

In the Levee Loop !



News of the Flood Protection Authority

July 15, 2018

Message from the President

First, let me say that each month we are welcoming some incredible new people to the Flood Protection Authority Team. We are privileged to have you. I believe you will find the Authority to be a place of amazing people who are talented, experienced and committed to the mission!

Next, at the end of the month, we will issue the 2018 confidential employee survey. The last two surveys formed the basis for the changes that the Authority has undergone over the past couple of years. Your valuable feedback led to positive change. It's been a while since we started implementing improvements, so I need to know how things are going.

PLEASE complete the entire survey. It's totally confidential. I don't need to know who gave what comments, I just need frank, honest, complete information. Tell me what's working well, and where we need to make some adjustments. I know there have been some bumps, and I appreciate everyone's incredible patience, participation and your trust to give the changes a chance. It's a work in progress, so stay with me. I can see exactly where we are headed. We are on a good path.

I know that the Flood Protection Authority is the strongest it's ever been - not just the structures, but the people. I bet you don't even realize how impressive a group you are. I see it crystal clear. Do me a favor. Tomorrow morning when you look in the mirror, take an extra second -- see what I see. Then, when you get to work, look for it in your team members, and give someone a word of thanks, a compliment, or some encouragement.

Joe

THE FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY—EAST COMMISSIONERS

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“Take time today to appreciate someone who does something you take for granted. Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary.”
Margaret Cousins

Nominate a Fellow Team Member for Employee of the Month

One way to express appreciation for a fellow employee who exemplifies the Flood Protection Authority Values is by nominating that team member for employee of the month. Look around you for people who are dedicated to our mission, go the extra mile, help create a better working environment, improve themselves and their team professionally and demonstrate acts of kindness. The FPA values your input and wants your participation in this process.

Welcome New Flood Protection Team Members



Elisha Collins
Mobile Equipment Operator 2 (OLD)
Hired on 6/11/18



Kendrick Tinker
Laborer (OLD)
Hired on 6/11/18



Sarion Granger
Classified employee instead of WAE
as a Admin. Coordinator 2 (HR) at OLD
Hired on 7/2/18



Albert Evans
Mobile Equipment Operator 1 (OLD)
Hired on 6/18/18



John Mitchell
Facility Maintenance Manager A (PCCP)
Hired on 7/2/18



John Thuer
Mechanic 3 (OLD)
Hired on 7/2/18

New Civil Service / LASERS Videos

Two new videos have been produced by Louisiana Civil Service and LASERS to keep employees informed about benefits and their future.

“Nuts and Bolts of Market Adjustments” explains the reasons for moving classified employees to Market Adjustments in the new Compensation Redesign Plan and can be accessed on the Civil Service website at www.civilservice.louisiana.gov.

The newest video in the LASERS library is entitled “Your Future Self”. The eight minute video provides information on preparing for a financially secure retirement. To view this and other videos about LASERS Benefits, Deferred Compensation, Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), Member Self Service, Purchasing Additional Service, Retirement Eligibility, Preparation for Individual Counseling, and How Annual and Sick Leave Benefit Your Retirement, visit the LASERS video library at Lasersonline.org/resources/video-library/.

FPA Participates in State of Flood Protection Event



The Flood Protection Authority participated in the State of Flood Protection event held on June 13th which was hosted by the Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region. The purpose of the event was to allow flood protection agencies to brief the media and public on the state of flood protection for the greater metropolitan New Orleans area.

Presentations were provided by Col. Michael Clancy, Commander-District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, Ignacio Harrouch, Chief of Operations, CPRA, Susan MacClay, Chair, FPA-West, and Joe Hassinger, President, FPA-East. A question and answer session was conducted after the presentations.



Educating the Next Generation About Flood Protection

Know Your Flood Protection System

Keepin' Your Head Above Water



Middle School Science Curriculum

Published by the Flood Protection Authority - East
floodauthority.org
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Teaching students about the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) will help future generations understand its importance and share this information with their families and friends. This education program targets public and private middle school science classes in the Flood Protection Authority's regional jurisdiction of St. Bernard, Orleans and East Jefferson Parishes.

The middle school science program educates through the originally-developed curriculum, *Keepin' Your Head Above Water: Know Your Flood Protection System*. The curriculum includes lessons and activities on geographical orientation (where do I live and where is the water), the Flood Protection Authority's flood protection system (where is it and what is it) and ways students can reduce risk related to tropical storms and hurricanes for their families and homes.

