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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Secretary Gary Westcott



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New Probation and Parole Officers to Graduate Longstanding Academy

Eight men and five women successfully complete rigorous 20-week training

Baton Rouge, LA - The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections will officially welcome 13 new officers to the Division of Probation & Parole. The 16th Judicial District Court Judge Roger P. Hamilton Jr. will administer the oath of office to the cadets during the swearing-in ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 29 at 2 p.m. The event will be held at Jefferson Baptist Church, located at 9135 Jefferson Highway in Baton Rouge.

The graduation culminates the Department's 49th Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Academy, which started Sept. 15, 2025 with 18 potential cadets and ended Jan. 29, 2026 with 13 remaining. The eight men and five women who participated underwent 20 weeks of intense law enforcement officer training that was led by more than 40 instructors from the Department's Probation & Parole Division, as well as staff members from Louisiana State Police, East Baton Rouge Police Department, East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office and the Railroad Police.

These new officers will join the ranks with 500 other probation and parole agents currently employed at one of the 21 district office locations across Louisiana.

During the ceremony, leadership will recognize four outstanding cadets who excelled in various areas with awards. Those honorees and their assigned districts along with their awards are Jeremy Floyd (Leesville District) Academic Award, Calyn Brister (Leesville District) Top Gun Award, Daisy Lenihan (Leesville District) Physical Fitness Award, and Nathan Warran (Covington District) Overall Award of Excellence. The other graduates include Ali Semien (Lake Charles District), Grant Arceneaux (Lake Charles District), Armstead Chambers (Donaldsonville District), Breauna Conner (Shreveport District), Henry Richards (Lafayette District), Shaniqua Journee (Jefferson District) Patrick Rist (New Orleans District), Eric Dedeaux (New Orleans District), and Shelby Jones (New Orleans District).

Probation and parole agents play a vital role and emphasize public safety while also helping individuals who are under supervision, access resources that will aid in their efforts to become productive and tax-paying members of society. Agents are also a critical link between law enforcement and the court system.

The latest data indicates that agents supervise approximately 49,000 cases, which represents citizens who have been released into communities statewide on either probation, parole, terminally ill/incapacitation release, or medical furlough.

Probation and parole agents also routinely engage in high-risk search warrants, provide assistance to local, state and federal authorities with investigations and information, including crime prevention initiatives in Baton Rouge and New Orleans, as well as various law enforcement task forces across the state.

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