



**FROM SHERIFF
BOBBY WEBRE**

ASCENSION PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2022 SPECIAL REPORT

ASCENSIONSHERRIFF.COM



A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF WEBRE

Dear Residents of Ascension Parish,

In 1985, I vowed to protect the people of Ascension Parish and to keep our community safe. Nearly four decades later, I have remained committed to that oath throughout my career, and as a result, our community elected me to serve as your Sheriff and continue this promise.

Over the last three years, I have worked closely with our deputies to provide the quality of public safety the residents of Ascension Parish deserve. I have worked diligently to support the mission and values of the Sheriff's Office amidst the many challenges we have all faced in the last several years while modernizing and improving our daily operations.

I am extremely proud of our hardworking deputies and our organization-wide dedication to success. As a fully staffed sheriff's office, we are able to provide the highest quality public safety and support to our community which is a result of a veteran work force and effective law enforcement training for our team members. Our successes are recognized at the national level – and we are proud to serve you as one of only four nationally accredited law enforcement agencies in Louisiana.

Our community has faced many adversities over the last several years, including record-breaking hurricane seasons, the COVID-19 pandemic, and countless other challenges that have required our deputies to work longer hours in the face of suffering and strife.

With public safety as our primary objective, I am confident that the dedication and commitment of our deputies and entire agency have and will continue to make Ascension Parish a safe place to raise your families, live and work. We are committed to building on our successes, remaining tactically driven, utilizing the latest technologies and best practices to provide an even safer future.

Our 2022 Special Report is intended to provide our community with an agency status update and an overview of the work we have accomplished in the last three. You will find changes and updates implemented to improve response time and services provided, accomplishments, community outreach, and our budgetary details. We are committed to operating with transparency and inform the public about the work we do to serve and protect.

Thank you for taking the time to read our report and for your support of the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office.

In your service,

Sheriff Bobby Webre

ASCENSION PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



COLONEL PAUL ROBERT

Executive Officer



LT. COL. DONALD CAPELLO

Deputy Chief of Criminal Operations



LT. COL. CODY MELANCON

Deputy Chief of Special Operations



LT. COL. LAURA GREMILLION

Deputy Chief of Administration



MAJOR CRAIG BEAMAN

Criminal Investigations



MAJOR STACY FORTENBERRY

Eastside Patrol



MAJOR PAUL HALL

Courtroom Security & Criminal Services



MAJOR TONY NETHKEN

Jail Warden



MAJOR JEFFREY ROBERT

Information Technology



MAJOR DARRYL SMITH

Westside Operations



BELINDA ELISER

Executive Assistant to the Sheriff



DONOVAN JACKSON

Public Information Officer

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE



RE-ESTABLISHED THE K9 DIVISION TO FURTHER ENHANCE ABILITIES OF THE NARCOTICS UNIT



CREATED 3 PATROL DISTRICTS IN EACH AREA OF THE PARISH



AWARDED NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BY COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, INC.



CREATION OF CRIME TASK FORCE IN DONALDSONVILLE



SHERIFF WEBRE COMPLETED THE NATIONAL SHERIFF LEADERS COURSE AT THE NATIONAL FBI ACADEMY



BODY CAMERA IMPLEMENTATION

1807

ONE OF ONLY FOUR SHERIFF'S OFFICES IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AND AMONG ONLY 4% OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES NATIONWIDE TO ACHIEVE CALEA ACCREDITATION



A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN DEPARTMENT HISTORY

In April 2022, the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office was awarded national accreditation by the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), making the APSO one of only four in Louisiana to achieve this accreditation.

The three-year accreditation process required teamwork from all divisions in our agency, from our deputies in patrol to corrections, dispatchers, and detectives. The process rigorously evaluated our agency's compliance on policy development, employee training, best practices, and 180 other law enforcement standards.

This accreditation will hold our agency to the highest standards of law enforcement by providing greater accountability, improved training, and a stronger community connection.

Special thank you to our accreditation team for their dedication and hard work to this achievement: Deputy Chief Laura Gremillion, First Lieutenant Blaine Melancon, Staff Sergeant Christ Blalock, and Sergeant Cody Dardeau.

