

2002 Department Awards

Each year, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office hosts a ceremony to honor those whose bravery and dedication to protecting others distinguish them as heroes. In 2002, Sheriff Greg Champagne presented 30 Distinguished Service Awards, 49 Letters of Commendation, and 2 Citizen Awards.

Recipients were honored for a variety of courageous acts -- from finding a teen's body in the Bonnet Carre' Spillway to returning a young boy's lost scooter to foiling a couple of bank robbers.

- * Letters of Commendation
- * Distinguished Service Awards
- * Citizen Awards

Letters of Commendation Deputy Claude Adams Deputy Jason Guidry

In late December, Deputy Jason Guidry stopped a vehicle for various traffic violations in Luling. Shortly afterward, Deputy Claude Adams arrived to assist.

Upon stopping the vehicle, Deputy Guidry noticed the steering column had been broken. He also saw screwdrivers, a crow bar, and a hammer in the front seat. Neither of the two men in the car could give an explanation as to why the column had been damaged or why the tools were in the vehicle.

A criminal history check on both subjects listed extensive records for burglary and possession of stolen property.

Based on the information they learned that night, the deputies arrested both subjects for possession of burglary tools.

Later on, Deputy Adams learned of a burglary the same night as the car stop and that tool marks were left at the scene. He remembered that one of the tools in the car the night of the traffic stop had white powder similar to sheetrock material on it. It matched the damage done to the sheetrock of this business burglary.

Deputy Adams got with the Crime Scene technician that processed the scene and with the detective working the burglaries. With that information, the two arrested subjects admitted to breaking into not one, but two businesses that same week.

Det. Rodney Madere	Det. Renee Kinler
Det. Othello Carter	Det. Walter Fonseca
Crime Scene Technician Robert Toups	Det. Chad Robichaux
Norco Volunteer Firemen Craig Matherne & Carlos Nicholas	

On March 13th, the skeletal remains of a young man was found by a fisherman inside a concrete base of the I-10 in the Norco Bonne Carre Spillway. Detectives and Crime Scene Technician Bobby Toups then began the painstaking effort of recovering the remains and associated evidence that might lead to the identity of the victim and what had happened to him.

Working under extreme conditions, with the help of the Norco Volunteer Fire Dept., detectives and Crime Scene technicians took two days to remove the body and recover the evidence from the concrete cylinder. The cylinder is part of the foundation for the interstate.

The dedication to duty and attention to detail by all of these people involved, led to the identity of the subject and the solution to a two-year-old murder.

Armed with the information, an arrest was made for Second Degree Murder in this case by the Detective Bureau. Each of these men and women are to be congratulated for the job they did in bringing this case to resolution.

My heroes are Deputy J. Ganote and Deputy J. Scioneaux of St. Charles Parish. They are my heroes because someone stole my scooter and helped look hard for it. We called them. Even it wasn't a big emergency, they came anyway. They asked me my name, what kind of scooter it was, and where it last was. They were very polite. I saw them go up and down the street looking hard. I went back home. In the morning, my friend is at the door with the scooter. I think the deputies found it and put it in my friend's yard. Later we were playing and they drove up. They asked, "Doesn't that scooter look familiar?" I told them thank you and they waved and drove away. If I ever see them in trouble, we would help. It makes me safer at home knowing that policemen like them are trying their best to keep everyone safe.

Sgt. Chris Zeller
Deputy Steve Brens

Deputy Claude Adams
Deputy Troy Whitney

Deputy Laurie Songy

On New Year's Eve, a silent burglar alarm sounded at a business on US 90 in Luling. Deputy Troy Whitney responded to that call and met the owner who had just arrived at his business to find the front window shattered and several weapons stolen.

The owner described a vehicle and four subjects who were nearby upon his arrival, but fled as soon as he got out of his car. Deputy Whitney immediately radioed other units in the area to begin looking for such a vehicle. A vehicle fitting the description was found in the area and stopped by deputies.

Deputies learned that two of the passengers inside of the vehicle were involved in the burglary and that two others had fled in another vehicle and were located in a nearby apartment complex. After surrounding the apartments, the two subjects surrendered and admitted their involvement in the burglary.

