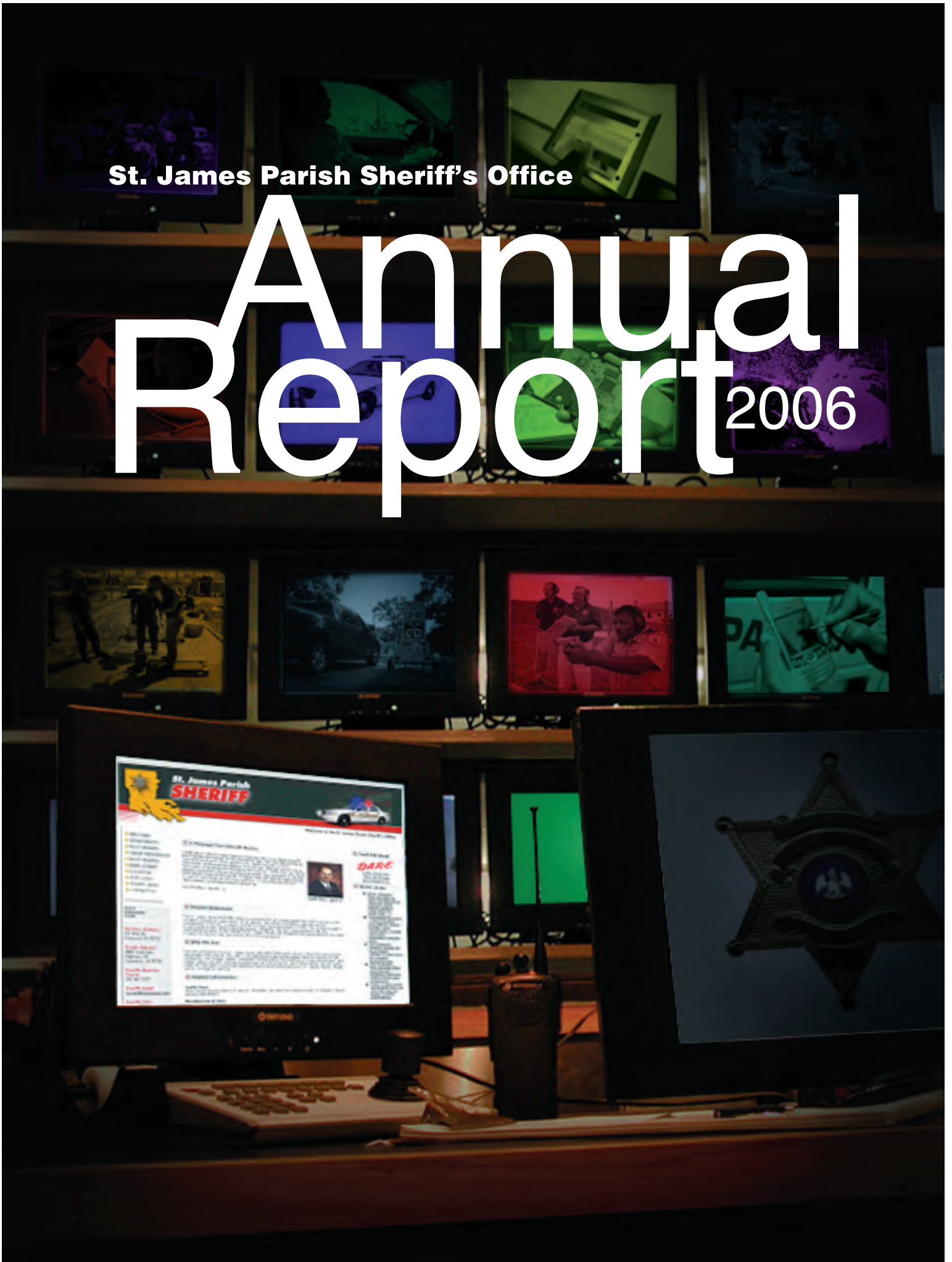


St. James Parish Sheriff's Office

Annual Report

2006





stjamessheriff.com

Welcome to the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office annual report.

There are a few things which are certain in life and some people say death and taxes top the list. Along with those absolutes, I add "time marches on and things change." People, plants and animals either adapt or get left behind. I firmly believe that in the fight against crime if you stand still, you're losing ground.

Changing with the times is one of the things we also do at the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office. We work and train hard to keep up with the latest developments in law enforcement and to implement new technology. You'll find an example of what I'm talking about inside this issue with a story on our efforts to combat computer crime and fraud. Offenses which were not even thought of a few years ago now happen in our parish and we're serious about stopping them.

