



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA ENTERS INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

In an effort to enhance port-wide security, the Port of South Louisiana's Executive Director Joel Chaisson entered into a cooperative endeavor with the three Sheriff's departments comprising the port's jurisdiction. The agreement was formalized today during the Lower Mississippi Port Wide Strategic Security Council (LMPWSSC) meeting, and the assigned deputies will begin patrolling effective July 14. Representatives from the Port of South Louisiana and the three Sheriff's departments, who were present for the signing, included: Joel Chaisson (Port of South Louisiana), Sheriff Wayne Jones (St. John Parish Sheriff's Dept.), Captain Craig Poche, representing Sheriff Willy Martin (St. James Parish Sheriff's Dept.), and Lt. William Faucheux, representing Sheriff Greg Champagne (St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Dept.).

"This will allow the Port of South Louisiana to maintain a police presence, and the ability to arrest, if necessary" explained Joel Chaisson, the port's Executive Director.

The first two deputies chosen to begin patrolling the Port of South Louisiana are Lt. Gary Cooper and Sgt. Kyle Ory, both from the St. John Parish Sheriff's Dept. According to Sheriff Jones, the two senior officers come highly recommended and were selected from a pool of eighteen candidates. "Both officers are also post certified" stated Sheriff Jones, who was highly instrumental in instituting this program.

"Once the Patrols begin, this will be a significant step in the securing of one of our nation's most critical infrastructures -the Port of South Louisiana" said Mitch Smith, the Port's Operations Director. "Mitch Smith worked tirelessly to make this happen" explained Joel Chaisson.



(L-R): Chief Robert S. Hecker, Port of New Orleans Harbor Police;
Lt. Gary Cooper, St. John Parish Sheriff's Department;
Sheriff Wayne Jones, St. John Parish;
Executive Director Joel T. Chaisson, Port of South Louisiana;
Sgt. Kyle Ory, St. John Parish Sheriff's Department;
Lt. William Fauchaux, St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Department;
Capt. Craig Poche, St. James Parish Sheriff's Department

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Comprising the three River Parishes (St. Charles, St. John, and St. James) and encompassing fifty-four miles along the Lower Mississippi, the Port of South Louisiana is the largest tonnage port in the Western Hemisphere.