The curriculum guide will be available for teachers on the Flood Protection Authority's website before the beginning of the new school year.

"A positive attitude causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts, events and outcomes. It is a catalyst . . . a spark that creates extraordinary results." - Successories

Reporting Critical Information

Items of this nature are important enough employees need to notify their supervisors immediately and the chain of command notifies me by text/phone call/in person immediately or as soon as practically possible; or if the chain of command cannot be reached they contact OLD Dispatch (504-283-9800, manned 24/7) who then contacts me.

- ◆ Any employee injury requiring medical attention
- ◆ Any vehicle/equipment/property damage requiring a police report
- ◆ Any incident resulting in injury to a 3rd party or damage to a 3rd party property
- ◆ Any police incident involving Use of Force
- ◆ Any complaint against an employee involving ethics, malfeasance, harassment or similar issues; or criminal behavior
- ◆ Any altercation between an employee and another individual (another employee, private citizen, etc.)
- ◆ Any loss of data or money
- ◆ Any damage to the system resulting from major incident such as vehicle strike, ship/vessel strike, fire
- ◆ Any seepage, sand boil, slump or other serious issue
- ◆ Storm Season: Any loss in capacity (pump station) or inability to operate (complex structure/floodgate) that cannot be repaired within 6 hours
- ◆ Non-Storm Season: Any loss in capacity (pump station) or inability to operate (complex structure/floodgate) that cannot be repaired within 24 hours
- ◆ Any media inquiry involving any of the above topics

Derek

Employee Assistance Liaison / Bereavement Officer Available to Assist FPA's Employees and their Families



Chandra Chaffin, the Authority's Grants Administrator, also serves as the Employee Assistance Liaison/Bereavement Officer. Chandra is available to provide support and referral services for employees and families who are experiencing acute stress due to crises including natural disasters, terror attacks, or personal grief and loss. Chandra is certified in Professional Disaster Mental Health Training, a certification only available to those currently licensed as mental health professionals (B.S. in Psychology and an M.A. in Mental Health Counseling). This position does not provide therapy to employees, but serves as a source of support and a resource for referrals.

Chandra can be contacted via email (cchaffin@floodauthority.org) or phone (office: 504.286-3100, ext. 1071 or cell: 504.258.0709).

"Trust is the glue of life. It's the most essential ingredient in effective communication. It's the foundational principle that holds all relationships."

Stephen Covey

Police Wellness Program Coming This Fall!

In preparation for the upcoming Voluntary Wellness / Fitness Program for all O.L.D. / EJ Officers which will start in the fall, Lacey Gerhold, Mike Brenckle, Pat Conaghan, Terry Durning, Gerald Holmes and Vincent Yetta attended a Fitness introductory Trainer's Course in New Orleans recently.

Participation in this course was designed to teach the attendees how to organize a physical fitness / wellness program for our police Officers.

Our officers in attendance received training concerning the following topics.

1. Documentation from a physician prior to engaging in any physical activity.
2. Proper diet
 - a. Complex carbohydrates for energy and exercise
 - b. Proper hydration during physical exertion
 - c. Avoiding sugar and saturated fats
3. Proper body mass index (BMI)
4. Exercises performed in the workplace
 - a. Push ups
 - b. Plank, ab exercise
 - c. Squats
5. Genetic predisposition and prevention
 - a. Heart attacks
 - b. Strokes
 - c. Diabetes
6. A gym / work out area sanctioned by the Authority at O.L.D. -Franklin Base and the EJ Safe House
7. Increased longevity of life and wellness

Based on contemporary fitness training methods, the Authority fitness course will consist of Cardio-vascular / Dynamic Strength exercises for the upper and lower body, flexibility and a mandatory physical assessment testing program based on national norms and fitness standards. The standards will be based on age and sex.

Although the wellness / fitness program for the Police is voluntary, we strongly encourage every officer to participate in it.

Participation will allow each officer to earn a fitness uniform pin and other incentives to be determined. The Authority is also looking for other ways to encourage health and fitness for ALL employees, including expanding this program beyond the police.

Do You Have A Question On Your Mind?

In the Levee Loop! wants to assist in providing answers to questions you may have regarding the Flood Protection Authority and its operations, and will publish answers to questions that are not of a sensitive or confidential nature.

