

PROTECTING OUR HOMELAND



**2022 ANNUAL REPORT
IBERVILLE PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



Dear friends,

As you are probably aware, juvenile crime really came to the forefront in 2022, and continues to be an issue. We have attacked this in numerous ways including enhanced patrols in problem areas, working with organizations and community leaders to try to develop ways to address the root causes of juvenile crime, and providing funding for programs and activities for our youth.

In addition, drug overdoses due to the lethal effects of fentanyl continue to haunt our community and many other communities across the country. There are no easy answers for the drug crisis, but we will continue to work with many others to stem this problem. That includes working on a local, regional, state and federal level.

Part of my efforts to stop drug deals and crime in Iberville has been focusing on active patrolling of our parish. To that end, we added one deputy to each patrol shift in 2022, giving the Sheriff's Office a total of 10 deputies on patrol per shift.

This was made possible by monitoring our finances closely and prioritizing increased patrols in our budget. My office continues to be good stewards of your taxpayer dollars, and this is another example of putting tax money where it most effectively helps our community.

Brett

Patrol force increased across parish to keep residents safe

The Iberville Sheriff's Office now has 10 patrol deputies working each shift in an effort to better cover the parish and provide more police presence in neighborhoods.

Sheriff Stassi said he hired four more road deputies, who are all POST certified so that they could immediately begin working after being trained on Iberville Sheriff's Office procedures.

"We beefed up our patrols in all areas of the parish," Sheriff Stassi said. "This will be especially helpful in north Iberville because our deputies are called to respond to incidents on the interstate so often. Also, this increased presence in our neighborhoods should help curtail crime."

Leading on a bigger scale



Above, Sheriff Brett Stassi meets with Gov. John Bel Edwards and members of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association staff to discuss legislation during the 2022 Legislative Session. Stassi was serving in his role as President of the La. Sheriff's Association. In this role, he worked closely with sheriffs from across Louisiana on a variety of issues facing law enforcement agencies, and increased communication and coordination among sheriff's departments in emergency situations.

Hebert named Chief Deputy

Major Ronnie Hebert was named the Chief Criminal Deputy in 2022, after long time Chief Deputy Stephen Engolio retired. The Chief Criminal Deputy is the second in command in the Sheriff's Office. Hebert began his career in 1981 as a corrections officer at the jail, and worked his way up to uniform patrol, shift sergeant, lieutenant, detective, supervisor over juvenile crime, to Major over all investigations. "Ronnie has been a dedicated and exceptional law enforcement officer. He has a cool head and the experience to serve us well." said Sheriff Stassi.



School resource officers recognized for service



Sheriff Stassi's commitment to keeping Iberville schools safe has been strong for many years. The Sheriff's Office has partnered with the Iberville Parish School Board to train and provide school resource officers (SROs) working every day at every school in the parish.

The SROs shown above were recognized by the Iberville Parish School Board in 2022 for not only keeping schools safe, but also developing relationships with students to help teach them good interpersonal and coping skills, and to foster positive interactions with law enforcement.



New software helps deputies

A new software database specifically designed for the Iberville Sheriff's Office went live in 2022, replacing multiple systems and making searches on suspects and data entry easier for deputies and operations more efficient. Among many features, deputies can now swipe a license and get detailed criminal history on the person very quickly. In the photo at left, deputies get training on the new software. The software also provides more accurate tracking of crime, as shown in the statistics below.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE STATISTICS

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Calls for service | 9,373 | 9,177 | 9,050 | 10,842 | 10,431 | 10,727 | 14,397 |
| DWI arrests | 117 | 85 | 121 | 118 | 20 | 35 | 19 |
| Drug arrests | 597 | 437 | 422 | 132 | 131 | 287 | 138 |
| Total arrests | 1,365 | 1,132 | 1,511 | 1,245 | 624 | 1,427 | 919 |
| Traffic accidents investigated | 800 | 815 | 833 | 690 | 648 | 747 | 691 |
| Felony assaults | 62 | 63 | 49 | 179 | 145 | 24 | 41 |
| Misdemeanor assaults | 100 | 108 | 87 | 130 | 260 | 260 | 39 |
| Felony battery | 82 | 50 | 63 | 20 | 47 | 60 | 99 |
| Misdemeanor battery | 181 | 151 | 133 | 53 | 36 | 102 | 58 |
| Thefts | 395 | 390 | 367 | 394 | 315 | 290 | 429 |
| Burglaries | 88 | 130 | 112 | 101 | 93 | 77 | 60 |
| Rape | 9 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 |
| Robbery | 12 | 15 | 14 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Homicides | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4* |

*The 4 homicides listed in 2022 were 2 cases of murder/suicides



Sheriff Stassi addresses teachers and school staff on how to respond to an active shooter situation in a school.

