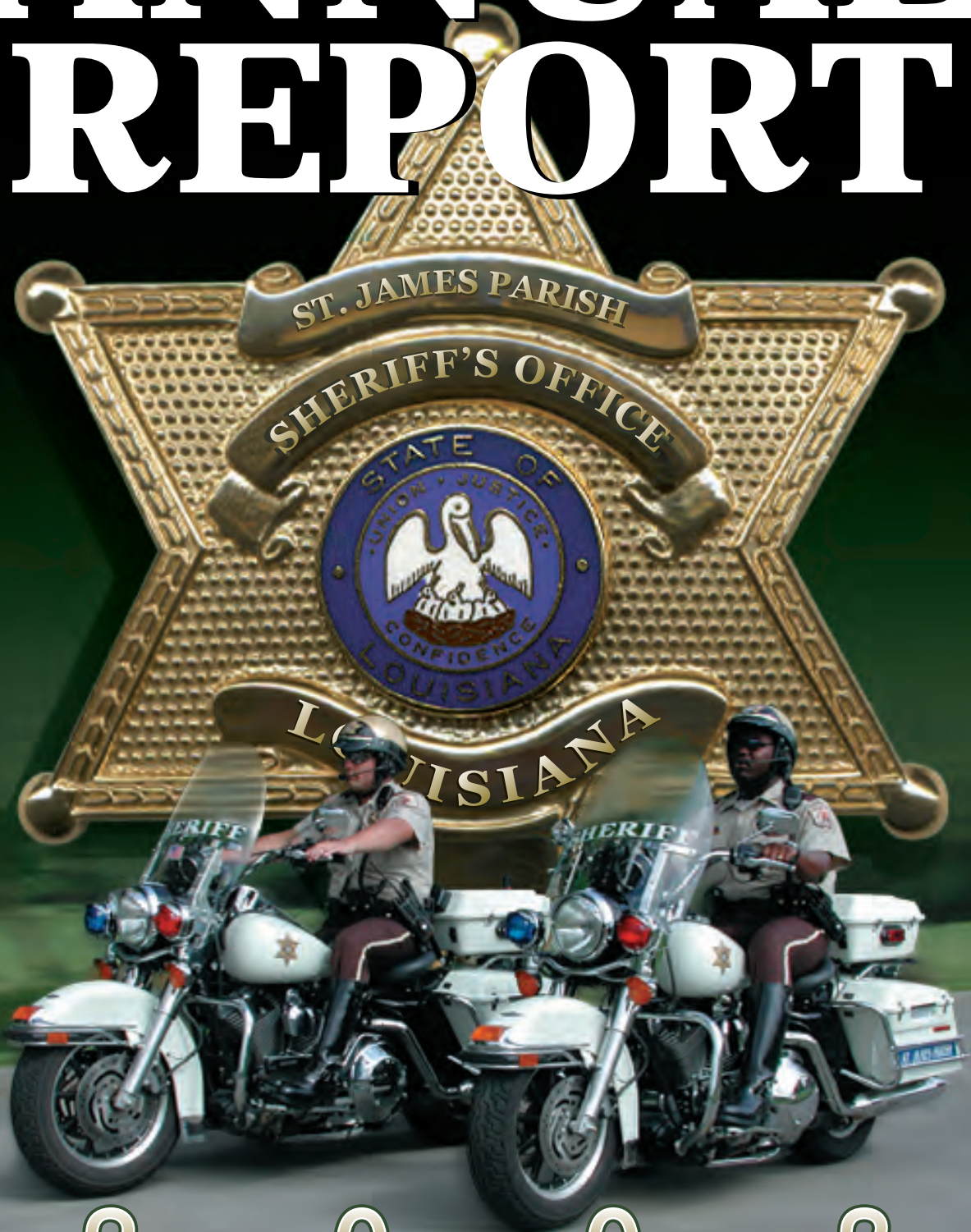


St. James Parish Sheriff's Office

ANNUAL REPORT



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Dear Friends,

Welcome again to our annual report.

In this issue, there's a story about local students taking a field trip to the courthouse for a civics lesson. We frequently host these events and recently, while surrounded by children from a local elementary school, I changed places with them in my mind. Years ago, as a young student, perhaps the biggest worry I ever had was an upcoming examination.

How times have changed! As your sheriff, my department and I are tested every day.

The St. James Parish Sheriff's Office, (SJPSO) has the responsibility of keeping every resident of our parish as safe as possible and to provide you with professional service. To accomplish this, we must not only try to get better, we must do it. Deputies go through continuous training to ensure that they are up-to-date on the latest techniques in law enforcement. The technology we use is constantly evolving and, we have to stay ahead of the curve.

