

# SCHOOL SAFEHY SUMMIT

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RAISING CANE'S RIVER CENTER | BATON ROUGE, LA

#### **Presenters**

Capt. Adam Johnson
Director of Security
ajohnson@bossiersheriff.com

Sgt. Josh Cagle SRO Supervisor

jcagle@bossiersheriff.com



## **Bossier Sheriff's Office SRO Program**



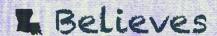


#### Disclaimer

#### **BOSSIER PARISH**



All content in the presentation you are about to receive is based on the standard operating procedures of the Bossier Sheriff's Office in relation to School Resource Officers and may differ from other agencies.



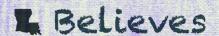
#### **SRO Mission Statement**

 The Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office views the School Resource Officer (SRO) program as an opportunity to continue the strong partnership with the Bossier Parish School District. SRO's strive to provide a safe working and learning environment for teachers, support staff, administrators, and students in all Bossier schools. As a result of this relationship, we will be better equipped to identify and address the needs and concerns of all involved in the educational process.



#### **History of the Bossier Parish SRO Program**

- Bossier Parish established their SRO program in the 1991-1992 school year while obtaining its first officer at Airline High School (The district's largest school).
- The school district later added SRO's in all middle and remaining high schools following the Columbine High School massacre in 1999.
- Following the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in 2012, the school district
  presented adding additional SRO's in ALL schools to include elementary schools. This
  endeavor was overwhelmingly voted in by Bossier Parish residents during the 2012 Bond
  referendum.
- Following the Parkland High School shooting in February 2018, a committee was formed to address security concerns and the board passed the addition of a SRO for every 500 students.



#### Roles and Responsibilities of a School Resource Officer

<u>Primary Objective:</u> To be an on-site hedge of protection on every school campus with a goal in mind to prevent, deter, and quickly respond to all active threats and or violence.

- Be a resource to on-campus administration while suggesting ways to "harden the target".
- Know your campus!
- Know and be able to assist in educating school staff on Emergency Operations planning.
- Be visible!
- Provide a Law Enforcement tactical perspective to school staff where needed.
- Be able to provide a risk assessment of your vulnerabilities on campus.
- Provide guidance in law enforcement matters.



## Roles and Responsibilities of a School Resource Officer (Cont.)

- Be familiar with all of your resources in your community.
- Must be able to intervene in a volatile situation and de-escalate when needed.
- Be able to investigate criminal matters and know juvenile procedures.
- A great SRO knows how to get along with the staff and is in a sense a part of the school administration.
- Must be familiar with incident and unified command structure systems.
- SRO's wear many hats and must be able to form relationships and mentor students.
- Must be able to communicate and educate parents on current youth trends.
- Be able to coordinate and share information with multiple LEO agencies.



### Things to Avoid

- Using school administrators as an "Agent" to assist in LEO criminal investigations.
- Getting involved in school discipline matters such as dress code, cell phones, and classroom management problems.
- Avoid responding to escort students to the office for school discipline reasons.
- Avoid being "Routine" in your daily presence. You should not have a staff "Duty Post".
- SRO's don't intimidate students and schools should not be using the SRO presence as a threat to a student for disciplinary reasons.
- School administration should not have the discretion to determine when an arrest will be made.



#### Things to Avoid (Cont.)

• It is not the SRO's responsibility to be a property holder or lost and found resource.

- SRO's are not custodians of MONEY for the school site! All money and transactions should be the duties of the school administration.
- Avoid making "Empty Promises" to maintain trust factors.

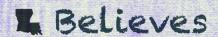


#### **Training and Equipment**

Training is a vital part to a successful SRO program and the community expects sharp, well trained professionals in the schools in this day and time. A School Resource Officer Program should not be a unit where officers and deputies are "Put out to the pasture".

- Emergency Operations Training- NAV 360
- Active Shooter- LEO and Staff participation
- Bi-Monthly Scenario based training
- Mental Health Awareness Training
- Training Cadre'
- Precision Shooting
- Interview and Interrogation





### **Training and Equipment**

- Breaching tools
- Torniquets (stop the killing/Stop the dying)
- Guardian Angel Lights (Added visibility to traffic control)
- Introduction to shields and training
- Anonymous reporting
- Introduction of "Narcan" in public/private schools
- LPR cameras and PTZ cameras at schools









## Bossier Parish Schools SRO Program (Currently)

- Bossier Sheriff's Office and Bossier Schools have always placed school safety at the forefront of the educational process.
- Comprised of 45 Louisiana P.O.S.T certified deputies in every location where student learning takes place to include elementary, middle, and high schools (36 Total Schools).
- <u>Leadership Structure:</u> Consists of a Captain (Director of Security), a Lieutenant (Shift Commander), and 2 Sergeants covering 2 areas.
- We have a SRO per every 500 students along with a full time transport deputy who assists with juvenile transports in the event a criminal or mental health transport is needed. (Allows for LEO presence on campus at all times).
- There is a certified K-9 assigned to the unit trained in narcotics and gun powder detection.



#### D.A.R.E.

**D.A.R.E. Program:** All Bossier Parish School 5<sup>th</sup> grade students receive the D.A.R.E. curriculum presented by a SRO who is certified to instruct this curriculum.







## Going "Above and Beyond"



We make an impact on the lives of students.

## More than just a School Resource Officer.....

#### Courteous, Professional, Responsive



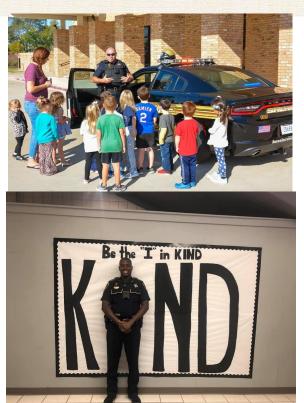






## More than just a School Resource Officer...(Cont.)











**Thank You!** 

**Questions?**