As a result, this burglary was solved in a matter of minutes and three weapons stolen had been recovered and returned to their rightful owner due to the prompt and efficient actions of these officers.

Det. Chad Robichaux

In early November, detectives were called to a scene of a drive-by shooting in New Sarpy. Two subjects had been hit by gunfire while standing next to a vehicle in the roadway. The only lead: the perpetrators had fired from a white Ford.

The male victim, who had been shot several times, died at St. Charles Hospital and the female victim, who was not seriously injured, couldn't provide any helpful information as to what occurred.

Det. Chad Robichaux was assigned the case and began the arduous task of trying to dig up clues. With nicknames and street names only, he worked tirelessly for days developing suspects and eventually finding the subject involved with this murder.

Det. Robichaux succeeded in getting the suspect to give a statement. After being confronted with all of the evidence, the suspect confessed to his involvement and ultimately gave the name of the shooter in this case who has since been arrested.

**Cpl. Carl Cade
Deputy Michael Cancellla**

Last March, Deputy Mike Cancellla and Cpl. Carl Cade were assigned to a simple robbery, which took place at a business on Apple Street in Norco.

The clerk at the business described a man who was standing near a checkout counter and rifled an unattended cash register of several hundred dollars business receipts before running out of the door. The clerk provided a surveillance tape and a description of the man.

Responding officers, familiar with the area, suspected that the offender was a resident in the area. The officers had seen the man, wearing the clothes the clerk described, earlier that day.

While canvassing the neighborhood, the deputies came upon a witness who had seen the man running from the store and gave the same description as the clerk. Both IDs matched the person the deputies suspected. The officers proceeded to his residence also located nearby.

There they located the man wearing the same clothing as described by both witnesses in front of his residence. Deputies confronted him and after several minutes of denials, the man finally admitted to robbing the store just minutes before. He also took deputies to the location where he had thrown some of the receipts away and deputies recovered all those receipts, plus the money that had been stolen.

Both of these deputies should be commended for their quick thinking and initiative in this case.

**Deputy Joe Ganote
Deputy Damian Scioneaux**

The following letter was written by Jason Van:

"MY HEROES"

My heroes are Deputy J. Ganote and Deputy J. Scioneaux of St. Charles Parish. They are my heroes because someone stole my scooter and helped look hard for it. We called them. Even it wasn't a big emergency, they came anyway. They asked me my name, what kind of scooter it was, and where it last was. They were very polite. I saw them go up and down the street looking hard. I went back home. In the morning, my friend is at the door with the scooter. I think the deputies found it and put it in my friend's yard. Later we were playing and they drove up. They asked, "Doesn't that scooter look familiar?" I told them thank you and they waved and drove away. If I ever see them in trouble, we would help. It makes me safer at home knowing that policemen like them are trying their best to keep everyone safe.

**Deputy Richard Hines
Deputy Brad Walsh
Deputy Steve Gonzales**

Early Dec. 29, Deputy Richard Hines observed a late model vehicle cruising Ormond Boulevard at an extremely low speed. The deputy pulled out of sight and continued to observe the vehicle, which made several passes in front of a closed business, making frequent stops and then continuing on.

Suspecting wrong-doing, he called for back up; Deputies Brad Walsh and Steve Gonzales arrived to assist with a traffic stop. All four men in the car were extremely nervous and gave inconsistent statements.

Further investigation revealed burglary tools and approximately 20 bottles of assorted soft drinks and almost \$400 in change in the back seat of the vehicle.

Deputies learned all four suspects had extensive records and one was even wanted by the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office for a burglary.

The deputies had had no reports of any business burglaries, but they believed the suspects may have burglarized something. So they asked headquarters to send tele-types to the surrounding agencies to see if any other business in the surrounding agencies had been robbed.

A short time later, St. John Sheriff's Office responded and told them that the Glade Elementary School in LaPlace had just been burglarized; a large amount of currency, coins and bottled drinks were missing from the school's vending machines.

A detective from St. John positively identified the stolen items and all four men were arrested and charged with Possession of Stolen Goods, Possession of Burglary Tools, and Simple Burglary of a School in St. John Parish.

