care provided, the results may have been fatal.

It is for these reasons that Deputies Schaefer and White were presented the Distinguished Service Award. Sergeants Yancy, Richardson, and Deputy Spencer are also worthy of special recognition with a Letter of Commendation. ★

hydrant. This allowed the lieutenant to supply water to the engine, thus saving nearby homes from fire damage.

The Norco Volunteer Fire Department Chief advised that Deputy Cuffie's quick thinking, initiative, and judgment should be commended as his actions directly contributed to saving property and preventing loss of life. ★



(Left) Deputy White, Sergeant Richardson, Deputy Schaefer, Sergeant Yancy, and Deputy Spencer with Sheriff Champagne

(Below) Letter of Commendation recipient Deputy Cuffie with Sheriff Champagne

On January 16, 2022, members of the Norco Area Volunteer Fire Department responded to Fourth Street in Norco in reference to a structure fire at the H.C. Alexander Funeral Home.

During fire suppression operations, a lieutenant with the fire department began removing a large diameter hose from an engine, which can become very heavy depending on the amount that needs to be removed. The lieutenant was dragging the hose to a nearby hydrant in order to begin supplying water to the engine but was having trouble and was in need of help. Deputy Derrick Cuffie, unprompted, lifted the hose and helped pull it all the way to the



# NOW HIRING

## ST. CHARLES PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SICK LEAVE AND HOLIDAY PAY  
PAID MEDICAL AND LIFE INSURANCE  
PAID VACATION AND PENSION PLAN

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## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM PHONE SCAMS

### ASK QUESTIONS!!!

The more questions you ask, the more likely you are to find out that these callers cannot provide you with the answers you are looking for and you should discontinue the call. Ask for their name and employee number along with their supervisor's name and contact number. Advise them that you will call them back and then contact your financial institution directly – not the number on the caller I.D. or the number they provide. Do not purchase gift cards or transfer money into a Bitcoin account to pay debts, fines, or shipping costs.

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## Sheriff Champagne is pleased to announce the promotion of Darren Gros to Captain of Training

On March 23, 2023, Sheriff Champagne promoted Lieutenant Darren Gros to the rank of Captain.

Captain Gros is a 25-year veteran of law enforcement, with 17 of those years here with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. He is currently assigned as the Director of the Training Division, which operates the Regional P.O.S.T. Academy.

Captain Gros has previously been assigned to Corrections, Patrol, Investigations, and Training. While in the Criminal Investigations Bureau, he was promoted to Detective in the Special Operations Division (SOD). During his time in SOD, he was promoted to Detective Sergeant and served in that capacity for six years. In 2014, Captain Gros was transferred to the Training Division. He was later promoted to Lieutenant / Assistant Director of Training until recently being promoted to Captain. Captain Gros has also served with the Special Response Team and is currently a member of the Honor Guard. He is on numerous committees within the department and was instrumental in previous years in securing grant funding for agency project purchases which serve the citizens of this parish at no cost to them.

Captain Gros is a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He then went on to receive his P.O.S.T. certification from

Louisiana State University. Captain Gros has attended numerous training courses and graduated from the National Command and Staff College in 2020, qualifying him in all aspects of his job. He is also a Master Field Training Officer.

Sheriff Champagne states, "The promotion of Captain Gros will allow the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office to continue to increase the excellence of our already top-notch Training Division." ★



Captain Gros with Sheriff Champagne

## Officers Complete Crisis Intervention Team Training

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, along with the South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority, hosted a 40-Hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training course November 14-15, 2022.

Twenty-two officers from five different agencies attended and completed the 40-hour CIT certification course held at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Training Building.

These officers received training in de-escalation techniques that deal specifically with people suffering from mental health crises. Officers received instruction in mental health law, behavioral health diagnosis, suicide prevention, dementia diagnosis, autism behaviors, opioid abuse characteristics, and active listening. They also participated in Scenario-Based Response Training.

Sheriff Champagne is proud to partner with the South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority to offer this course.

