

IBERVILLE PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT

2020





Sheriff Brett Stassi

Difficult year brings positive changes

Dear friends,
2020 was, by all accounts, a difficult year for law enforcement and for many of our citizens. The COVID-19 pandemic forced all of us to change our day to day operations and to be more cautious in our activities. The pandemic added yet another level of danger for our deputies as they continued to answer calls and deal with the public in a variety of situations.

It did, however, bring about some good. People realized and appreciated, perhaps like never before, the great sacrifices made by our first responders. People experienced a greater understanding and appreciation for the frontline workers that keep our society going. And, crime went down in 2020, as people stayed home to stay safe.

I certainly hope 2021 will be a better year, but I also hope we continue to appreciate our everyday heroes who work daily to provide services to us. We are all in this together.

Brett

SROs

IPSO School Resource Officers



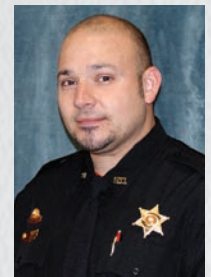
Sgt. James Washington
21 years of service



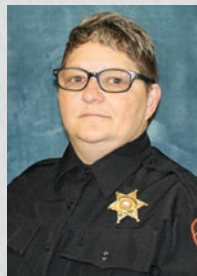
Deputy Darryl Thompson
25 years of service
Truancy Officer



Deputy Terrance Davis
9 years of service



Deputy Troy Doiron
21 years of service



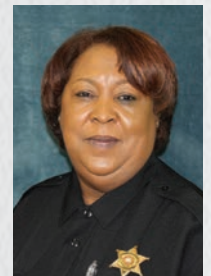
Deputy Neila Heck
19 years of service



Deputy Steven Johnson
9 years of service



Deputy Thomas Jones
10 years of service



Deputy Charlene Painia
10 years of service



Deputy Larry Pearson
11 years of service



Deputy Kenneth Washington
14 years of service



Keeping our schools safe and protected

Sheriff Stassi has partnered with the Iberville Parish School Board to provide School Resource Officers (SROs) at every public school in our parish.

The SROs patrol the school grounds and facilities to help prevent threats to school security. They also monitor the schools for incidents of bullying or threatening behavior. The SROs work hard to build relationships with their students. "These officers are a vital part of keeping our schools safe and secure, and they are dedicated to serving our kids," said Sheriff Stassi. "I am proud that we are able provide this service."



Sheriff Stassi, leadership team take oaths for new term

Sheriff Brett Stassi began his 3rd term in office on July 1, 2020, after a landslide re-election in 2019. He and his Chief Deputy Stephen Engolio are pictured above being sworn in by Judge Elizabeth Engolio, as the Sheriff's wife, Caroline, holds the Bible.



Leadership team

The Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office leadership team was also sworn in. They are, from left, Major Ronnie Hebert (Criminal Investigations), Captain Hosea Anderson (North Substation), Captain James Snelson (East Substation), Chief Administrator Russel Jackson, Captain Walter Ventress (Training), Captain Will Danielfield (Uniform Patrol), Warden Joseph "Pete" Edwards, Major Monty Migliacio (Uniform Patrol).

SHERIFF'S OFFICE STATISTICS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Calls for service	7,041	9,061	9,373	9,177	9,050	10,842	10,431
DWI arrests	75	127	117	85	121	118	20
Drug arrests	534	602	597	437	422	132	131
Total arrests	1,418	1,568	1,365	1,132	1,511	1,245	624
Traffic accidents investigated	706	792	800	815	833	690	648
Felony assaults	56	43	62	63	49	179	145
Misdemeanor assaults	103	119	100	108	87	130	260
Felony battery	91	61	82	50	63	20	47
Misdemeanor battery	164	149	181	151	133	53	36
Thefts	340	452	395	390	367	394	315
Burglaries	95	94	88	130	112	101	93
Rape	10	4	9	6	9	3	4
Robbery	13	-	12	15	14	4	2
Homicides	4	2	1	1	3	1	2



The Knights of Columbus Council 970 said “thank you” to frontline workers during the COVID 19 stay-at-home order, with lunches cooked and provided by the members. At left, Sheriff Stassi talks with KC members.



State Farm Agent Brittany Weaver provided meals to the deputies as thanks for their difficult work. In the photo above, deputies arrive for their meals. Shown in red is State Farm employee Leigh Ann Couty.

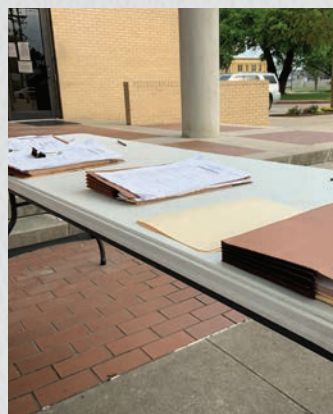


Sheriff Brett Stassi holds a crawfish boil each Spring to thank the Sheriff's Office staff for their hard work. This year, COVID 19 put a halt to that event, but not totally! A drive-by crawfish boil was arranged, with Sheriff Stassi handing deputies bags of boiled crawfish for them to enjoy at home.



Sheriff Brett Stassi donates masks to Ochsner for its emergency department operations in Iberville. These masks were in the Sheriff's Office inventory and were donated when masks were scarce for healthcare workers.

Operations at the Sheriff's Office headquarters in the Iberville Parish Courthouse changed dramatically with COVID. For a while, a station was set up outside the Courthouse to handle all those with Sheriff's Office business. Now everyone going into the Courthouse must go through a temperature check.