Lt. Roddy Landry	Lt. George Breedy
Det. Joe Ganote	Det. Steve Cantelli
Det. Wayne Joseph	Det. Jason Guidry
Det. Joe Lawler	Cpl. Todd Sparks
Cpl. Roy Gautreaux	Deputy Tim Fitzpatrick
Sgt. Billy LeBlanc	Crime Scene Tech Mike Jackson
Christine Carter	Sylvia Chauvin
St. Rose Volunteer Firemen David Lamartiniore & Larry Cochran	

On Feb. 15th, St. John Parish Sheriff's Office notified our Detective Bureau that they were interviewing a young man who was providing information regarding a murder that may have been committed in St. Charles Parish.

The young man was a juvenile and provided very sketchy information, but he did say that it was very possible that a body had been dumped onto the side of the interstate.

With that very limited information, detectives began searching off I-310 during a very cold and rainy afternoon. As the sun set, the weather worsened. The rain was coming down much harder, but the deputies decided to continue looking.

As night fell, detectives noticed something lying 65 feet below in the swamp near the I-310 exit ramp onto Airline Highway. The Marine Division and members of the St. Rose Fire Dept. then began the tough task of getting down into the swamp to ascertain what the object was. Upon closer inspection, they found the body of young James Rogers. The recovery itself took nearly four hours in horrible conditions.

The ensuing investigation lasted countless more hours. With the assistance of the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office Detective Division, the case was solved and four subjects were arrested for Second Degree Murder within 12 hours of the crime being reported.

This case really is a testament to what teamwork and determination can accomplish.

As Lt. Johnston writes, "although the circumstances leading up to the murder of James Rogers cannot be reversed, we, as members of the law enforcement community, have played an important role in bringing swift justice to those who perpetrated this senseless crime. Acting on little information, without any concrete facts, the small cohesive unit of the Criminal Investigations Division of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, came together as a team and helped solved this crime."

B Shift Operators:

**Tiffany Smith
Dawn Farrell
Margaret Murray**

**Gaynell Alexander
Maria Cazenave**

They, along with members of the Patrol Division, Search and Rescue, Marine Division and the St. Rose Volunteer Fire Department all weighed in to solve this senseless, horrific crime and are to be commended.

"On behalf of the Fire Service Commissioners and the fire service, please pass onto 'B' shift and especially Dawn Farrell, the dispatcher at the time, our appreciation for an excellent dispatching job of the fire in Norco, which involved the fatality of three young children.

Even though the dispatcher was visibly shaken by what was unfolding, everyone performed outstanding and gave those kids the best possible chance of being rescued.

'B' shift pulled together and worked as a team to handle this call. Everyone commented on how good a job the dispatchers did from the initial tone, relaying additional information about the kids, giving directions to incoming units, getting departments on the right frequencies, getting additional resources, such as Entergy, gas, Red Cross, etc., and keeping up with all of the radio traffic on the various channels.

This shift should be proud of their input into the rescue effort. Even though the desired outcome was not what we wanted, everyone gave 100% and should be aware that there was nothing else that could have been done. Please pass this letter on to 'B' shift and also our thanks for an exceptional job performed that tragic night."

Lt. Roddy Landry

Sgt. Mark Candies

In 2001, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office became one of Louisiana's few law enforcement agencies to participate in the Lo-Jack program. Some of our police cars have the receivers installed, which captures the transmitted signal, thus directing the police unit to the general location of the transmitter.

Last March, Louisiana State Police advised SCSO's dispatch that they had received an alert in reference to a 1999 Mercedes Benz that had been stolen in St. John Parish. The signal indicated that the vehicle was somewhere in the vicinity of I-310 and US 61 in St. Rose.

Lt. Roddy Landry and Sgt. Mark Candies were at the Second District Station in New Sarpy when they received the information about the wanted stolen vehicle. They jumped in a unit equipped with the system and began to assist with the search.

In the business and industrial area near US 61, the officers spotted a silver vehicle that somewhat fit the description of the stolen vehicle. As they neared the vehicle, the system locked onto the signal and verified that this vehicle was in fact the one emitting the Lo-Jack alert.