Officers attended from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office, Tulane University Police, Baton Rouge City Marshal's Office, and the US Marshals Service. ★



Deputy Mahmoud, Deputy B. Oubre, Deputy Lodge, Detective Waguespack, Deputy Rousselle, Sergeant Agnelly, Deputy T. Stackhouse, Deputy M. Jones, Lieutenant Banks, Deputy Pastor, Deputy Knight, Deputy Coward, and Captain Gros (Training Staff)





### OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

If you or someone you know finds themselves in a dangerous domestic violence relationship, **we are here to help you every step of the way.**

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Victim's Assistance Division consists of officers **specialized in helping you.** Assistance includes Abuse Prevention Orders, shelter, relocation funding, mental health assistance, and much more. For more information, feel free to contact the **Crime Victim's Assistance Division** at **985-783-6230** and in the event of an emergency, please **dial 9-1-1.**

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT ALONE.**



## Patrol Officers Receive Nationally Accredited Field Training Certification

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Patrol Field Training Officer (FTO) Program is a nationally accredited training program through the Applied Police Training and Certification (APTAC), which follows the national San Jose FTO Model. The officers who were certified October 14, 2022 by the Training Division (Master FTOs) were provided 40 hours of classroom instruction and practical applications of the current methods of recruit training. These officers will now be responsible for performance evaluations of newly hired or



Sergeant Hazeltine (Training Staff), Corporal A. Lee, Deputy Hoffmann, Deputy Flynn, and Deputy Pierson

transferred officers to the SCSO Patrol Division. The Recruit Training Program is a four-month training process over the span of four phases of training totaling 560 hours. ★

## Corrections Officers Receive Nationally Accredited Field Training Certification

On April 27, 2023, three deputies assigned to the Nelson Coleman Correctional Center completed the SCSO's nationally accredited FTO (Field Training Officer) program at the Training Building. Master FTOs assigned to the Training Division conducted the 4-day, 40-hour certification modeled after the national FTO San Jose Model, conducted through the Applied Police Training and Certification (APTAC).



Deputy Robert, Deputy Schaefer, and Deputy Pastor

These deputies are now responsible for training and evaluating newly hired correctional officers and lateral transfers to determine if they are ready to serve in the correctional center capacity. ★

## Captain George Breedy graduates from the Department of Homeland Security Leadership Academy



Captain Breedy (center) with members of DHSLSA

Captain George Breedy of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office graduated from the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Department of Homeland Security Leadership Academy (DHSLSA). Ceremonies were held at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers located in Glynco, Georgia from September 12-22, 2022.

DHSLSA is a two-week immersive leadership program that brings together senior law enforcement executives and command-level staff of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement from across the nation. DHSLSA attendees learn from subject matter experts in the areas of leading through crisis, resiliency, diversity, and other contemporary law enforcement topics. Participants also work closely in groups to discuss and develop proposed solutions to common challenges facing law enforcement.

There were twenty-nine graduates of Session 14 of the DHSLSA from twenty states and three territories (Guam, Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands). ★

## FRAUDULENT CALLERS SHOPPING SCAMS

Some fraudulent callers will pose as a representative from Microsoft, eBay, Amazon, etc. They will then tell you of possible issues with your payment or your card on file and that they will transfer you to a bank representative. Legitimate companies don't have the capability to transfer you to your financial institution. Do not purchase gift cards or transfer money into a Bitcoin account to pay debts, pay fines, or shipping costs.



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# Supporting Our Youth

*Sheriff Champagne strongly believes in positive interaction with the youth from our community. The deputies who are spending time with our youth will often be the same deputies that will respond to help if they ever need assistance. Positive interaction is vital in preventing crime and creating lifelong bonds.*

*The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office offers numerous programs and opportunities for the youth of St. Charles Parish.*

## OPERATION FIRST CLASS – SHERIFF'S SUMMER CAMP IN KILN, MS

Campers, along with chaperones from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, enjoyed Operation First Class from July 9-14, 2023. These young men bonded with Sheriff's Deputies while participating in activities such as tent camping, hiking, first aid/survival skills training, swimming, rock wall climbing, archery, firearms, field sports, and most importantly, enjoying a week without cellphones and technology!

Each year, Sheriff Greg Champagne sends boys, ages 12-15, to the camp, which is hosted by the Boy Scouts of America and held in Kiln, Mississippi. Sheriff Champagne would like to thank the following sponsors: Magnolia Companies of Louisiana, C&D Plumbing, Birdies Food & Fuel, Winn



Dixie of Luling, Blue Bell Creameries, and Five Star Food Service.

