

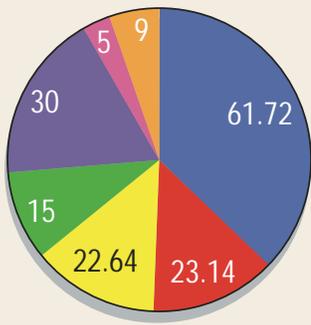
St. James Parish
Sheriff's Office

Annual Report



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Where the Money Goes



Distribution of Traffic Fines & Costs*

Values In Dollars

- St. James Parish Council
- St. James Parish Sheriff
- District Attorney
- St. James Clerk of Court
- Public Defender Board
- Judges Costs
- State Agencies Fees

*Based on a \$166.50 fine, set by state laws and District Court Judges. Actual amounts differ depending on violation.



Dear fellow citizens of St. James Parish,

Welcome again to our annual report on some of the activities of your sheriff's office.

As technology continues to evolve and play an ever-increasing role in law enforcement, we work hard to stay ahead of the electronic curve. The SJPSO is committed to implementing the latest tools in our continuing effort to fight crime and strengthen the lines of communication between you and this office.

While we're talking about technology, in this issue you'll find stories on new digital recorders being used by detectives, how we gather and use DNA evidence and the total makeover of our Internet home, stjamessheriff.com.

Just about everyone has the latest technology within arm's reach – the mobile phone, with most being capable of sending and receiving E-mail, text messages, videos and photographs with the touch of a button. Use that technology to help us keep St. James safe. Call 9-1-1 immediately if you see something suspicious. We'll be there as soon as we can.

Also in this issue you'll find details on the new weapons deputies are carrying and how they will save taxpayer dollars, our inmate work program and if you've ever wondered exactly where your money goes when you pay taxes or a traffic fine, that question is answered with some informative graphs.

The people of St. James can continue to point with pride to our parish's spirit of cooperation. I urge and ask you to work with us to keep our parish safe.

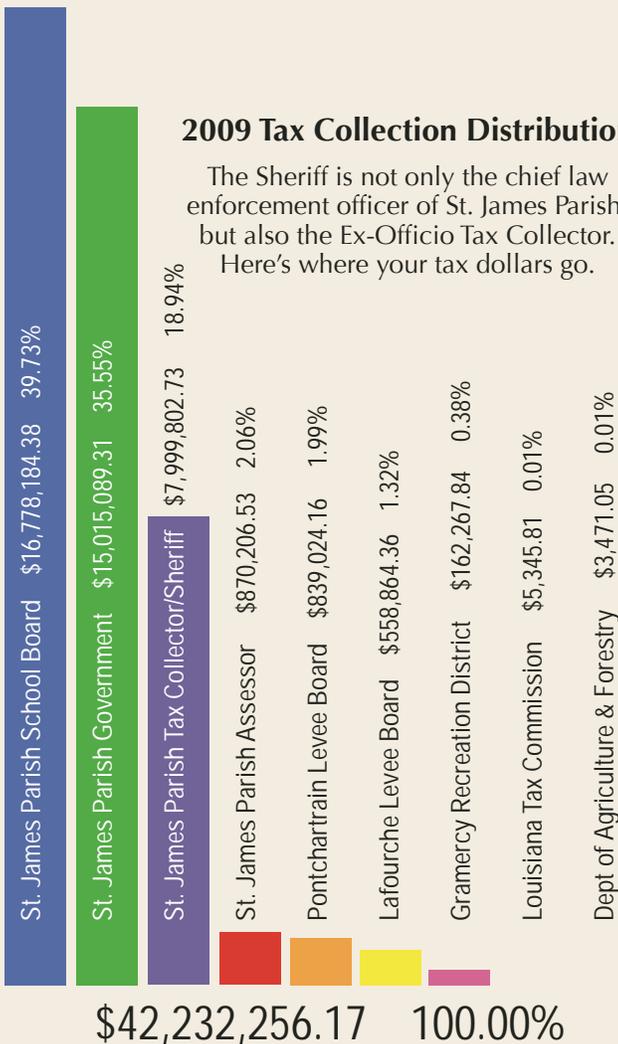
Please do not hesitate to let me know how this office or I personally can ever be of service to you.

Very truly yours,

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

2009 Tax Collection Distribution

The Sheriff is not only the chief law enforcement officer of St. James Parish, but also the Ex-Officio Tax Collector. Here's where your tax dollars go.



Updates

Retirees



After 33 and 34 years of service respectively, Deputies Rhonda Roper (L) and Rita Stewart (R) have retired. Rhonda worked many years in our civil department, where she specialized in tax collections. Rita's great expertise in the criminal records division will be missed. Thank you Rhonda and Rita for your service and Happy Retirement!

30 Years of Service



SJPSO employees marking 30 years of service are L-R, Captain Craig Poché, of the uniform patrol division, Deputy Ann Duhe who works in the civil department overseeing accounts payable and purchasing and Captain Karl Melancon, who supervises training and the parish shooting range. Thank you for three decades of service!