Lt. Landry and Sgt. Candies advised dispatch to alert the Kenner Police Dept. and State Police. The driver attempted to evade the officers by turning into a trailer park and the occupants bailed on foot before the vehicle came to a stop.

The officers pursued the subjects and were able to capture the two while the State Police and Kenner Police Dept. captured the third guy. It marked the first apprehension in Louisiana using the system.

Distinguished Service Awards

Dispatcher Ursula Kelly

Last January, 911 Dispatcher Ursula Kelly answered the phone at the Sheriff's Communication Console to a scared but frantic Holly Duhon, who announced, "Help, I think that my grandmother is dead!"

Kelly, a five-year SCSO veteran dispatcher, quickly began to calm Holly and ascertained that the grandmother had been found unconscious, not breathing. Not knowing how long the injured woman had been "down," Kelly immediately began sending police and EMS personnel to the residence while drawing on her experience and training to administer critical life-saving techniques to the victim. She inspired Holly to become Kelly's "eyes and hands" and calmly talked her through the procedures to administer CPR and other vital emergency techniques. The grandmother began breathing and responding as EMTs took over.

The phone disconnected and Operator Kelly heard the ambulance announce over the radio that they were in route to St. Charles Parish Hospital. Operator Kelly continued on with her tour of duty handling other calls for service relating to stalled cars, domestic disturbances and burglar alarms. She had no idea how the grandmother had fared nor if her efforts had helped.

EMTs and doctors were able to stabilize the grandmother and successfully treat her. Medical personnel remarked that the woman most assuredly would have died had it not been for the granddaughter's quick and decisive actions before Emergency Medical Technicians had arrived.

Several days later, two ladies arrived at the 911 Center with a candy bouquet asking for the radio dispatcher that had saved their loved one. Holly and her mother tearfully related that the grandmother was doing well, but if not for Kelly's actions "my mother and her grandmother would have died." The mother went on to say that Kelly's actions were truly a "miracle" because Holly "is afraid of her own shadow and normally won't go into the house by herself."

Operator Kelly modestly accepted the bouquet and hugs, but deferred the credit to her co-workers on duty that day that worked as a team.

911 operators receive intense training through a nationally recognized Telecommunicator Course and multiple hours of in-service operator/dispatch training, which includes Emergency Medical Dispatch procedures. St. Charles Parish is one of the few 911 Centers in the area in which dispatchers handle Police, Fire and EMS calls from common consoles.

Operator Ursula Kelly exemplifies the calm, compassionate and professional Sheriff's Office employees that operate the 911 Center. Her actions were indeed heroic, in that she refused to accept failure and limitations. She overcame all the obstacles placed in her way and succeeded in saving a life!

It is indeed an honor to name Operator Ursula Kelly St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year and award her the Distinguished Service Award.

**Crime Scene Tech Mike Jackson
Deputy Wayne Joseph**

Captain Fred Oubre

Unit Citation - Meritorious Service

**Det . Walter Fonseca
Det. Robert Lynch
Det. Roscoe Brewer
Det. Kenny Gagliano
Det. Sgt. Patricia Baudoin**

**Det. Renee Kinler
Det. Othello Carter
Det. Donald Smith
Det. Melissa Freitas
Lt. Robert Dale**

Last July, Crime Scene Tech Mike Jackson was in the area of the First American Bank in Norco when he saw a subject standing outside the bank carrying a bag looking very nervous. Mike decided to just stop and observe this subject for a little while and what he saw confirmed his suspicions. The car rolled up to the man carrying the bag and before the man could get into the car, noticed a purplish-color smoke coming from the bag, indicative of a dye-pack from a bank robbery to be exploding.

As Mike was giving a description of the vehicle and the occupants over the air, 911 was receiving a call from that same bank saying that they had just been robbed.

Officer Wayne Joseph spotted the vehicle on the River Road and gave pursuit. The suspects, unfamiliar with the area, pulled onto a street that dead-ended at the railroad track.

Capt. Fred Oubre, who was at the Second District at the time, heard the broadcast concerning the robbery and immediately left en route to the general area. He came up on the scene and, when the suspects turned on the dead-end street, chose a parallel course in case the vehicle turned before the railroad track.