For more information on future Operation First Class – Sheriff's Summer Camps, please call Lieutenant Lennie Brown at (985) 783-1355 or email [lbrown@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:lbrown@stcharlessheriff.org). ★

*Current photos were not available at the time of this publication.*



For 32 years, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office has faithfully taught children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to live productive, drug-free lives. Since 1989, uniformed deputies have led these series at schools in a classroom setting, giving them direct access and interaction with students. During the past five years alone, over five thousand students have graduated from the D.A.R.E. program in St. Charles Parish.

D.A.R.E. students learn how to make responsible decisions by understanding the true effects and consequences of drugs. They get tools on how to resist peer pressure by saying "no" to negative influences and by becoming a positive influence to their peers. Students also learn how to deal with stress by learning tips on healthy communication, both verbal and nonverbal. Lastly, they are taught the dangers of bullying, both physical and emotional, and are encouraged to help others by being a responsible bystander by informing trusted adults of what they witness. The D.A.R.E. program continues to positively influence the next generation with a consistent message year after year, decade after decade. ★



Call 9-1-1 when help is needed to save a life, stop a crime, or report a fire.

If you do not feel safe or something about a situation just doesn't feel right, call to get help sent out by dialing 9-1-1 or our

non-emergency number (985) 783-6807.

The Communications Specialist that answers your call will ask for the address or location of the emergency. The address or location is the most important information we need from you; this lets us know where to send help. They will also ask for the phone number you're calling from and will need a brief description of the problem to determine who to send and if they need to send you more help, such as EMS or the Fire Department. When talking to the Communications Specialist please stay calm, listen carefully, give information, and follow all instructions.

Remember – just because they are still asking questions does not mean help is delayed. ★



## OPERATION GIRLS' CAMPS, SUMMER OF 2023

Campers, along with chaperones from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, enjoyed Operation Girls' Camp from June 28-July 1, 2023 and July 6-9, 2023. These young women bonded with Sheriff's Deputies while participating in activities such as swimming, archery, gun safety, canoeing, hiking, arts and crafts, and much more!

Sheriff Greg Champagne sends girls, ages 11-17, to the camp, which is hosted by the Boy Scouts of America and held in Kiln, Mississippi. Sheriff Champagne would like to thank the following sponsors: Tim and Yulanda Knight, United Way of St. Charles, Blue Bell Creameries, and Five Star Food Service.

For more information on future Operation Girls' Camps, please contact our Juvenile Programs Division at 985-308-1700. ★



## STOP BULLYING WALK

Even though it was a scorching day on September 19, 2022, approximately 300 juveniles came out to stand up against bullying. Members of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, St. Charles Parish Public Schools, and the community also participated.



Sheriff Champagne and Dr. Oertling pose with a student

The STOP Bullying Walk started at the end of Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway in Luling and ended at the Westbank Bridge Park. The goal is to stop bullying at schools by bringing awareness to the topic.

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office partnered with the United Way of St. Charles, St. Charles Parish Public Schools, and St. Charles Parish. Guest Speaker, Officer Mark Bennett with the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, gave an inspirational message to participants.

Please contact our Juvenile Programs Division at (985) 308-1700 for information on available programs and services. ★



Sheriff Champagne and Dr. Oertling walk with students

### PROTECT YOURSELF FROM EMAIL SCAMS

- Beware of emails requesting you to update your password or account information. Look up the company's phone number on your own and call the company.
- Do not open emails that indicate a problem with your order, or a problem in shipping even though the email may appear to come from USPS, Fed Ex, UPS, or other shipping services. Check the status of your order through the company's website directly. Do not click on links sent to you through email.
- Do not purchase gift cards or transfer money into a Bitcoin account to pay debts, pay fines, or shipping costs.

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# Eat on the Beat

Sheriff Champagne partnered again with Superintendent Dr. Ken Oertling and St. Charles Parish Public Schools for deputies to “Eat on the Beat.”

During the 2022 – 2023 school year, deputies with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff’s Office visited students during lunch time in elementary schools in the parish to help build and strengthen relationships with the children. Several students asked questions and requested pictures. The hugs, fist bumps, and love shown by the children put a smile on everyone’s face!