Public Housing Award

Two SJPSO Detectives, Billy Jordan and Derick Washington, have been cited by The Louisiana Housing Council for outstanding work in keeping St. James safe.

Detective Jordan has been with the SJPSO since 1993 and also works with our K-9 division. On our staff since 2005, Detective Washington has 19 years of law enforcement experience.

Remembering



Sergeant Joseph "Ninja" Hamilton passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. "He was a mentor to many of our younger officers and a devoted law enforcement professional," Sheriff Martin said. An Army veteran with a black belt in martial arts who also taught the fighting techniques, Sergeant Hamilton served 19 years with the SJPSO, receiving numerous recognitions and awards.



Deputy Harvey "Cafe" Lasseigne began his career with the SJPSO in 1957 under then-sheriff Gordon Martin and retired 20 years later. Deputy Lasseigne was an Army veteran and lifelong resident of the West Bank community of St. James.



Sheriff Martin and Detective Julie Scioneaux collect DNA evidence from a knife found at a crime scene.

DNA Evidence

Since it was first used in criminal proceedings in 1985, DNA evidence has proved to be an extremely valuable tool in law enforcement investigations. 99.9999 percent accurate, the amount of DNA needed for a sample is invisible to the human eye.

How it works: DNA testing narrows down a specific biological molecule or genetic fingerprint out of some 6.9 billion people – the estimated population of Earth.

How it does not work: Testing takes longer than the next scene after the commercials on TV!

"DNA testing can take six months and cost \$4,000, so it's only used for the most serious of crimes," Sheriff Martin said. "No law enforcement agency can afford a DNA analysis for every crime investigated."

SJPSO personnel are trained in gathering DNA evidence. Swab kits are wetted with distilled water unless the material to be gathered is already in liquid form.

"If you are arrested for a felony and certain misdemeanors, your DNA is taken and entered into a database," Sheriff Martin said. "Certainly DNA can convict, but it can also prove innocence. Unless you have an identical twin, your DNA is unique to you."





Deputy Lionel Nelson oversees an inmate work crew picking up litter on the West Bank of the parish.

Inmate Work Program

The SJPSO inmate work program continues to be a reliable source of money-saving labor to the sheriff's office and parish. Non-violent inmates who have achieved trustee status are closely supervised while providing services including:

- Cleaning up after high school football and baseball games, fairs, festivals and community activities
- Grass-cutting and maintenance at parish parks and buildings
- Cleaning, painting and maintaining the jail
- Assisting with commodities distribution
- Filling sand bags when needed

Trustees also provide kitchen, laundry and janitorial services in the 124-bed parish jail and perform maintenance work at the Shooting Range and Training Center.

Litter pick-up occurs throughout the parish each week, with trustees removing thousands of bags of trash from roadways.

stjamessheriff.com

Our web site, stjamessheriff.com has undergone a major overhaul, making online interaction with our department easier than ever. The site is simple to navigate and finding the information you are looking for is just a mouse click away.

While surfing the web, consider going to the St. James Parish web site; stjamesla.com and signing up for text alerts. Click on the "emergency notification" link in the middle of the home page and fill out the information requested. You will then receive text messages sent out by the parish in cooperation with the sheriff's office letting you know what to do in an emergency or severe weather event.

New Weapons

The SJPSO recently upgraded the firearms carried by officers. Smith & Wesson, Military & Police Edition .45 caliber pistols replace older .40 caliber side arms.

"With these new weapons comes thorough training in the handling and maintenance of these guns," Sheriff Martin said. "Certification of every officer with the new pistols was completed at our Shooting Range and Training Facility on the West Bank."

Made in the U.S. by U.S. workers, the pistols provide improved ergonomics and superior ballistic characteristics. Sheriff Martin says they will also save money. "By standardizing the weapon used by our personnel, we can purchase ammunition used for training and duty in bulk at great savings."

The weapons come with three sets of grips for a custom fit to the officer's hand.



Detective Willie Taylor, a 30-year law enforcement veteran downloads an interview to his computer from one of the new digital recorders.

Digital Recorders

New, compact digital recorders are being used for interviews completed by SJPSO detectives. With the click of a few computer buttons, data can be shared with law enforcement agencies throughout the world.

The SJPSO is one of a few law enforcement agencies in the state using the PUMA Digital Recording System. After conducting an interview, detectives download the file to a

central backup system where it can be accessed by others working on the case.

"One of the real advantages of having these recorders is the ability to E-mail verbal interviews to other investigators and agencies, no matter where they are," Sheriff Martin said. "In any investigation, seconds count and sharing data increases efficiency and can help solve cases quicker."

An \$8,000 grant from the United States Secret Service funded the purchase of 12 recorders.