At the dead-end, both occupants jumped out and tried to make their escape over the railroad tracks and toward the Ormond area. Deputy Joseph and Captain Oubre apprehended one of the subjects; however, the second man fled into the Ormond area near Ethel Schoeffner Elementary School.

Deputies from every division converged on the area, set up a perimeter and began a manhunt. The search covered several hours and included foot, four-wheeler and helicopter patrols. In all, 90 deputies joined the search.

The suspect was found later that day hiding under a house.

**Det. Sgt. Rodney Madere
Cpl. Patrick Walker
US Postal Employee Wendy Owens - Citizen Award**

**Det. Walter Fonseca
Deputy Walter Banks**

Early one July morning, a mail carrier stopping for a cup of coffee at a convenience store in Montz noticed a man run from the store and jump into an old, multi-colored vehicle. To get a mental picture of the man and his car, she walked toward the vehicle.

The man, who had just robbed the store and shot the owner, fired several shots at the postal worker and her mail truck as she ran toward it. She immediately called the Sheriff's Office and deputies were dispatched to the scene.

hat this mail lady didn't know was that the man she was looking at had just robbed the store and shot the owner. The man realizing that the lady mail carrier was trying to get a description, fired several shots at her and her vehicle as she ran to it and began to leave the parking lot. She immediately called the Sheriff's Office and deputies and detectives were dispatched to the scene.

The first to arrive on the scene were Cpl. Patrick Walker and Deputy Walter Banks. (Cpl. Walker had just returned to duty after undergoing throat surgery; Deputy Banks was undergoing the department's FTO program.)

A BOLO for an armed robbery suspect in St. John Parish was broadcast a short time later. The description fit that of the Montz robbery suspect. A car fitting that description passed Det. Sgt. Rodney Madere on LA 628. He radioed the sighting to Cpl. Walker and Deputy Banks.

The three officers tracked the vehicle to the spillway and conducted a felony traffic stop.

Det. Wally Fonseca, who had also been on the scene of the robbery, converged on the scene immediately after the capture and located evidence in the subject's vehicle.

The suspect was apprehended without incident and later confessed to both the robbery in St. John Parish and the robbery/homicide in St. Charles Parish.

Det. Sgt. Madere used his experience and knowledge of the area to set up looking for the suspect who just might be heading in the area of the isolated spillway.

Cpl. Walker, physically limited by his injuries and training a new officer, totally acted to initiate the traffic stop, and Deputy Banks, a trainee working from instructions given in the few minutes before the traffic stop, took command of the situation and brought the traffic stop to a conclusion in a manner befitting an officer of much greater experience.

Cpl. Donald Smith **Deputy Kenneth Norris**
Deputy Stephen Sadowski

Last July, the Patrol Division was called to the old jail in regard to a prisoner escape. It was reported that the prisoner had been missing for approximately 45 minutes.

The escaped inmate was awaiting trial on a Second Degree Murder Charge and was known to be a survivalist.

Deputies Norris, Sadowski, and Cpl. Smith were canvassing the area in an attempt to locate this dangerous predator.

Deputy Norris, while searching the area separately, interviewed two unknown men walking along the top of the levee. One of the men said that the inmate had stolen a knife from him; now the escapee was considered armed and dangerous.

The deputy located the inmate a short time later as the escapee walked along the shoreline of the Mississippi River some distance from the initial sighting.

Deputy Norris informed Deputy Sadowski and Cpl. Smith that he had seen the subject, but that the inmate had spotted him and had ducked into the woods between the levee and the river. The officers moved to a position in front of where the inmate had been sighted and prepared to intercept him.

As the inmate ducked out of the woods, the officers grabbed him. During the capture, the deputies located the knife and learned from the escapee that he was planning to cross the river. The suspect commented that he had nothing to lose.

There is no doubt, Lt. Kinler wrote, "that this desperate killer had no intentions of going peacefully. He posed a real threat to the community at large. These officers using their intuition, experience, and training were able to search the area, locate witnesses, and ultimately capture the subject in a relatively short period of time."