Inside, you'll learn of our most recent efforts to enhance our ability to serve you, such as:

- A new, innovative computer system that allows us to more closely track criminal activity and stop it
- A firearms-training facility which will be constructed soon
- An update on homeland security
- Our new motorcycle division

We are here to serve you and can best do our job with your continued help. Let us know if something doesn't look right in your neighborhood. We will respond - anywhere, anytime.

When it comes to protecting you, getting just a passing grade isn't enough. We want an "A."

Please, let me know what I or the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office can do to help you.

Very truly yours,

WILLY J. MARTIN, JR.
Sheriff, St. James Parish

St. James Parish Sheriff's Office

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ARMMS

A significant advancement in law enforcement technology is being used by the SJPSO. A new recently installed computer system, Automated Records Management & Mapping System, or ARMMS, allows your sheriff's office to keep better track of crimes and lets the department pinpoint problem areas.



"To simplify how this technology works, think of the old movies where thumbtacks on a map showed where crimes were committed," said Sheriff Martin. "ARMMS allows us to research the nature of and time offenses were committed, project patterns of criminal activity and take pro-active steps to stop it."

With ARMMS, a telephone call to the sheriff's office dispatch center, reached by dialing 9-1-1, can be tracked using the parish's Geographic Information System. In an instant, a dispatcher sees on a computer monitor the complete history of calls from that specific location, which deputy responded in each instance and the result of each visit.

In the near future, locator devices in every sheriff's office patrol unit will allow dispatchers to immediately know which unit is closest to a call for assistance. Response times will shorten as deputies will be dispatched more quickly.

Motorcycle Patrols

The latest additions to the SJPSO are four specially equipped Harley Davidson motorcycles, that will be used primarily for traffic law enforcement and to assist the victims of traffic accidents.

"Motorists exceeding posted speed limits may see a police unit from a distance and slow down, but often don't see a motorcycle officer until they are caught," said Sheriff Martin. "These motorcycles and officers will enhance our efforts to stop speeding in the parish."

Sheriff Martin said that frequently after an accident, a roadway is partially blocked. In these instances, a motorcycle could get through traffic, allowing a deputy to assist victims.

Before they 'saddle up,' deputies in this division undergo a special 40 hour course on police motorcycle handling conducted by officers from The Baton Rouge City Police Department.

The purchase of these \$20,000 motorcycles, fully equipped with special radios, lights, sirens and radar systems was funded through a law enforcement grant from the federal government.



Deputies Travis Lawless and DeWayne White take to the streets on new SJPSO motorcycles

Crime Prevention in Our Schools

Courthouse Field Trips

It's never too early to teach children that there are consequences for their actions. Each year, the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office hosts students from local schools at the courthouse for a lesson in criminal justice.

Students play the part of criminal, arresting officer, prosecutor, judge and members of the jury while a mock trial is conducted. After the courtroom procedure, deputies and Sheriff Martin accompany the youths on a tour of secure portions of the parish jail.

"We are not trying to scare young people," said Sheriff Martin. "Rather, we are letting them see for themselves that jail is not a place you want to be."



School Crime Stoppers

An in-school, crime-stoppers program allows students to exert control of discipline matters in their schools. With rewards offered in some cases, students can report offenses to school officials such as smoking, drugs and weapons.

This program is a deterrent to crime and trouble in our schools. Students become actively involved in making their schools safer and in enforcing school rules.

Resource Officers

To help build and maintain mutual trust between students and law enforcement, the SJPSO posts a school resource officer in each parish high school. These specially trained law enforcement professionals interact with students in a relaxed, approachable setting.

Resource officers are very knowledgeable about their particular school and in an emergency can identify the exact location of each classroom and activity area.



Deputy Eathen Landry visits with St. James High School's Anthony Fletcher.

Homeland Security

The job of protecting the citizens of St. James Parish and Louisiana is serious business.

Sheriffs across the state have taken steps to enhance public-safety efforts. One measure is the use of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Task Force as a rapid-response task force. In the event of a disaster or emergency, special deputies are dispatched from each sheriff's office in Louisiana to the affected area. Sheriff Martin serves as the coordinator of this program for the southern part of the state.

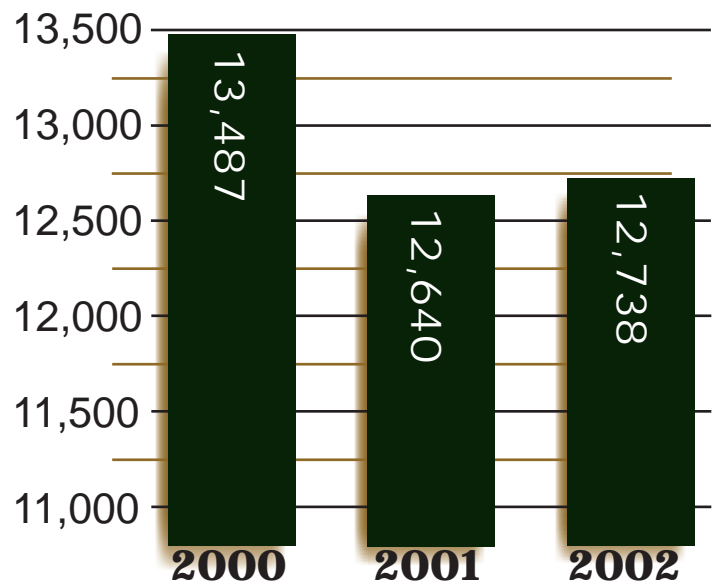
In St. James, the SJPSO works with the United States Department of Homeland Security to team with five other local parishes in a mutual aid group. A \$900,000 grant from the U.S. Justice Department helps fund this effort, which supplies technology and equipment enhancements to civil defense and law enforcement agencies. With this agreement, St. James, St. John the Baptist, Assumption, St. Charles, Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes will all come to the aid of one another in times of need.

