



# TERREBONNE PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**L. VERNON BOURGEOIS, JR., SHERIFF**

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## STATEMENT

For the past twenty-eight years I have served the citizens of Terrebonne Parish as a law enforcement officer in the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office.

From my early days in law enforcement as a deputy on the road under Sheriff Ronnie Duplantis, to a detective, Dare officer, and Chief Deputy under Sheriff Jerry J. Larpenfer, to the last three years as your Sheriff, I have truly enjoyed serving you the public, and working with other elected officials to make this Parish and State a better place for all of us and particularly, our children.

No work is more gratifying than serving to protect the rights of all citizens, particularly those who cannot help themselves.

I am proud of raising our deputies standards for employment, expanding services on-line for citizens who cannot get into the Sheriff's Office to do business, putting an extra twenty deputies on the road, and putting thirty plus extra deputies in the jail, and putting six extra deputies serving in Narcotics.

I am also proud to have been able to raise starting salaries for deputies and senior officers across the board. This has insured that good, solid, professional officers stay and make a career with the Sheriff's Office rather than leaving to go to work in the oil field every time there is an "oil boom".

Our Dare program continues to be one of the best in the nation, thus ensuring that our children get early warning about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. My relationship with other elected officials in this Parish, as well as on a state and federal level has been one of teamwork for the benefit of our citizens.

But, such service has come with a price. As a deputy in any capacity, there at least comes a time at the end of the day that one gets to go home and put aside the events of their shift. As a Sheriff, responsible not only to all of the citizens of Terrebonne Parish, but also for the four hundred plus employees of the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office, there is no such time to put events aside. I am simply tired and overwhelmed of the twenty-four (24) hour a day commitment and have chosen to not seek re-election at the end of this term and look forward to retirement.

I appreciate the overwhelming support I have received from you, the citizens of Terrebonne, but feel it is time for me to step back and take a different direction in my life.

To my family and friends, my employees, and most importantly, you, the citizens of Terrebonne Parish, I say thank you for your support and allowing me to serve you as your Sheriff.

I will continue to work every day for you for the remainder of my term and I look forward to keeping Terrebonne Parish a safe place for all of us.

God bless all of you and Terrebonne Parish.

L. VERNON BOURGEOIS, SHERIFF

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