Deputy Toby Vicknair cleans and maintains one of the new Smith & Wesson pistols issued to SJPSO personnel.



Sheriff Martin speaks to the class at a recent boater safety course.

Hunter and Boating Safety Courses

Courses are periodically offered for hunter and boater safety at the SJPSO Shooting Range and Training Facility at 29449 Sheriff Range Road (off of Hwy 3127). Courses are free but pre-registration is suggested as class size is limited. **Call 225.612.5080**, or send an **E-mail to: sjsorange@stjamesla.com** for a schedule.

A hunter education course is mandatory for anyone born on or after September 1, 1969, who plans to buy a hunting license.

All persons born after January 1, 1984, must complete a boating education course to operate a watercraft in excess of 10 horsepower, unless accompanied by someone more than 18 years of age who, if required, has completed the course.

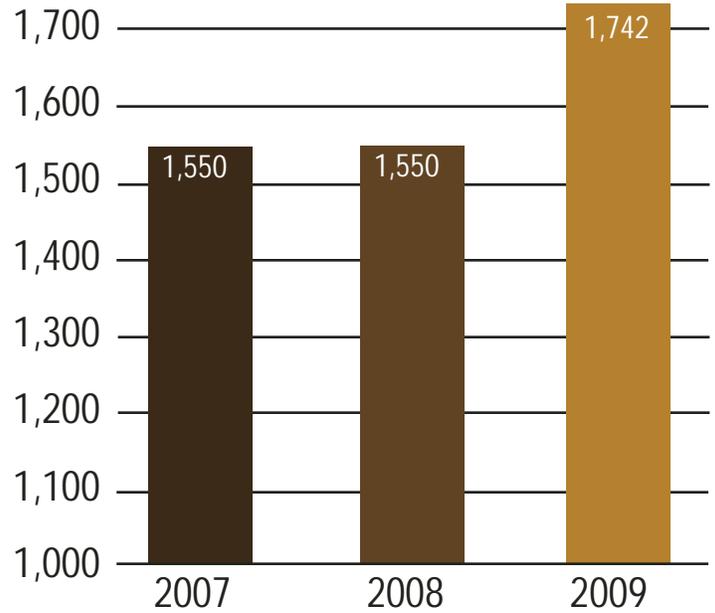
Thank You Veterans!



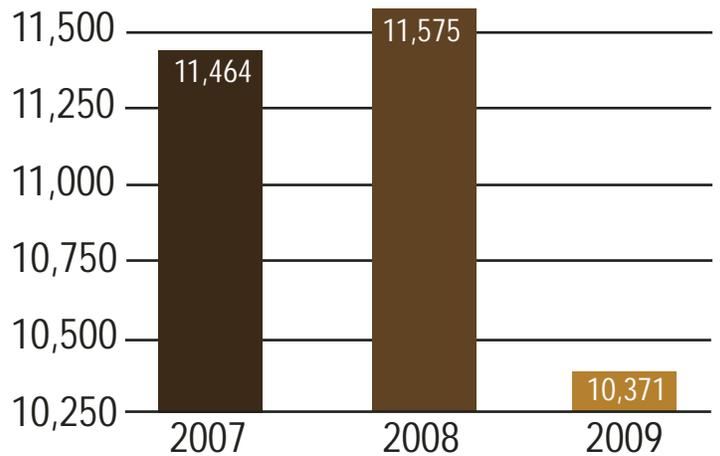
L-R, Front Row: Sergeant Travis Lawless, Deputy Toby Vicknair, Deputy Jeff Rutland, Detective Derick Washington. Middle Row: Deputy Matt Randle, Deputy Percy Luke, Deputy Evans Joseph, Detective Claude Louis. Back Row: Deputy Lionel Nelson, Sheriff Martin, Governor Jindal, General Glenn Curtis; LA National Guard, Captain Faron Scioneaux, Deputy Osborne Wallace, Deputy Gordon Fenley.

Governor Bobby Jindal recently presented military service medals to veterans in the parish, including these SJPSO employees who served their country and now serve the people of St. James.

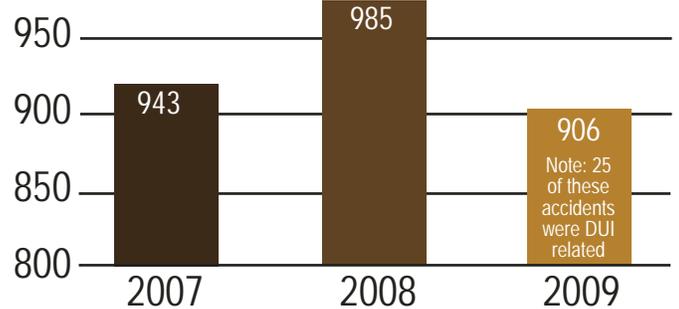
Bookings Into Parish Jail



Calls for Assistance



Automobile Accidents Worked by SJPSO



Drug Arrests DWI Arrests