Your sheriff's office will continue to work with the parish, local governments and fire departments to keep the people of St. James Parish safe.



Sergeant Jeff Moran keeps an eye on an industrial area as part of stepped-up patrols near manufacturing sites in our parish. Other, less-visible measures have been put into place since "9-1-1."

St. James Parish Sheriff's Office Calls for Assistance



Deputies Cited for Outstanding Work

Two St. James Parish Sheriff's Office deputies, Joe Hamilton and Ryan Donadieu, have been honored for their work in making our parish a safer place.

Deputies Hamilton and Donadieu were recognized by the Louisiana Housing Council for their outstanding efforts in community policing in public housing units of the parish. Deputy Hamilton was also cited by the South West regional division of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment for his work. They were presented their awards at a recent ceremony in Kansas City, Missouri.



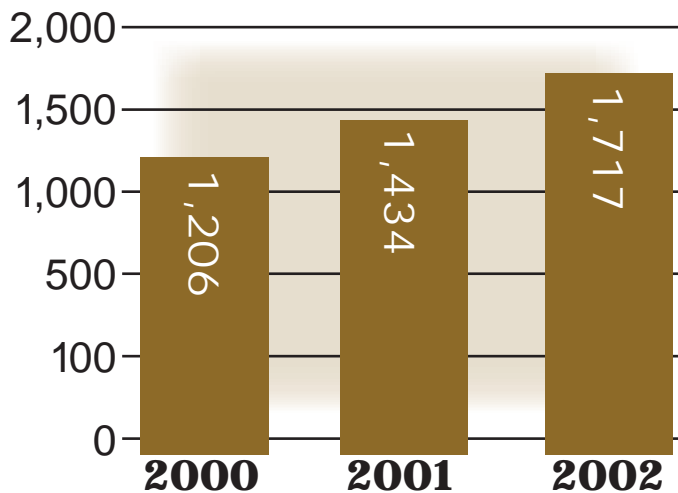
Deputies Joe Hamilton and Ryan Donadieu

Community policing involves intensive interaction with the community, similar to the days when law enforcement officers walked a specific beat.

Sergeant Donadieu has been with the SJPSO since 1997 and has served as a sergeant for two years. He is assigned to the uniform patrol and motorcycle divisions.

Deputy Hamilton works with the uniform patrol division and has been with the department since 1990. A member of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Task Force, he is also a martial arts instructor.

Bookings into Parish Jail



Chief Deputy Butch Williams and Sheriff Martin look over plans for the SJPSO firearms-training facility.

Firearms-Training Facility

Plans are taking shape for the construction of a firearms-training facility for the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office.

The complex, to be built near LA 3127, will feature a 50-yard pistol range where officers can become certified in firearms training. Also on the drawing board for the 20-acre site are 100- and 250-yard rifle ranges.

A classroom building will allow the SJPSO to conduct instructional sessions, hunter safety courses and educational sessions for law enforcement and the citizens of St. James Parish. Sportsmen will be able to use the rifle ranges to sight in and practice shooting with their hunting rifles. Storage facilities will also be built to house SJPSO equipment. Should high water threaten nearby residents, sandbags can be filled and distributed at the site.

Approximately 2.5 miles north of LA 20, the site is a former landfill that closed about eight years ago. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has certified the area as safe to use.



Sheriff Larry Deen of Bossier Parish, outgoing Louisiana Sheriffs' Association President, hands the gavel to the new President, Sheriff Willy Martin.

Sheriff Martin Leads Louisiana Sheriffs

St. James Parish Sheriff Willy Martin, Jr., is the new President of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, making him one of the leading voices in Louisiana on issues relating to the office of sheriff and law enforcement. Sheriff Martin will lead the association through September of 2004.

Formed in 1938, the LSA represents some 17,000 deputies and 65 sheriffs in the state. The LSA works to maintain the powers of the sheriff as peace officer, ensure the delivery of first-rate services by sponsoring legislation to promote the administration of criminal justice and serves as a clearinghouse for information.