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CADDOD PARISH SHERIFF’S OFFICE
2001-2010 REPORT
To the Citizens of Caddo Parish:

What defines a decade? At the Caddo Sheriff’s Office, it’s determined by hard work, progress, and success.

The addition of digital in-car video systems, mobile computer terminals, and software-based programs that scan license plates to detect stolen cars and wanted suspects are just a few examples of progress that have allowed us to better serve you over the past 10 years. Advancements in fingerprint databases, computerized crime mapping, and records management systems now help us do everything from inventorying property to calculating solvability factors. Digital radios that allow interoperability with other agencies, improvements in firearms, and incorporating the use of Tasers as a less lethal option for deputies are other examples of positive change.

This has also been a decade of success for the Caddo Parish Sheriff’s Office. Crime is down 31% since 2001; advancements in technology have allowed for greater transparency in our agency and easier access to our services by citizens; and we’ve formed partnerships with other agencies resulting in the creation of the vastly successful Financial Crimes Task Force, the Caddo-Shreveport Narcotics Task Force, the FBI Task Force, and the DEA Task Force. We’ve added new programs like Sheriff’s Safety Town, new services including a Special Investigations Unit to probe allegations of public corruption, and a regional Training Academy that provides instruction to law officers and the public in an ever-changing society – all without raising taxes.

As you review our accomplishments for the years 2001-2010, we at the Caddo Sheriff’s Office are already working toward the future. New programs are in development that will keep us on the path to excellence and affirm our place as a leader among law enforcement agencies. We pledge to provide the citizens of Caddo Parish with professional and efficient service in the coming years and to always remember that your safety and satisfaction are the motivation for all that we do.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Steve Prator
The Caddo Sheriff’s Office devoted the years 2001-2010 to increasing citizen satisfaction with law enforcement by improving services, programs, professional development, and fiscal management within the department. Highlights of these years include:

• Receiving state approval to operate a regional law enforcement training academy, which generates revenue by training deputies and officers from more than 100 agencies in a 10-parish area while saving the Sheriff’s Office money by training our deputies in-house. The Caddo Sheriff’s Academy also leads the region in development of training for the public in areas including church, school, and hospital security, carrying concealed weapons, and the legal rights of home owners.

• Forming a Special Investigations Section to probe allegations of public corruption.

• Forming a Traffic Safety Unit to fully investigate fatality crashes and serious injury accidents. Selected deputies receive 320 hours of training in accident investigations and reconstruction. The unit, which has a high conviction rate, includes national-level traffic safety instructors and deputies considered to be among the foremost authorities in child passenger safety issues in Louisiana.

• Establishing a full-time Marine Unit and opening a sheriff’s substation on the Red River. The unit provides the only full-time patrols on the river.

• Merging the Caddo Sheriff’s and Shreveport Police narcotics units into the Caddo-Shreveport Narcotics Task Force and white collar investigations units into the Caddo-Shreveport Financial Crimes Task Force to increase efficiency and improve communications.

• Joining other agencies to form the Northwest Louisiana Internet Crimes against Children’s Task Force to investigate suspects who target children on-line for sexual purposes. Caddo Sheriff’s detectives trained in computer and cell phone forensics have actively investigated hundreds of cases.

• Establishing a Citizens’ Problem Resolver (CPR) Program with liaison deputies assigned to north and south Caddo Parish to address community concerns.

• Forming a volunteer Auxiliary Deputy Program to supplement the duties of patrol deputies including neighborhood patrols, special events enforcement, and community programs. The program has 180 auxiliary deputies who have donated time and services valued at over $650,000.

• Hosting Citizens’ Academies and Senior Citizens’ Academies to educate the community about the duties of law enforcement.

• Re-instituting the Sheriff’s Mounted Patrol.

• Establishing a Work Release Program for pre-screened, non-violent inmates nearing the ends of their sentences to reduce recidivism and jail overcrowding. Over 700 inmates have participated in the program which provides gainful employment at participating businesses to help inmates earn money for fines, child support, and a new start in life.