Speaking of computers, check out the story about our web site, stjamessheriff.com, which has undergone a major renovation, making it even easier for you to communicate with us.

In this edition you'll find details on an upgrade to the security system at our jail, the recent completion of a firing range/training facility and a radar trailer which helps motorists monitor their driving speed. Our efforts to protect and serve one of St. James' greatest treasures, our senior citizens, are also highlighted.

Our office will continue its efforts to provide you with modern crime-fighting techniques. We will not, however change our basic mission – to provide you with the highest quality service possible.

Please, contact me if I or this office can ever be of assistance to you. In any emergency, do not hesitate to dial 911.

Very truly yours,

Willy J. Martin, Jr.

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

Two and a Half Decades and Counting!

Congratulations go out to nine full-time employees of the SJPSO who have reached 25 years of consecutive service. The honorees are, front row, left to right; Deputy Rhonda Roper, Deputy Greta Melancon, Deputy Rita Stewart and Deputy Ann Duhe. Second row, left to right; Captain Amos Woods, Captain Karl Melancon, Chief Deputy Heria "Butch" Williams, Captain Craig Poché and Lieutenant Floyd Costley.

Thank you for what you have done and continue to do for the people of St. James Parish!



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Combating Computer Crime

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."

—Thomas Watson, Chairman of IBM, 1943

Was that guy wrong or what?

With every facet of daily living influenced by computers, it's a fact that criminals are also using these machines. The SJPSO is expanding its investigative skills to help stop these "cyber" crimes.

For example:

- Fake E-mails install programs to steal credit card information
- Identity theft takes place
- Bank accounts are raided
- Children are solicited by child abusers

Recently, SJPSO Deputies Toby Sandifer and Jason Chabaud completed special training to be certified as forensic computer analysts. Using complex computer software, these deputies can retrieve evidence of a crime from a computer, even though the criminal attempted to cover his tracks.

"As criminals get more sophisticated, we adapt our crime-fighting techniques to stop them," Sheriff Martin said. "Forensic

Sheriff Martin and Deputy Toby Sandifer, SJPO's Information Technology manager, inspect a confiscated computer hard drive for evidence of criminal activity.

computer analysis is the scientific progression of good, old-fashioned detective work taken to a whole new level."

Sheriff Martin said children are especially vulnerable when using the Internet because of their trusting nature. He urged parents and guardians to keep close tabs on young people who spend time online.

Visit our web site or contact us for more information on keeping children safe online.

stjamessheriff.com



Moving Up!



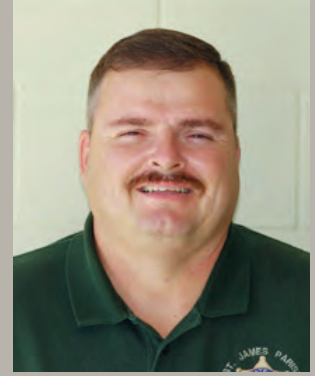
Steven Brignac has been promoted to sergeant. An assistant to the shift supervisor, Brignac has been with the SJPSO for 8 years.



Anthony Joseph has served with the SJPSO for 9 years and has been promoted to sergeant. He is an assistant to the shift supervisor.



Tyrone Lafargue, an 11-year veteran of the SJPSO has been promoted to lieutenant. Lafargue serves in the uniform patrol division as a shift supervisor.



Captain Karl Melancon has been named supervisor of the SJPSO training center/shooting range. Melancon is a 26-year veteran of the sheriff's office.

Jail Security Upgrade

Keeping an eye on some 100 inmates at the St. James Parish Jail has taken a high-tech turn with the installation of a state-of-the-art video and audio-surveillance system.

Strategically placed, remote-controlled cameras monitor key parts of the jail such as booking areas, hallways, exercise and delivery areas 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. A touch-screen panel in a new control room allows guards to zoom in or move a camera for a better look at a particular spot. The system can also monitor telephone calls.

Sheriff Martin says the \$238,000 system will save the parish and sheriff's office money. "We often must defend ourselves in frivolous lawsuits brought by inmates. This system will eliminate much of that. It will also protect inmates and our personnel as we now have a digital record of virtually every pertinent inch of our jail."



Deputy Marva Dumas uses the new monitoring system at the St. James Parish Jail. Located in the courthouse complex in Convent, the jail holds up to 125 prisoners.

Firing Range/Training Facility

The new SJPSO shooting range and training facility is open in Vacherie.

The 12-acre site, two miles west of the intersection of Highways 20 and 3127, features a 50-yard pistol range and 100- and 200- yard rifle areas.