Deputies even attended Muffins with Mom, Donuts with Dudes, and some Field Day Events.

The children are our future, and it’s looking bright! ★




# SCHOOL ZONES

**SCHOOL ZONES WILL BE BACK IN EFFECT, SO YOU MAY NOTICE A LONGER COMMUTE.**




**IT IS ILLEGAL TO USE A CELL PHONE TO CALL, TEXT, OR USE SOCIAL MEDIA WHILE DRIVING IN A SCHOOL ZONE.**




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## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FINANCIAL INSTITUTION SCAMS



Due to recent breaches, scammers are taking advantage of shoppers by claiming to be from financial institutions. They are asking for your personal information so they can “make sure your information isn’t compromised.” In reality, anyone who contacts you directly asking for your information over the phone, via email, or via social media is likely not authorized to do so. Do not respond to them! Instead, reach out to your financial institution to confirm if the call or message you received was legitimate. If you are contacted by a financial institution, do not give out any information until you are confident it is legitimate. One way to do this is to end the call and contact the financial institution directly. Many times you will find there is no issue with your account at all. Do not purchase gift cards or transfer money into a Bitcoin account to pay debts, fines, shipping costs, or to protect your finances.

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## CUB SCOUT PACK 211

Scouts from the Cub Scout Pack 211 attended The Home Depot's Christmas Kid Workshop in December 2022 at the Kenner location. Scout members were introduced to building projects designed by The Home Depot. They learned how to paint and utilize different tools, created Santa sleighs, and they met the Grinch. The Scouts visited The Home Depot again in February of 2023 and made beautiful Valentine's vases. They acquired so much knowledge and had a great time!

On April 1, 2023, Scouts attended the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Juvenile Programs Division's Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Office of Community Relations in Luling. The kids enjoyed cupcake and cookie decorating and were so excited to hunt for eggs. They also had a delightful visit from the Easter Bunny and challenged each other in a good old-fashioned sack race.

The Cub Scout Pack 211 Program is for youth in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. This program builds positive relations between law enforcement and youth, teaches social/life skills, builds youth leadership skills by using critical thinking exercises, and offers amazing adventures through outdoor activities.

This program is one of many that the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Juvenile Programs Division promotes in order to bring positive change through youth initiatives in our parish. For more information on Cub Scout Pack 211, please contact Lt. Roanne Sampson or Sgt. Keysla Perrilloux at 985-308-1700. ★



## Detectives Use Registered Security Cameras To Enhance Public Safety

It has been proven that the proper use of security cameras in a community can reduce crime as well as assist law enforcement in investigating crimes that occur. The presence of security cameras is often enough to deter would-be burglars. Investigations can be significantly enhanced with the use of video to help identify suspects and vehicles.



The Criminal Investigations Bureau (CIB) of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office maintains a confidential database of security cameras. Information about participants in the program will remain anonymous. In the event of a crime on or near your property, detectives may ask to review your surveillance video recorded during a specific timeframe to help in the evidence-gathering process. This database builds a safety net around St. Charles Parish that grows with each new registration and continues to be a powerful resource for fighting crime.

If you are interested in registering the security cameras at your home or place of business, go to [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org) and select the "Security Camera Database" option on the menu beneath the Social Media Updates section. You may also email Lieutenant Jeremy Pitchford at [jpitchford@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:jpitchford@stcharlessheriff.org), email Sergeant Thomas Plaisance at [tplaisance@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:tplaisance@stcharlessheriff.org), or call (985) 783-1135. ★

## Childcare Awareness Program

Sheriff Champagne is proud to continue hosting the Childcare Awareness Program at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office.

The event provides girls and boys who are of babysitting age with training in lifesaving techniques. They learn first aid and CPR and when they should call 9-1-1.

The St. Charles Women's Club also provides a dynamic presentation bringing awareness to child and pet vehicular heatstroke.

If you would like more information on attending a future session, please contact Jessica Cortez at 985-783-1355 or [jcortez@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:jcortez@stcharlessheriff.org).