• Operating a Re-entry Program to prepare inmates for life beyond incarceration. The Caddo Parish Sheriff’s Office was selected by Gov. Bobby Jindal and the Louisiana Department of Corrections to build the first of 10 facilities that will house re-entry programs across the state. Over 180 inmates have graduated from the CPSO program that provides inmates with the life skills needed to re-enter society.

• Overseeing registration of convicted sex offenders in Caddo Parish, which includes conducting regular compliance checks. CPSO has a 97 percent compliance rate among persons required to register.

• Hiring an investigator to locate illegal dump sites, adding an extra inmate litter crew to clean up roadside trash, and starting a public awareness campaign to stop littering.

• Conducting regular operations to address alcohol sales to underage persons.

• Conducting a threat assessment of the Caddo Parish Courthouse and entering into an agreement with the Caddo Parish Commission to replace private security officers with certified deputies at all entrances of the Courthouse, Government Plaza, and Francis Bickham Building.

• Developing and hosting Louisiana’s first school violence drill for law enforcement. The drill was later adopted as a statewide model by the Louisiana Attorney General’s Office.

• Distributing $1.8 million to Caddo Parish crime victims under the Louisiana Crime Victims Reparations Act.
Keeping Our Children & Neighborhoods SAFE

A priority of the Caddo Sheriff’s Office is to promote safety and reduce crime by developing and administering innovative programs and crime-fighting initiatives including:

• Sheriff’s Safety Town, Louisiana’s only interactive safety learning center for children. Over 25,000 visitors have attended since its December 2008 opening.

• Summer youth programs such as Sheriff’s Camp at Garland Scout Ranch and the summer recreation program at area high school gymnasiums.

• CSI Camp for Kids to give children an appreciation for science and an inside look at law enforcement.

• A youth firearms safety education summer camp that teaches children how to be safe around guns at home.

• The First Gun Course for Kids, a nationally-recognized firearms safety course for children who receive their first shotgun or hunting rifle for Christmas.

• New courses that address safety issues for men and women, college-bound and middle school students, the boating public, and children using the Internet. Another program, Sheriff’s Operation Safeguard (SOS), provides memory-impaired persons with a free ID bracelet that corresponds to a Sheriff’s Office database should the person become lost or missing.

• Partnering with the state Fire Marshal to provide smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the homes of senior citizens.

• Conducting the first sex offender sweep by a law enforcement agency in North Louisiana to identify and locate unregistered sex offenders living in Caddo Parish. During the 20-day sweep, 320 people were identified and approximately 150 were registered. The Caddo Sheriff’s Office also ordered all sex offenders to publish their picture, name, address, and crime in The Times as well as the parish journal so more citizens would be aware of their location.

• Successfully preventing a shelter for convicted sex offenders from being established in Caddo Parish.

• Hosting the first area Internet Safety community meetings to teach parents how to keep their children safe while using the Internet.

• Using grant funding to reduce the number of warrants on file with the Sheriff’s Office by publishing the names of warrants violators in the newspaper. In the first month, 1,040 warrants were closed and $30,139 in fees were collected. The effort was a first by law enforcement in our region, and other agencies soon followed suit.
Equipment & Technology

Upgrading current equipment and acquiring new technology is a necessary part of law enforcement if deputies are to effectively investigate crimes, identify and locate offenders, and render assistance to the public. Equipment acquisitions include:

- **L-3 Mobile-Vision digital in-car cameras** for all marked units. The ability to record events from a patrol car is invaluable in matters involving traffic stops, criminal investigations and arrests, internal affairs, and training.

- **800 MHz 15-channel simulcast trunked radio system.** The radio system allows all public safety agencies in Caddo and Bossier parishes to communicate more efficiently and effectively by sharing one common radio network with compatible radio equipment and frequencies.

- **Mobile Data Computers.** The in-car laptops for patrol, detective, warrants, and marine units connect wirelessly to law enforcement computer database systems, providing deputies with instant information.

