

Good afternoon:

I would like to thank God for this opportunity. I want to thank you, Mayor Perkins, for having confidence in my leadership ability and my desire to forge great teams of guardians for the City of Shreveport. Our teams will include the police and the community working together creatively to ensure that better days are in our future.

I am passionate about policing and living life for a purpose much greater than my own. I have served this wonderful community as a police officer for over 40 years while achieving every rank and this city has been good to me and my family. I have served in this community during its best and worst times.

I want to thank each member of the City Council. I accepted this leadership role with a great sense of urgency to get things done within a short period of time. I am thankful to have spoken with each of you regarding your passionate concerns for the safety of our city and offering your support to make our communities safer. I am reporting to you today that positive change is taking place and progress is being made.

Thank you to the women and men of the Shreveport Police Department who, over the last six months, have stepped forward with extra and unprecedented efforts to provide the best quality law enforcement

services to our community. You are embracing positive change and creativity and I am so proud to serve with you. Together as a team we are constantly developing and implementing new strategies that are having a positive effect on the quality of life in our City.

Just to name a few:

1. All police officers who are not assigned to patrol must dedicate a portion of their work week riding out on patrol. As a result, thousands of extra hours of patrol activities and visibility are being logged by detectives and administrative personnel, myself included.
2. More marked patrol vehicles are being assigned as home storage units to officers who reside in the city limits. This promotes greater police presence on our streets and in our neighborhoods. Additional officers with home storage units are not required to report to the police station each day, but rather report directly to the area where they will be assigned that day; thus saving the city thousands of dollars in fuel costs.
3. We have made a great start in having all officers complete Critical Incident Training on improving ways to work with citizens who may have mental health concerns.

4. We continue to make great progress in training more officers in radar operation to improve traffic safety.
5. We are increasing our efforts to get more officers trained in the Community Oriented Policing concepts.
6. We continually apply for and fully utilize as many grant funding opportunities as possible to supplement extra enforcement, prevention efforts and salary reimbursement for some new officers. This will save the City thousands of dollars that can be used elsewhere.
7. We are happy to be implementing new concepts of the Real Time Crime Center. This will be a huge help in reducing some crimes and solving others.
8. Strides are being made to increase employee morale by pursuing greater benefits such as the recent pay raise.

We will be committed to a greater sense of urgency to advance the Shreveport Police forward in all areas for the greater good of Shreveport. This will include expanded relationships with local, State, Federal and Judicial partners. Broadening our relationship with the community to include a Chief's Advisory Committee. Expanding our recruitment efforts with a goal of increasing our police officer staffing in 2022 by 50 new officers with the focus on quality over quantity. Expand our lateral transfer policy to make it easier for existing Post

Certified Officers to join our family of servants. Next month we will be graduating 14 cadets from our academy and they will begin the field training process. Another academy session is planned to begin shortly thereafter and continue until our staffing needs are fulfilled. We will strive to revitalize our core of community volunteers such as Auxiliary Officers and increase the number to 75. This Thursday night we will be graduating the first Auxiliary class in many years. Nine citizens have completed many weeks of training and will begin assisting police officers across our city. Many other short- and long-term strategic approaches for quality improvements are forthcoming.

I want to also thank the other eight applicants for recognizing the great potentials of our community and endeavoring to be a part of its future.

Finally, I want to thank my wife Marilyn, family and friends for the support and encouragement that has enabled me to be the person that I am... a servant.