**Students practicing CPR at the Childcare Awareness Class held June 16, 2023**

*Follow our social media accounts and check our website for future class announcements.*

**Facebook – St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office  
Twitter – @SCPSheriff, Instagram – stcharlessso  
Website – [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org)**



# Supporting Our Communities

## ST. CHARLES PARISH TRIAD – SENIORS AND LAWMEN TOGETHER

**T**RIAD is a commitment between law enforcement, senior service providers, and senior citizens of the parish to help reduce senior victimization and increase law enforcement services.

TRIAD's focus is to reduce the fear of crime by identifying misconceptions, educating seniors on criminal activities, and creating programs to reduce crime against them.

TRIAD/SALT Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Training and Special Services Building located at 220 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway in Luling.

For more information on TRIAD and outreach programs, please contact Jessica Cortez, TRIAD Coordinator, at (985) 783-1355 or [jcortez@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:jcortez@stcharlessheriff.org). ★

## TRIAD OUTREACH PROGRAMS

### Adopt-A-Senior

Patrol Deputies will randomly and by request visit senior citizens at their homes to assess their needs and well-being and to answer any questions or concerns regarding crime and safety.

### File of Life/Yellow Dot

The File of Life now includes the Yellow Dot, which is known nationwide. The File of Life includes a mini medical file that is placed on the refrigerator and a sticker for the front door or window of the home. The Yellow Dot has a sticker for the rear windshield of the vehicle and a mini medical file for the glove compartment.



### Senior Day Health Fair

This annual event features senior service providers in St. Charles Parish and surrounding parishes. Flu shots and health screenings are available. Hot lunches are served to those in attendance.

### Drug Disposal

All old and unused medications are turned in to ensure environmentally safe disposal. It is recommended to do a "spring clean-up" and a "fall sweep" of medicine cabinets, removing drugs that are a common household health and safety threat. Medications can be disposed of at the Spring Easter Luncheon, the Fall Senior Day, and can be dropped off at the SCSO Headquarters Building at 260 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway. There is a drop box in the lobby that is accessible Monday – Friday between 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.



### Operation Quick Response

This program helps make house numbers visible by putting up peel and stick numbers on homes, driveways, curbs, or mailboxes at the request of seniors. This helps to ensure that emergency personnel can find your home quickly.



### Survivor's Journal

This program provides a guide to help families and friends handle the tasks they are faced with while grieving a loved one's disability or death.



**DON'T BE A VICTIM!**  
**YOU are the person capable**  
**of preventing vehicle burglaries.**

**LOCK  
IT UP!**



• Take your keys • Remove your valuables • Lock your doors



## Sheriff hosts Annual Easter Luncheon for senior citizens of St. Charles Parish

Senior Citizens of St. Charles Parish were invited to attend Sheriff Greg Champagne's Annual Easter Luncheon at the Jerusalem Shriner's Hall in Destrehan on April 4, 2023. Seniors from throughout the parish were entertained with music from Cypress Sounds with DJ Fish, the Anytime Fitness Destrehan dance group, and were served a wonderful meal. Thank you to TRIAD for providing goody bags. Door prizes were provided by Sheriff Champagne and the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Champagne was honored to host this event for our senior community. He said, "I am excited to host this event year after year. It is always an honor to host events for our senior community because they helped build our parish, making us who we are today." ★



## National Night Out Against Crime

Members of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office joined residents for the annual National Night Out, which was held on October 4, 2022 from 6 PM - 9 PM.

This event is a community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and builds trust between the two entities. It is intended to help strengthen the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, showing a true sense of community.

The 2023 National Night Out will be Tuesday, October 17, 2023. For more information or to register a National Night Out Party in St. Charles Parish, please contact Jessica Cortez at 985-783-1355. ★





## St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy

Sheriff Champagne and the members of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office continually strive to enhance our relationship with our community in an effort to make St. Charles Parish a safe place to live and work. To strengthen our partnership with the community, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy provides participants the chance to see up close how we operate and to learn some of the challenges faced by deputies.