Major Sam Zinna
Det. Sgt. Rodney Madere
Det. Othello Carter
Det. Claude Adams

Lt. Deborah Johnston
Det. Renee Kinler
Det. Roscoe Brewer

A scene that keeps reoccurring in a lot of these awards is teamwork. In the case of James Rogers, who was brutally murdered and dumped off of the interstate near Airline Highway, a great portion of the investigation fell on the detectives who had to piece together all of the evidence, search for witnesses, gain statements, and run out leads to put a successful case together.

This group of detectives, which began its investigation with very sketchy information on that cold, wet afternoon, continued non-stop with no sleep until the body was found late that evening. Through the night and into the next day, they ran the case down as the leads dictated. They collaborated with the St. John Sheriff's Office, spoke to the family of the victim, located potential suspects and broke down their alibis, putting a very difficult case together.

As the nomination stated, "in this case as in most major crimes, the members of the Criminal Investigation Division consistently act in a manner that bring pride and a sense of accomplishment to the department as a whole."

Captain Fred Oubre

Lt. Jan Troxler

Last August , the First American Bank in Boutte was robbed by a lone bandit brandishing a handgun. The robber ran out of the bank, jumped into his car, which he had parked on the side of the building, and attempted to make his escape through the neighborhood.

The bank employees immediately called 911 and dispatch put the description of the robber out over the radios. Deputies began responding.

Capt. Fred Oubre and Lt. Jan Troxler were at the Patrol Division in New Sarpy when they heard the broadcast. They immediately left the station, jumped in one unit and began to cross the river.

Meanwhile, 911 received a call from residents in the small neighborhood adjoining the bank. They gave a description of an older model brown car that had been driving erratically, hit a mailbox and traveled through one of the residents' front yard.

Responding deputies were attempting to set up a perimeter and to look for witnesses when Capt. Oubre and Lt. Troxler spotted a vehicle fitting the description traveling in the same direction on I-310.

As the police unit neared the suspect's vehicle, it made a U-turn on I-310 and proceeded north. Capt. Oubre and Lt. Troxler gave chase.

Traveling at an incredibly high rate of speed, the robber exited onto River Road, heading toward Jefferson Parish. The robber began running oncoming cars off the road, and even glanced one vehicle in his attempt to escape. He lost control of his vehicle, crashing into a ditch, overturning, and finally striking a utility pole.

As the officers pulled the man from his vehicle, Capt. Oubre and Lt. Troxler noticed the dye-stained currency strewn throughout the ditch and yard where the car had come to rest. The handgun used in the robbery was subsequently discovered inside the vehicle. The robber was later identified as the man wanted for two murders in Jefferson and Orleans Parishes. If not for the keen observations and quick thinking of Captain Oubre and Lieutenant Troxler, the accused murderer and bank robber may still be at large.

Unit Achievement - Training Division

Instructor Trainers

Sgt. Mark Candies	Sgt. Randall Pollet
Cpl. Burley McCarter	Deputy Gino Najiola

Instructors

Major Roland Ladreyt	Captain Craig Petit
Captain Raquel Lewis	Captain Troy Self
Lt. George Breedy	Lt. Pam Negrotto
Lt. Pam Schmitt	Lt. Robert Dale
Lt. Ricky Oubre	Lt. Dave Guzzardi
Lt. Roddy Landry	Lt. Richard Benoit
Sgt. John Pollard	Sgt. Rodney Madere
Sgt. Louis Varnado	Sgt. Rory Champagne
Cpl. Laura Foman	Cpl. Morris Cavaliere
Sgt. Mickey Bergeron	Cpl. Carl Mark
Detective Jo Terluin	Detective Joe Lawler
Tech. Mike Jackson	Deputy Debbie Stutter
Dep. Lonnie Hamilton	Deputy Ted Adams
Shell Armstrong (DVA)	Cpl. Boyd Frickey (Role Player)
Det. Melissa Freitas (Role Player)	

