CPSO Office Celebrates First Graduating Class of SUSLA Hazmat Program at Caddo Correctional Center

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Posted by Breck Scott

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office (CPSO) proudly recognized the first graduating class of the Southern University of Shreveport Hazmat Program during a ceremony held on April 9 at 12:00 p.m. in the Programs Department at the Caddo Correctional Center.

The ceremony honored 13 unsentenced offenders who completed the comprehensive Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) course offered in partnership with Southern University of Shreveport (SUSLA). The program equips participants with foundational knowledge of safety, health, and environmental principles within industrial and process environments.
Coursework emphasized practical understanding of workplace hazards, regulatory requirements, risk reduction, and technicians' responsibilities for maintaining safe operations. Participants engaged in reading assignments, classroom discussions, case studies, testing, and scenario-based activities designed to prepare them for real-world applications.

In attendance were SUSLA Chancellor Aubra Gantt, Caddo Parish Sheriff Henry Whitehorn, Sr., as well as staff members from both CPSO and Southern University of Shreveport.

During the ceremony, graduates received their SUSLA certificates of completion. One outstanding participant, Rainey Anthony, was selected by instructor John Galiotos to receive the Captain Aaron Cornelius Recognition Award for exemplary performance and dedication throughout the program.
The award honors the legacy of Captain Aaron Cornelius, whom Sheriff Whitehorn tasked with coordinating efforts alongside Southern University of Shreveport to establish the Hazmat program and to help relaunch the Transitional Work Release Program. Captain Cornelius passed away before he could witness the impact of his work, but his contributions continue to benefit participants and the community.
"This program represents a meaningful step forward in preparing individuals for successful reentry into the workforce," said Sheriff Whitehorn. "We are proud of these graduates and grateful for our partnership with Southern University of Shreveport in providing valuable educational opportunities."

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office remains committed to offering programs that promote rehabilitation, skill development, and positive outcomes for those in its care.

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