This free ten-week program is designed to provide residents with insight into 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 information on our next Citizens Academy, please contact Amber Walsh at (985) 783-0205, [awalsh@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:awalsh@stcharlessheriff.org), or visit our website at [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). ★



## PRESCRIPTION DRUG DROP-OFF BOX

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office has a prescription drug drop-off box to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs conveniently and responsibly. The drop box is inside the lobby of our Headquarters building located at 260 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway in Luling. The lobby is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. ★



## Internet purchase exchange location

It is estimated that about 80% of Americans have shopped online, with 22% of them doing so at least once per week. With consumers moving rapidly towards online shopping, there are more and more people looking to take advantage of others. As a response to this risk to our residents, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office has created an Internet Purchase Exchange Location for the safe exchange of goods or payments due to internet commerce. This "safe space" is at the Special Services and Training Center, located at 220 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway in Luling.

Located at the entrance of the Special Services and Training Center parking lot, residents can finalize the sale or purchase of online items with the comfort of a 24-hour video surveillance camera. This also helps limit the exchange of personal information and reduces the potential dangers associated with meeting a stranger in a secluded place. "With the increase in people buying and selling items online and through social media we want to offer a location where people can feel safe making the exchange," said Sheriff Champagne. ★





# PACKAGE THIEVES ARE ON THE LOOKOUT!

**P**orch Pirates or Package Thieves are always on the lookout for opportunities, so please be prepared and take precautions!

With the popularity of online shopping and more packages arriving at your home, you can expect the Porch Pirates to make their move. We understand that most people work and unfortunately must leave packages out on their doorstep all day until they return home.

Please be vigilant in your neighborhoods. If you see vehicles following delivery trucks or those that appear to be aimlessly driving in your neighborhood, contact the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Champagne suggests that if you have a friend, family member, or trusted neighbor available, contact them and ask them to retrieve your delivered packages instead of leaving them on your porch. When you

order online, request shipping updates so you can receive text messages of expected delivery dates and times. If possible, have the package delivered to your work to prevent it from being left unattended outside your home. Even consider having the online order shipped to a store for store pickup instead of having it delivered to your home.

Remember, the quicker you can get your package(s) picked up and secured, the less time that these Porch Pirates have to steal them. Sheriff Champagne urges all citizens to stay alert and observant and know your neighborhoods, neighbors, and neighbors' vehicles. If you see someone or something in your neighborhood that is out of place or suspicious, please contact the Sheriff's Office on our non-emergency number (985) 783-6807 or dial 911. ★



## Level 1 Concealed Carry Classes



**T**he Level 1 Concealed Carry Class is designed to meet the necessary requirements for a first-time concealed carry permit or renewal in the state of Louisiana. This class involves classroom instruction, as well as instruction at the shooting range where students will demonstrate proficiency with a handgun.

### Topics covered include:

- Who can apply for a permit
- How to apply for a permit
- Laws pertaining to concealed carry
- Safe handling of a firearm
- Selecting the proper firearm
- How to conceal your firearm
- Fundamentals of shooting
- Additional topics



Students are not required to bring a firearm; however, they can bring one if they choose. Students are required to bring their own ammunition. The cost of this class is \$100, payable by cash or check made out to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. Classes are scheduled based on the range availability and demand for the class. For more information, please email Dawn Robert at [drobert@stcharlesssheriff.org](mailto:drobert@stcharlesssheriff.org). ★

*Follow our social media accounts and check our website for future class announcements.*

**Facebook – St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office**  
**Twitter – @SCPSheriff, Instagram – stcharlesso**  
**Website – [www.stcharlesssheriff.org](http://www.stcharlesssheriff.org)**

## HOME INSPECTION, SECURITY & SAFETY PROGRAM

**T**he St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office is once again partnering with local firefighters to offer free home inspections to residents who want to make their homes safer from criminals and fire hazards. The Home Inspection, Security & Safety Program exists to assist residents in identifying potential safety issues while offering advice and best practices when issues are identified.

Firefighters inspect for frayed electrical cords, trip hazards, and aging or "daisy-chained" power strips. In addition, they will check the expiration date and functionality of any fire extinguishers on site.

Personnel from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office inspect for any areas of vulnerability that may make your home susceptible to burglars or other criminal activity. This includes places where burglars can easily hide outside the home, like overgrown bushes or unlit areas. They may also recommend installing a home security system with video surveillance.

If your residence is already equipped with video surveillance or a monitored alarm system, here are some additional tips for your safety:

- Get a security system with a cellular backup. Burglars will often cut phone lines to prevent traditional systems from notifying the service provider.
- Make sure the battery backup is fully charged. Most batteries will beep or send a notification when low.