Field Training Officers

Lt. Gil Schmidt	Lt. Drauzin Kinler
Sgt. Paul Adams	Sgt. Gerald Benoit
Sgt. Mike Folse	Sgt. Chris Zeller
Sgt. Joseph Kaiser	Sgt. Patrick Beard
Cpl. Paul Finn	Det. Barton Barrios
Det. Donnie Smith	Cpl. Patrick Walker
Carl Cade	Cpl. Richard Miguez
Cpl. Dennis Hampton	Dep. Conley Martin
Det. Wayne Joseph	Dep. Denise Licciardi
Cpl. Steve Brens	Det. Jason Guidry
Det. John Ganote	Deputy Richard Oubre
Det. Richard Hines	Dep. Arthur Thigpen

As you know, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Department has come a long way in recent years in its effort to hire and subsequently train professional, confident law enforcement officers. The Sheriff's commitment to training is aptly demonstrated by this department's requirement that all enforcement officers attend at least 80 hours of in-service training a year.

To accomplish that goal, a staff of training officers are needed to instruct in the many disciplines and facets of law enforcement work. In his nomination, Captain Walsdorf writes, "the long list of accomplishments remind us that the Training Division does more than just train. Our intent here is to share some idea of the work and efforts involved in reaching the goals set by the Training Division."

The following is a list of accomplishments achieved over the last 2 ½ years. During this time period, the Training Division has researched, developed, implemented, and provided instruction and staff for the following programs:

- New Employee Orientation
- Annual 80-hour in-service programs
- Enhanced driver improvement
- Stinger spike systems
- Operating guidelines for pepper balls
- Beanbag non-lethal weapons and ammunition
- Patrol rifles
- RAD Program (Rape Aggression Defense)
- Annual Scenario Training
- Police motorcycle certification course
- Annual training for law enforcement explorers
- Enhanced and expanded Chemical Agent training
- Field Training Officer Program
- Domestic Violence Assistance Training
- Standardized Field Sobriety Test Training
- Cultural Diversity Training

In addition to the above, the following also was achieved:

- Training Division organized and relocated to a new office.
- Developed an automated database for the maintenance of training records.
- Created automated filing system for Louisiana Peace Officer Standards of Training for both Correctional and Traditional Law Enforcement Academies.
- Established and organized a training tape library containing over 350 video selections.
- The addition of 49 on-staff instructors that teach 26 different various courses of instruction.
- The Training Division has 9 on-staff FBI Development Certified Instructors.
- 5 On-Staff Defensive Tactics and PR-24 instructors and Post Approved Firearms Instructors.
- The Training Division helped establish the first ever Peace Officer Standards of Training Satellite Training Academy that was held in St. Charles Parish and hosted by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Department.
- They developed and established a Reserve Training Academy for the Reserve Officers now augmenting our full-time Patrol Deputies.
- Our Training Division has hosted satellite training for the Louisiana State Police, the Louisiana Motor Vehicle Police, and surrounding agencies for many of these courses that I just described.
- Our instructors have gained such a reputation that many agencies, including the US Department of Veteran's Affairs, Inspector's General's Office, Waterford Security Forces, and other POST Academies have invited our instructors to teach in their venues.

This has all been coordinated by our training staff, which consists of Lt. Rocco Dominic, Cpl. George Rollin, and secretaries Amy Vicknair and Sandy Gilboy.

Citizen Award

Dana Berthelot

On Sept. 2, 2000, at about 1020 hours, Cpl. R. Miguez was dispatched to a signal 20I at Hymel's Curve involving a motorcycle.

Upon arrival, he observed the driver of the motorcycle lying in the ditch alongside LA 18. He also observed that the operator (later identified as Ivy Watson) had suffered lacerations to his face, head, and hands. Also, an unidentified white female rendering what first-aid that she could provide to Mr. Watson.

Upon arrival of EM-1, this young lady was relieved and moved out of the EMT's way. After Mr. Watson was placed in the ambulance, Cpl. Miguez looked for the young lady, to thank her for stopping and helping Mr. Watson, but she had left the area.

The officer saw this young lady again at the E-Z Serve in Hahnville. He learned that her name is Dana Berthelot of Hahnville. The teen is a member of the Air Force ROTC program at Hahnville High School.

The SCSO commends Ms. Berthelot for stopping to assist an injured motorist in his time of need.

This letter is signed Sincerely, Corporal R. Miguez.