Please submit questions via email to gboudreaux@floodauthority.org or send to Glenda Boudreaux, Flood Protection Authority, Airport Terminal Suite 225, 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126. Questions may be submitted anonymously or submitters may request that their names not be used when their questions/answers are published.

Employee of the Month Recognized by FPA Board



Tyus Long, the FPA's employee of the month for February, was unable to attend the March Board meeting. Therefore, the FPA team was pleased that Tyus was able to attend the June 14th Board meeting so that he could be publicly recognized for his contribution and value to the Flood Protection Authority.

Tyus is a member of Group 313 at the O.L.D. He began his career at the FPA on September 28, 2015 and demonstrated an eagerness to learn as much as he can about the flood defense system and how to maintain this critically important system.

Tyus was nominated and selected as the Employee of the Month because of his dependability and trustworthiness. Tyus truly exemplifies the FPA's values in his day-to-day activities and plays an important part in ensuring the integrity of the flood defense system.

The FPA team congratulates Tyus and wishes him a long, successful career at the FPA.



Police Employee of the Month



Lieutenant Tyrone Butler, EJLD PD, was nominated and selected as the Police Employee of the Month for the month of June for his contributions to the Police Department and the FPA and his dedication to service.

Lt. Butler began as a reserve officer with the agency. His dedication to duty allowed him to join the ranks of the department and through his dedication, professionalism, knowledge, and work ethic, in an ever changing world and expansive mission, allowed him to rise to the rank of Lieutenant. With that rank, he has served as a watch commander for multiple years. He remains an inspiration to older and younger officers alike. He is the best face of the EJLD Police and the

FPA as he is able to hold onto the best things from the past and is able to embrace the environment of constant change. He embodies the spirit of the agency.

Quite recently, Lt. Butler was approached about taking over more responsibility. He did not have to question the duties, but instead embraced the request, because his agency and fellow officers needed him to do so. This is nothing new for Lt. Butler. He has, in this and other jobs, been a mentor and example of what an officer should be.

The FPA team thanks Lt. Butler for his dedication, hard work and service to the community.

The FPA's Values Key to Success

Team members who are recognized as Employee of the Month put into practice the Authority's **Values** in order to achieve professional success, create a better work environment, do their part to ensure the operability and integrity of the critically important flood defense system, provide an important service to the public, and bring success to the Flood Protection Authority. Our values are:

1. Accountability
2. Clear Expectations
3. Open and Transparent Communication
4. Valued & Appreciated Employees
5. Teamwork
6. Professionalism
7. Mission Driven

G. Paul Kemp Recognized for Service as FPA Board Member

Commissioner G. Paul Kemp, Ph.D., was recognized by the Board at its June 14th meeting for his commitment and contributions to the Flood Protection Authority and the citizens of Southeast Louisiana. Dr. Kemp was appointed to serve on the Board of Commissioners as of August 12, 2011 due to his outstanding qualifications and expertise and over 40 years of professional experience in the field of environmental sciences and geology.

Recognizing the importance of the FPA's mission, he has continuously strived during his tenure on the Board to investigate and implement advancements and improvements in order to achieve the best flood protection possible for the citizens of Southeast Louisiana.

During his tenure on the Board, Dr. Kemp has served in the office of Secretary, Chair of the Coastal Advisory Committee and as a member of the Operations Committee. His term as a Commissioner ended on June 30, 2018; however, we are confident that his commitment to the advancement of flood protection will continue.

The FPA team thanks Dr. Kemp for his dedication to public service and contributions to the FPA.



Some Lessons on Leadership from Abraham Lincoln

- ◆ Seek causal contact with subordinates. It is as meaningful as formal gatherings, if not more so.
- ◆ Everyone likes a compliment.
- ◆ Use force only as a last resort.
- ◆ Your followers generally want to believe that what they do is their own idea.
- ◆ Delegate authority and responsibility by empowering people to act on their own.
- ◆ A good leader avoids issuing orders, preferring instead to request, imply, or make suggestions.
- ◆ It is the sole responsibility of the leader to instill the core principles and values by constant preaching and persuading. It is his job to lift followers to a higher level of awareness, motivation and commitment.
- ◆ When you reach the top, turn and reach down for the person behind you.
- ◆ Never crush a man, making him a permanent enemy.
- ◆ An organization takes on the personality of its top leader.
- ◆ Have malice toward no one and charity to all.
- ◆ Consider for a moment what a company is like without effective decisiveness. Nothing happens and opportunities are lost. People wander about aimlessly, aggressive employees become frustrated and lethargic employees are not motivated. But in a company with decisive leaders the atmosphere is dynamic and vibrant. People move with a spring in their step and purpose in their direction.
- ◆ Fail to honor people, they fail to honor you. But a good leader, who talks little, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will all say, "We did this ourselves."
- ◆ Time is everything.
- ◆ Set specific short-term goals that can be focused on with intent and immediacy by subordinates.
- ◆ The best leaders never stop learning.
- ◆ Everywhere you go, at every conceivable opportunity, reaffirm, reassert and remind everyone of the basic principles upon which your organization must operate.

