



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Secretary James M. Le Blanc

Probation and Parole Academy Class #47 Graduates

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) officially welcomed 21 new Probation and Parole Officers to the Department after they took the oath of office Friday afternoon during a swearing in ceremony at the Louisiana State Police Training Academy Auditorium in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Division of Probation and Parole Director Corey Acosta and Department of Public Safety and Corrections Deputy Secretary Gary Westcott addressed the graduates, as well as the Honorable Judge Fred Crifasi, 19th Judicial District, who also administered the oath of office.

"It's an honor to welcome and congratulate our newest officers," said Department of Public Safety and Corrections Secretary James M. Le Blanc. "Probation and Parole plays a critical role in Louisiana's criminal justice system, and this new class will help enhance efforts to improve public safety in Louisiana."

The new officers will work in districts across Louisiana, and are assigned to 16 of the state's 21 district offices. During the ceremony, the Department recognized the efforts of cadets who excelled in various areas. Rebecca Larson of Lafayette District received the Academic Award, Jalen Joseph of Lafayette District received the Top Gun Award, Rebecca Larson of Lafayette District earned the Physical Fitness award and the Overall Award of Excellence.

Louisiana's approximately 650 probation and parole agents are critical components of the criminal justice system ensuring public safety and encouraging rehabilitation. Agents supervise approximately 47,011 offenders released into communities statewide on probation, parole, diminution of sentence or medical furlough. They emphasize public safety while also helping the individual access resources that will aid in his/her efforts to become a productive member of society rather than a tax burden.

The Department's P.O.S.T. (Peace Officers Standards and Training) Academy began in February with 25 potential cadets and after 17 weeks of intense law enforcement officer training, 21 agents completed testing on June 13th, 2024.

Probation and Parole officers also routinely assist local, state and federal authorities with investigations and information, including the crime prevention initiatives in Baton Rouge and New Orleans as well as various law enforcement task forces. Their officers are some of the most proficient in the State at searching residences and clearing buildings due to the nature of their work.

Congratulations to the [Probation and Parole P.O.S.T Academy Class #47](#).

Donnie Adams
Gracianna Averitt
Jaline Bessix
Misty Brown
Denise Carroll
Kole Chandler
Charles Clark

Monroe District
Natchitoches District
Donaldsonville District
Leesville District
Lake Charles District
Feliciana District
Amite District

Gregery Deville
Matthew Jeandron
Jalen Joseph
Rebecca Larson
Kevin Mahon
Robert Mann
Akkemma Mattox
Ashley Miller
Hope Miller
Shawnadia Mixon
Tyran Richard
Teryn Smith
Bethany Wilson
Jermaine Wiltz

Lake Charles District
New Orleans District
Lafayette District
Lafayette District
Amite District
Baton Rouge District
Shreveport District
Covington District
Tallulah District
East Jefferson District
Baton Rouge District
New Iberia District
Thibodaux District
East Jefferson District



Front row from left to right: Denise Carroll, Jaline Bessix, Bethany Wilson, Tyran Richard, Kole Chandler, Misty Brown, Gregory Deville, Gracianna Averitt, Hope Miller, Rebecca Larson, Teryn Smith

Back row left to right: Jalen Joseph, Akkemma Mattox, Robert Mann, Matthew Jeandron, Donnie Adams, Ashley Miller, Kevin Mahon, Charles Clark, Jermaine Wiltz, Shawnadia Mixon

Click for [class photo](#).

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