■ DISTRICT 1

- Donaldsonville
- Unincorporated portions of West Ascension

■ DISTRICT 2

- Acy
- Burnside
- Darrow
- Galvez
- Lake Martin
- St. Amant
- Sorrento
- Unincorporated areas around Gonzales

■ DISTRICT 3

- Dutchtown
- Geismar
- Prairieville

PATROL DIVISION

The patrol division operates across our three patrol districts, covering all unincorporated areas of Ascension Parish, the Town of Sorrento, and the City of Donaldsonville. Our patrol districts are lead by their respective District Commanders; this has greatly improved deputy response time and enhanced accountability within each area of our parish.

2021 BY THE NUMBERS

SERVING 126,000+ RESIDENTS



448 EMPLOYEES

343

FULL TIME
EMPLOYEES

79

PART TIME
EMPLOYEES

26

RESERVE
DEPUTIES



255 VEHICLES

210

EMERGENCY
RESPONSE VEHICLES

45

SPECIALTY VEHICLES
& FLOTILLA



4,227 ARRESTS / 5,783 WARRANTS ISSUED

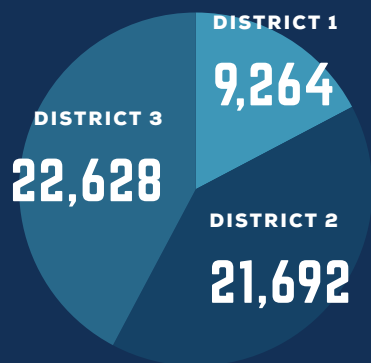


5,562 TRAFFIC CITATIONS



80 ILLEGAL GUNS SEIZED

CALLS FOR
SERVICE
DATA



NARCOTICS

154

NARCOTICS
RELATED
CASES

207

NARCOTICS
ARRESTS

\$47,385

MONEY SEIZED

56.37 LBS

2,637.85 GMS

913 UNITS

OF DRUGS SEIZED



DIVISIONS
& UNITS

- PATROL DIVISION
- CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION
- COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
- CORRECTIONS DIVISION
- NARCOTICS UNIT
- CRIMINAL SERVICES UNIT
- EVIDENCE UNIT
- JUVENILE FAMILY SERVICES UNIT
- OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
- TRAINING DIVISION
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH UNIT
- BUSINESS SERVICES UNIT
- CIVIL UNIT



7 HOMICIDES
6 SOLVED

THROUGH ARRESTS

CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM (CRT)

The APSO Crisis Response Team, established in 1993, is a highly trained and equipped unit that is specially trained to provide critical response to uncommon threats including hostage situations, barricaded suspects, sniper incidents, and high-risk warrant services.

RECENT ACTIVATIONS AND ADVANCEMENTS:

- The 2021 triple shooting and manhunt for a suspect involved in the shooting of Master Trooper Adam Gaubert and two residents of Prairieville.
- Locating an escapee from the parish jail in 2022.
- Locating an attempted murder suspect in the Gonzales area.
- Recently certified three team members to pilot a Matrice Drone to easily locate suspects during crisis incidents.



HAZMAT/EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Ascension Parish is home to over 30 petrochemical industrial facilities, making our community one of Louisiana's largest industrial areas. It remains vitally important for our Sheriff's office to maintain fully equipped Hazardous Materials response capabilities.

Sheriff Webre and our HAZMAT team remain invested members of the Community Awareness Emergency Response (CAER) committee, which is made up of 30 members from industry that are trained and certified to handle hazardous materials response in Ascension Parish.

Our new HAZMAT response vehicle was recently donated by the CAER committee to strengthen our response to hazardous material incident needs and protect the residents of Ascension.



NARCOTICS UNIT AND K9 TEAM

In 2019, Sheriff Webre re-established the K9 unit within our narcotics unit and welcomed two trained canines to the APSO family, Brenda and Kyra. Our canines and their handlers have greatly enhanced our narcotics unit's work to fight drug-related crime in Ascension Parish, and they play a critical role in removing drugs, illegal weapons, and criminals from our community.



COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Our state-of-the-art dispatch center serves as the central emergency communications hub for Ascension Parish, routing calls for all parish districts, the Gonzales Police Department, and all fire services districts. This facility is designed with complete redundancy that has allowed our 9-1-1 operations to remain 100% operational with no downtime during all natural disasters to impact our area.