To request a home inspection, contact Sergeant Lonnie Senior at (985) 783-6230 extension 6263. ★



# Years of Service Acknowledgements

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
HAHNVILLE, LA  
PERMIT NO. 15

The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office would like to congratulate the following employees for reaching significant milestones in their service to our agency and the people of our community during 2022 and

2023. We are very fortunate to have employees dedicated to this agency and community by providing many years of faithful service. Thank you for sharing your skills, talents, and experience with us. ★

## Postal Patron

### 30 YEARS

Paul Adams  
Gerald Benoit  
Donald Smith

Thomas Mayville

Mitzi Petit  
Dawn Robert  
William Roth

### 25 YEARS

Simone Cortez  
Melissa Freitas  
Richard Oubre  
Alvin Robinson  
Bradley Walsh  
Troy Whitney

### 15 YEARS

Jorge Acevedo  
Jennifer April  
Valerie Bocage  
Malcolm Chambers

### 20 YEARS

Joseph Dewhirst  
Shane Folse  
Burt Hazeltine

Mark Cortez  
Terry Dabney  
Carlyn Diggs  
Keith Duffour  
Gavin Frickey  
Jack Gilboy  
Amber Gros

Beau Laurent  
Nicholas Lege  
Don Murray  
William Schultz  
Troy Stackhouse  
Allan Tabora  
Kevin Tennon  
Shannon Vial  
Amber Walsh

### 10 YEARS

Sarah Bergeron  
Desiree Bodin  
Raquel Boyd  
Lori Cantrelle  
Hope Claborne  
Rydell Diggs

Alyssa Dubois  
Brittani Estevez-Williams  
Anthony Ferrara  
Nicole Henry  
Jennifer James  
Harold Kingsmill  
Kelly Knight  
Tracie Mathis  
Laurie Mecum  
Norvel Orazio  
Darryl Richardson  
Jonathan Russell  
Amy Sperandeo  
Takeilla Stackhouse  
Christopher Switzer  
Heather Zahn

### 5 YEARS

Alexis Agnelly  
Joylyn Edwards  
William Florent  
Charles Floyd  
Shai-Enne Haynes  
Scott Huff  
Erica Jacob  
Mikel Melton  
Patrick O'Malley  
Julia Peyton  
Anthony Procchi  
Keia Taylor  
LaShanta White

**Congratulations,  
everyone!**

## Sheriff's Office Mobile App

Have you downloaded the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office mobile app? Download it today to stay informed and connected.

Users of our interactive app can receive push notifications on incidents affecting the safety of residents and road closures. You can also view press releases, search the sex offender registry, and so much more!

Available on the App Store and Google Play Store.

To download now – use your cell phone camera to scan the QR code. ★



## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM PHONE SCAMS

### ASK QUESTIONS!!!

Some scammers are posing as members of federal and local law enforcement agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Federal Trade Commission (FTC), and even the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. If you receive one of these calls and are told that you may have possibly had your identity compromised, do not provide any information until you are sure it is legitimate. **Law enforcement agencies will not ask you to purchase gift cards or transfer money into a Bitcoin account to pay debts, pay fines, or to protect your finances.**

**ST. CHARLES PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
[WWW.STCHARLESSHERIFF.ORG](http://WWW.STCHARLESSHERIFF.ORG)

## St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office employees support our community

The employees of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office enthusiastically donated to the United Way of St. Charles in 2022 with contributions reaching **\$13,067.32**. All money donated stays within St. Charles Parish unless an employee requests that their donation be sent to another United Way. The United Way of St. Charles serves our parish and is governed by a Board of Directors who are volunteers from our community.

Through their generous donations, the employees of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office continue to ensure that our parish residents receive crucial services during times of need.



Residents of St. Charles Parish are urged to visit our official website at [www.stcharlessheriff.org](http://www.stcharlessheriff.org). Residents can apply for employment, pay taxes and traffic citations, purchase a copy of an accident report, view the latest arrests and incidents through news releases, view sex offenders, and much more!

Additionally, you can get the latest news by following our official social media accounts –

**Facebook – St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office**  
**Twitter – @SCPSheriff**  
**Instagram – stcharlesso**