Protocols, training ramped up for active shooter events

The Sheriff's Office conducts active shooter drills before each school year begins. Held at Plaquemine High School and Iberville Elementary School in 2022, the drills included the school resources officers, deputies and detectives, along with the police departments of parish municipalities and the Plaquemine Fire Department. Sheriff Stassi also conducted a training session for teachers to help them know what to do in an active shooter situation and to answer their questions.

"Because of the horrible event at Uvalde School in Texas, we reviewed and updated all of our active shooter protocols, and I made sure all our deputies know that they are to take immediate action in the case of an intruder on a school campus - no waiting on orders or back-up," said Sheriff Stassi. "Seconds count in these situations and we will not hesitate to bring down an intruder in our schools."



Deputies participate in an active shooter drill.



Deputies receive well over 40 hours of training each year on a wide variety of law enforcement topics. They also undergo firearms training, as shown in the photo above.

Civil rights training



All deputies, detectives and jailers completed a four-hour training class on civil rights of individuals. This course, developed by the FBI and the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, educates law enforcement agencies on federal civil rights of individuals and federal "Color of Law" violations. In the photo above, FBI SA John "JR" Rothleitner begins training.

Working together to get drugs off Iberville streets

Iberville Sheriff's Office detectives not only work local crime and drug cases, they are also part of the DEA Task Force. The detectives and Task Force made several large busts in 2022, including confiscating more than 63 pounds of marijuana, \$76,555 in cash, and 25 pounds of crystal methamphetamine. The street value of the drugs is over \$300,000.

"This provides us two ways to attack drugs on the streets of Iberville - at the local level, and getting to higher dealers through the Task Force," Sheriff Stassi said.

CRYSTAL METH BUST - More than \$100,000 of crystal meth, along with numerous firearms, were seized after a DEA Task Force investigation into a large drug trafficking organization operating in Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension and St. Charles Parishes.

DRUG RING - In another investigation, simultaneous search warrants were executed on two residences in Iberville and East Baton Rouge Parishes. A total of \$76,555 in cash was seized, along with the following seized in Baton Rouge searches: \$112,983 in cash, 5.2 grams of crack cocaine, 31.3 grams of powder cocaine, 4 pounds of marijuana, 6 pints of promethazine, a semi-automatic handgun, and money counters.

INTERSTATE BUST - The Interdiction Officers, who work Interstate 10, confiscated more than 60 pounds of marijuana with a street value of \$150,000 in just one traffic stop.

The photos show some of the drugs, gun and cash confiscated in 2022.





A large group of Sheriff's Office employees participated in the parish litter clean-up in 2022.

Community involvement remains a core value of Sheriff's Department under Sheriff Stassi



Sheriff Stassi talks with children at MSA West.



A deputy reads to students during Together Tuesday at schools.



Sheriff Stassi with kids at Boo on the Bellevue.



Sheriff Stassi supports Breast Cancer Prevention event in east Iberville.



Sheriff Stassi accepts the donation of cases of canned foods, which were distributed to local residents in January, 2022.



Deputies address Plaquemine High Civics class.



Sheriff Stassi addresses the National Guard Youth Challenge program students, at left; and the students of the Iberville Math, Science and Arts Academy West in the photo at right. He spoke on drugs, peer pressure and bullying.



Sheriff Stassi and deputies spend time with Pre-K children during Public Servants Week in the photos at left.

Bringing the holiday spirit to families and seniors



Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Brett Stassi Charity Fund distributed 150 turkeys and hams to families, brought Christmas magic to 63 families with the annual Shop With A Cop program, and visited the area nursing homes to sing Christmas carols and distribute treats and gifts of a blanket, socks and lotion. Sheriff Stassi thanks all the donors to the Charity Fund, who make these programs possible.





Iberville Sheriff's Office

58050 Meriam Street
P. O. Box 231 • Plaquemine, LA 70764
225-687-5100 • 1-800-577-4873

PRESORT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
BATON ROUGE LA
PERMIT NO 2035

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Call 911 for any emergency
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

To get Sheriff's Office updates:

facebook.com/IbervilleParishSO
Ibervillesheriff.com

LOCAL AGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Iberville Parish Council 687-5190
Iberville Clerk of Court 687-5160
Iberville Assessor 687-3568
District Attorney 687-5210
Iberville Council on Aging 687-9682
Iberville garbage/trash collection 692-3844
Iberville Animal Control 687-5881
Iberville Health Unit 687-9021
Iberville Social Services 687-5243

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

77180 Ridgewood Drive
Maringouin, LA 70757
225-625-2365

ST. GABRIEL Substation

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