During Hurricane Ida, our dispatch center managed call volume for many surrounding parishes whose dispatch centers were offline or damaged. Since relocating our dispatch center from the former Parish Courthouse to our District 2 headquarters, we have been able to expand our operations and increase the capacity for additional dispatchers, greatly enhancing our ability to respond to local and regional emergencies.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

While the last three years required significant deputy overtime hours to continue serving Ascension during the Covid-19 pandemic and Hurricane Ida response and recovery, Sheriff Webre was able to effectively manage the APSO budget, successfully creating the largest surplus in recent history.



2021 TOTAL REVENUE	2021 TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2021 BUDGET SURPLUS
\$49,807,209	\$48,446,628	\$1,360,581





IN OUR SCHOOLS

With devastating crime in schools across the country, our deputies are committed to ensuring every student in Ascension Parish is safe when they go to school each day. Our School Security Officers conduct regular walkthroughs of every school campus and work hand in hand with our Crisis Response Team to create effective emergency response plans for each campus, ensuring a rapid and tactical response to any potential threats.

McGruff the Crime Dog makes regular visits to schools in Ascension Parish to help our deputies educate youth on the dangers of drugs and violence, and inspire youth to be kind and care about others.

“STUDENTS IN ASCENSION PARISH DESERVE A SAFE SPACE TO LEARN, GROW, AND FLOURISH; WE OWE THAT TO THEM. THAT IS WHY WE MUST CONTINUE STRENGTHENING OUR FOCUS ON SCHOOL SECURITY”

- SHERIFF BOBBY WEBRE



IN OUR COMMUNITY

Our deputies and agency staff are passionate about the community we call home and stay involved year-round in serving the people of Ascension Parish beyond all badge-related duties.

Our annual Sheriff's Christmas Crusade Toy Drive has served over 800 children in Ascension over the last three years and brings just as much joy to our team as it does to the children who receive these gifts.

After devastating tornadoes ripped through parts of Kentucky in 2021, Sheriff Webre and the APSO conducted another toy drive, dubbed "Christmas for Kentucky", and delivered toys to hundreds of children in Kentucky.

SENIORS AND LAWMEN TOGETHER (SALT)

Seniors and Lawmen Together (SALT) is a program designed to bridge the gap between senior citizens and law enforcement. Through this program Sheriff Webre and his team are able to address concerns that involve crime prevention and safety for seniors in our community. Through this initiative, seniors attend events with guest speakers, a fun day on the river and health expo.

JUNIOR DEPUTY PROGRAM

The Junior Deputy Program offers preteens in Ascension Parish a chance to interact with law enforcement professionals while learning the various skills required to be a sheriff's deputy. This program helps to foster a relationship between preteens and law enforcement professionals in Ascension Parish and promotes respect, proactive, law-abiding citizens who possess honest, good moral character and do good for others. After a brief hiatus due to Covid-19, the program returned in 2021 and has served over 200 students in the last three years.



BEYOND THE BADGE



Sergeant Shelby Leveron was awarded a Letter of Commendation in September 2021 for demonstrating outstanding performance in the line of duty while assigned to the communications division. Sergeant Leveron received a 911 call regarding a one-year-old child who had stopped breathing; she remained on the line and provided step by step CPR instructions to the child's mother. Sergeant Leveron remained calm and collected while guiding the mother, who was able to help the young child breathe on her own due to Sergeant Leveron's exceptional work.



Sergeant Brock Carpenter was awarded the Life Saving Award in 2021 after he was dispatched in the early morning hours to the scene of a submerged vehicle in May 2021. Upon arriving, Sergeant Carpenter immediately entered the water to break the vehicle window and rescue the trapped driver inside. His swift response and action saved the victims life.

Deputy First Class D'wanya Black and Deputy Alex Troxclair were awarded the Beyond the Badge Award for helping a stranded 19-year-old rent a room at a local hotel for two nights. Both deputies paid out of their own pockets to put the young woman up for 2 nights, giving her time to make arrangements to get back to her home in California. Another APSO member, who wishes to remain anonymous, gave the young lady money for food for the duration of her stay.

In May 2022, Dfc. D'Wanya Black also responded to the call of duty when he helped to rescue a toddler who locked himself in a vehicle.



COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

CORRECTIONS AND JAIL OPERATIONS

The Ascension Parish Jail, in operation since 1976, houses on average over 400 inmates and is secured by over 70 corrections officers from the APSO.

In 2021, Sheriff Webre and Ascension Parish Government entered into an agreement for the APSO to assume maintenance and upkeep of the parish jail. Under this agreement, operational cost savings will be placed into a new jail construction fund to allow for gradual improvements to the facility. Sheriff Webre has committed to a holistic approach to jail operations to maintain not only the physical upkeep of the facility, but also security of the facility to ensure a safe environment for corrections officers, medical staff, attorneys, visitors, and inmates.

“WE ARE MOST SUCCESSFUL AS A DEPARTMENT WHEN WE PARTNER AND WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHER AGENCIES TO REACH THE BEST OUTCOMES FOR ASCENSION PARISH. I AM PROUD OF THE COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WE HAVE FOSTERED WITH PARISH AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP AND OTHER LOCAL AGENCIES WHICH HAVE LED US TO SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL AND BENEFICIAL JOINT INITIATIVES.”

- SHERIFF BOBBY WEBRE





Sheriff Webre and the APSO have also partnered with the City of Donaldsonville, the Ascension Parish School Board, Ascension Parish Libraries and Ascension Parish Government to establish early childhood development center on the west bank. An early childhood development center will be constructed in Donaldsonville at the site of the former West Ascension Elementary School on St. Patrick Street. This facility, adjacent to our Wag Center and substation, will provide a safe place for the youngest members of our community to learn and grow. We know children are our future, and we must continue to enhance our community outreach, especially in underserved areas, to provide for these children. The early childhood development center will serve as a perfect complement to our already existing Wag Center where children and teens can interact positively with law enforcement, and have a safe place to play, study, spend time.



HURRICANE IDA RESPONSE

The APSO assisted in identifying impassible or unsafe roadways during the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Ida and helped to clear debris in order to get Ascension Parish transit back open quickly after the storm's devastation.

Our Communications Dispatch Center remained fully staffed and operational to take calls for all of Ascension, as well as surrounding parishes whose call centers experienced outages following Hurricane Ida.



BECOME ONE OF US



For information on available positions or questions please contact:

SGT. HEATHER BAGALA

Recruitment
(225) 264-6766
hbagala@ascensionsheriff.com

- FULLY PAID PENSION
- DEFERRED COMPENSATION INVESTMENTS
- HEALTH, DENTAL AND VISION INSURANCE
- PAID ANNUAL AND SICK LEAVE

STARTING SALARIES 2022/2023

ENFORCEMENT

\$49,851

CORRECTIONS

\$42,534

DISPATCH

\$46,648

CLERICAL

\$32,409

SPECIALIST

\$45,548

[ASCENSIONSHERIFF.COM/CAREER-OPPORTUNITIES](https://ascensionsheriff.com/career-opportunities)



APISO HEADQUARTERS

828 S. Irma Blvd.
Gonzales, LA 70737
(225) 621-8340



DISTRICT 1 SUBSTATION

1201 Maginnis St.
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
(225) 621-8851



DISTRICT 3 SUBSTATION

38567 Highway 42
Prairieville, LA 70769
(225) 621-8354



WEST COURTHOUSE

300 Houmas St.
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
(225) 473-8671



DISTRICT 2 SUBSTATION

13200 Airline Highway
Gonzales, LA 70737
(225) 621-8300

**APISO ANONYMOUS TIP
LINE**

Text: 847411
Call: (225) 621-4636

CRIME STOPPERS

344-STOP (7867)

**SUICIDE PREVENTION AND
CRISIS HOTLINE**

Dial 988

MISSION

The Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office enforces state laws, deters criminal activity, protects life and property, maintains order, and serves the citizens of Ascension Parish. Using innovative leadership and a dedication to providing quality service, the Sheriff's Office will maximize the use of its resources to provide the highest quality service which will aid in improving the quality of life for the citizens of our parish.

VISION

The vision of the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office is to provide the highest quality services to residents in Ascension Parish, building on organizational successes and improving quality of life for all. The APSO is driven by our motivation for ongoing self-improvement, and we remain steadfast in our intention to foster a productive and healthy work environment for all employees and partners. The APSO is committed to ensuring Ascension Parish is, and continues to be, a safe community to live, work, and raise a family.