Deputy Kern Ferchaud practices his marksmanship while being observed by Sheriff Martin and firearms instructor Deputy Donny Miculek. Every SJPSO employee who carries a firearm must be certified annually.

Two officers are assigned to the site that includes a nearly three-acre pond and an office/classroom building with showers, bathrooms and kitchen facilities.

"Local, state and federal law enforcement personnel are already using the site" Sheriff Martin said. "We recently hosted a training session on explosives with the federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and by doing so received free spaces for our personnel. Travel expenses are being cut and deputies don't have to go elsewhere to qualify with their firearms."

The facility will be available to local youth groups for outdoor-based activities. On certain days, hunters will be allowed to use the range to sight in rifles.

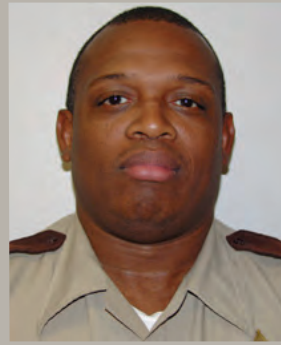
Moving Up!



Jeff Moran has been promoted to lieutenant. A shift supervisor of the uniform patrol division, Moran has been with the department 13 years.



Lieutenant Edward Scott has been named assistant warden of the parish jail. Scott has 21 years of service with the department.



Prentiss Woodfork, with 13 years of service, has been promoted to sergeant. Woodfork serves as an assistant to the shift supervisor.



RETIRED
Assistant Warden Rodney Clayton retired in late 2005 after 30 years of service to the SJPSO. Thank you, Rodney, for a job well done!

Slow Down!

A new, computerized speed detection device is on the streets of St. James Parish, but don't look for a deputy with a radar gun. Using funds secured through a Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, the SJPSO has acquired a "radar trailer," which electronically measures and displays a vehicle's speed.

"Speeding is one of the leading causes of automobile accidents," Sheriff Martin said. "This machine allows us to remind motorists to keep an eye on how fast they are driving. But the next time we visit with a speeding driver, the reminder may not be so friendly!"

The unit measures average speed, number of vehicles and peak times for traffic at its particular location.

For instance, during a recent outing on Oak Street in South Vacherie, from 7AM until 3:30PM, the radar trailer counted 298 vehicles with an average speed of 22 miles per hour. The posted speed limit is 20. One vehicle went by at 30 while another crept along at 14. Sensors aboard the unit note atmospheric conditions and for the record, it was sunny.



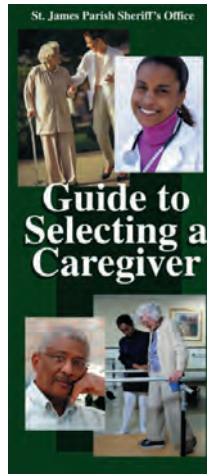
S.A.L.T. Seniors and Lawmen Together

In St. James, we love our senior citizens!

Our "S.A.L.T.," or Seniors and Lawmen Together Division, provides numerous, valuable services to older residents.

Through this cooperation between our department and senior citizens, we can reduce criminal victimization of older persons.

The SJPSO recently published a pamphlet to assist those needing to select a caregiver for an elderly loved one. For a free copy, please stop by our office or contact us, and we will gladly mail you one.



stjamessheriff.com

The SJPSO has added another tool to its communications box. An upgraded web site makes for an easy way to contact us and stay informed of the many activities we undertake on your behalf.

For timely information about the department, business procedures, E-mail addresses of key personnel, crime fighting tips and a special section for children, visit stjamessheriff.com.

"We dedicate a portion of our site to young people with fun activities," Sheriff Martin said. "Early interaction makes a positive difference in a youngster's life. As law enforcement officials, as citizens of our parish and as parents and mentors, we must be proactive in encouraging our children to lead lives free of drugs and crime."

Visit stjamessheriff.com often as the site is updated frequently. Please, give us your input on how we can make it even better.

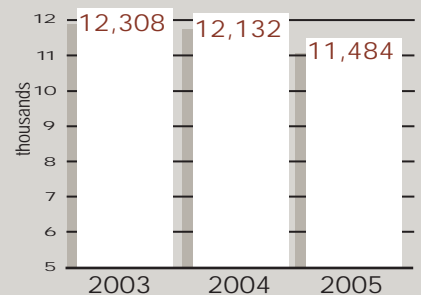
Stats

Drug Arrests For 2005

Marijuana:	88
Cocaine:	36
Methamphetamine:	10
Steroids:	1
Prescription Drugs:	21
Cases Sent to Federal Authorities:	17
Total:	173

Emergency Dial 9-1-1

Calls for Assistance



Bookings Into Parish Jail