COVID puts deputies in additional danger, changes how Sheriff's Office operates

Our deputies are some of the front line heroes who have continued to work in spite of the dangers of COVID-19. They show up day after day, shift after shift, under extremely trying circumstances to do their jobs.

Our community has shown their gratitude by serving them meals, offering kind words, and most importantly, remembering them in prayer. These tokens of appreciation show the mutual respect our deputies and our community share.

Every precaution was taken to protect the jail personnel and inmates at the Iberville Parish Jail, which limited COVID in the jail to only one case. That inmate was immediately transported to a state facility where quarantining and treatment of COVID inmates was handled. Meanwhile, jail and dispatch personnel have displayed dedication and commitment to their important jobs throughout the pandemic.

In addition, office sanitation and safety procedures at our headquarters in the Iberville Parish Courthouse and all our facilities were ramped up and have continued.



IPSO provides help, supplies after Hurricane Laura



Destruction includes homes of many in Cameron Sheriff's Office

The Iberville Sheriff's Office responded to the devastation of Hurricane Laura in the Lake Charles area by sending supplies and deputies to assist the Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office. Some 40 deputies and the Sheriff of Cameron all lost their homes in the hurricane. Shown are some of the donated supplies and three of the Iberville deputies who patrolled in Cameron Parish. They are Agent Mark Cooper, Captain Walter Ventress and Agent Jordan Ward.



Extensive training a vital part of keeping deputies, residents safe

Sheriff Stassi has made training a major emphasis within the Sheriff's Office. Deputies average 60 hours of training each year, much more than the 20 hours of training mandated by the state.

Their training includes 8 hours of firearm training, with specialized situational firearm use. Deputies train with a firearm "shoot, don't shoot" simulator and participate in low light and night shooting events.

Other in-service training includes ethics, legal updates, defensive tactics, and domestic violence. "I want to be sure our deputies are as educated and trained as possible for their protection and the protection of our residents," said Sheriff Stassi. "We are thrilled to have the state-of-the-art shooting range provided by Parish President Ourso and the Parish Council." Shown at right and below, deputies participate in firearm training at the parish shooting range.





Sheriff Stassi directed the early morning round-up of 32 drug suspects in February. He is shown in the photo at left providing instruction to a unit en route to another bust.



Big busts net heroin, cocaine and guns

Narcotic agents and road deputies made significant drug busts and seized numerous illegal guns in 2020. The Sheriff's Office also responded to a number of calls of shots fired in residential areas, which led to direct and intense investigations. "Luckily, no one was seriously injured or killed in connection with these shootings," said Sheriff Stassi. The guns shown in the top photo were all seized within a week as part of those investigations.

In February, the Sheriff's Office also culminated a year of undercover narcotics investigations with an early morning round-up resulting in the arrest of 32 suspects.

Another branch of the Sheriff's Office narcotics team is the Interstate Interdiction Unit. This unit is responsible for patrolling the portion of I-10 that runs through Iberville Parish. I-10 is a known corridor for drug and money trafficking. During one traffic stop agents seized 3 kilos of cocaine and 2 kilos of heroin, with an estimated street value of \$500,000.00. Sheriff Stassi praised the relentless efforts of our deputies to continue the fight against drugs and illegal weapons. "We are coming after them and we won't quit."





Sheriff Brett Stassi partnered with the Chauxdown non-profit foundation established by NFL star Davon Godchaux before Thanksgiving, providing approximately 300 turkeys or hams to needy families in a drive-by food distribution. The families were selected by Iberville Parish school system personnel. The Sheriff's Office was assisted by students from Plaquemine High School and Chris Daigle of Daigle's Supermarket.

IPSO holiday outreach programs touch hundreds of local lives



The Iberville Sheriff's Office once again partnered with contributors to the Sheriff Stassi Charity Fund, the Iberville Parish School Board and Wal-Mart to help 32 local kids have a much happier Christmas through its Shop With A Cop program in December. Each child was partnered with a cop shopping buddy for a fun day of shopping for themselves and their families. After shopping, the kids had lunch with their shopping buddy, and of course, pictures with Santa. "Our goal was to continue to build on the trusting relationships our deputies have with the kids in our community, while helping to make Christmas a little brighter for these kids," said Sheriff Stassi. "Our deputies enjoy this event just as much as the kids. Some of our deputies come out of their own pockets to help the kids get the perfect gift."



Iberville Sheriff's Office

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225-687-5100 • 1-800-577-4873

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EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Call 911 for any emergency
Iberville Sheriff's Office 687-5100
Sheriff's Office Dispatch 687-3553
Maringouin Sub-station 625-2365
St. Gabriel Sub-station 642-5703
Plaquemine Fire Department 687-7335
Poison Control 800-222-1222

LOCAL AGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Iberville Parish Council.....687-5190
Iberville Clerk of Court687-5160
Iberville Assessor687-3568
District Attorney687-5210
Iberville Council on Aging.....687-9682
Iberville garbage/trash collection.....692-3844
Iberville Animal Control687-5881
Iberville Health Unit687-9021
Iberville Social Services687-5243

To get the latest Sheriff's Office updates:

www.facebook.com/IbervilleParishSO • www.Ibervillesheriff.com

Iberville Sheriff's Office Locations:

MAIN OFFICE

58050 Meriam Street
P. O. Box 231 • Plaquemine, LA 70765
225-687-5100 • 1-800-577-4873

MARINGOUIN Substation

P. O. Box 171 • 77180 Ridgewood Drive
Maringouin, LA 70757
225-625-2365

ST. GABRIEL Substation

2085 Highway 30
St. Gabriel, LA 70776
225-642-5703