- **An Automated License Plate Recognition System** that uses plate-scanning technology and software to scan thousands of license plates during routine patrols. The plates are automatically compared to multiple databases to determine if the vehicles are stolen or if registered owners are wanted. The Caddo Sheriff’s Office received the only ALPR system in the area when it was donated to the department by Red Ball Oxygen Inc.

Other equipment updates include:

- Obtaining grant funding to purchase vehicles and watercraft for the Marine Unit, including a SafeBoat and Hovertrax Hovercraft; more accurate Glock handguns for all deputies; and equipment to respond to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction.

- Obtaining AR-15s for deputies and an armored personnel carrier through military surplus.

- Implementing a bar coding system in the Property Room to track evidence and property by computer.

World-Wide Web

The Caddo Sheriff’s Office is able to provide the public with immediate and convenient access to services and information using its website at [www.caddosheriff.org](http://www.caddosheriff.org).

- The Sheriff’s Office brought about significant change in area law enforcement by being the first to post many public records online. Jail bookings and outstanding CPSO warrants are now available for public inspection; citizens can receive local sex offender information through OffenderWatch, a sex offender management system and community notification tool; and bidders worldwide can participate in on-line tax sales.

- Other on-line services include receiving personal account information, paying taxes by credit card, paying tickets and fines, and viewing property to be featured in upcoming Sheriff’s Sales.
Property Improvements

- Construction of Sheriff's Safety Town.
- Construction of a 6,000 square-foot addition to the Regional Training Academy.
- Construction of a work release dormitory paid for with funds generated by inmates participating in the program. Moving work release inmates also increased space for violent offenders to be housed at Caddo Correctional Center.
- Construction of a re-entry program building.
- Renovation of the S'port Marina to be used as a sheriff's substation on Red River.
- Construction of a full-service substation in Oil City with extended operating hours.
- Interior renovations to the central substation at 4910 North Market Street in Shreveport.
- Construction of a fleet maintenance facility at 4910 North Market Street that more than doubled mechanics' workspace.
- Renovation of the tax department making it more user friendly for visitors.

Savings to Taxpayers

- Uses sentenced Department of Corrections inmates to perform tasks such as litter abatement; food preparation, laundry, and maintenance at the Caddo Correctional Center; and services at the parish Animal Control facility. This saved taxpayers $1.3 million in 2010.
- Began using in-house instructors in lieu of outside vendors to conduct misdemeanor DWI, driver improvement, and drug offender programs. To date, nearly 4,000 people have attended the classes.
- Switched to a “heart healthy” menu at the Caddo Correctional Center, saving $33,800 annually in food supply costs, and reducing the number of special diets prepared.
- Reduced the number of agency nurses at CCC and implemented a more cost-effective paramedic program using off-duty fire paramedics in a part-time capacity.
- Replaced one hot meal with one cold meal daily for inmates.
- Cut condiments at meal service for inmates saving over $27,400 annually. Inmates may purchase their own condiments with their own money from their personal commissary accounts.
- Reduced fuel costs by switching from premium to regular gas in departmental vehicles.
- Sold departmental airplane and entered into an agreement with the Civil Air Patrol to provide volunteer services when needed.
- Reduced the number of paid holidays for employees.
- Cancelled contract for outside representation at employment hearings saving approximately $50,000 each year. Representation at hearings is now handled in-house with a near-perfect record in favor of the Sheriff’s Office.
- Began filing yearly lawsuits to collect on delinquent personal and oil and gas property taxes resulting in the collection of over $1.6 million to date.
Did You Know?

• Over 1,350 inmates are incarcerated every day at the Caddo Correctional Center.
• CCC is the largest direct-supervision jail in Louisiana.
• CCC serves all law enforcement agencies in Caddo Parish.
• CPSO employs 762 people. Over half work at CCC.
• The kitchen staff at CCC prepares over 1 million meals each year.
• Inmates assigned to the litter work crew collect nearly 56 tons of roadside litter in Shreveport and Caddo Parish each year.
• The Patrol Division travels an average of 2.7 million miles per year.

Top 5 Bookings at CCC 2001-2010

1. Drug possession and/or distribution
2. Theft
3. Burglary
4. Illegal Possession of Stolen things
5. Forgery