FPA First Aid Classes



**Tammy Canfield, P/O 2
Class Instructor**

First Aid classes being conducted for Flood Protection Authority team members include more than just basic first aid. This vitally important training can help save a life. The classes, which are being held on available Mondays, are being conducted by Tammy Canfield. Tammy is a Police Officer 2 at the O.L.D. and has been a member of the FPA team almost four years. Tammy was certified through the American Heart Association and holds the certification of Basic Life Support Instructor. Tammy's certification covers basic life support and first aid.

Tammy explained the advantage of the new CPR (dummies) equipment being used. The new CPR mannequins have two feedback devices, which will become mandatory in January, 2019. They have a light sequence on the shoulder, which allows visual student feedback. The lights turn red, yellow, and green allowing students to visually see if they are doing compressions at the proper depth and speed. The red light means the chest compressions are not being done properly. The yellow means the student is doing the compressions properly but needs to increase the number of compressions. The green means the student is doing proper chest compressions. The second feedback device is a clicking sound, which allows students an audible form of feedback. The clicking is heard when a student is providing chest compressions at the proper depth. The new equipment is more modern and very lightweight. The mannequins are much easier and more convenient to put together and break down.

To date, five classes have been conducted primarily comprised of supervisors and foremen. Each class can accommodate up to eight participants. Future classes will be scheduled basically by department with registration being made available to all interested team members. The goal of the FPA is to make this training available to all interested employees by end of the year.

Participation in classes also provides an opportunity for team members to demonstrate their acting skills as first aid techniques are practiced.



New Facilities Update



Top: O.L.D. Police Complex and garage.

Below: EJLD Safe House and Consolidated Facility



Levee District Police Officers Making a Difference

Officers Save Child

On Thursday, June 21, 2018 at approximately 1436 hours Officer Scott Meunier and Sergeant Michael Schindler overheard a radio broadcast via police radio of a medical emergency located at 510 Monticello Avenue. The dispatcher advised that two juveniles had just been found drowning and pulled from a pool at the aforementioned location.

The EJLD officers arrived within minutes and located a two year old female lying naked and in a supine position next to a pool at the apartment complex. The child was unconscious and not responding, but she was breathing ever so slightly. The officers performed life saving efforts on the child and kept her in a recovery position where she expelled water from her mouth and regurgitated. Although the child was breathing, she would not wake up despite every effort by officers. JPSO deputies and fire personnel arrived a short time later to assist. A second child, the first victim's twin sister, was located in the apartment and she was breathing, conscious and alert.

The officers recognized that the child was in desperate need of immediate medical treatment and elected not to await the arrival of an ambulance. The officers along with JPSO deputies and fire personnel loaded the child into a patrol unit and the assisting officers provided an escort to Ochsner Hospital's Emergency Room. The second child was later transported by ambulance to the hospital for follow up care.

A follow up to this report revealed that both children survived this incident and are doing well.



Sgt Michael Schindler



P/O Scott Meunier

Officer Joins in Search for Missing Person

June 17, 2018

East Jefferson Levee District Police Department

Dear Capt. Durnin,

I wish to commend your Officer Michael Schindler for joining in the search on June 16, 2018 for my husband, Francis A. Bolleter, Jr., who has Alzheimers. My husband took off with our car and when One Star showed our car was on Camp Street Officer Schindler joined in the search to find him. However, my husband had left that area when the officer got to Camp Street. Your officer came to our house to see how the search was going. By then luckily my husband somehow found his way back home safely in our car.

Please thank your officer for his kind efforts.

Sincerely, Patricia Bolleter

Kudos to EJLD Police Sergeant Michael Schindler and Officer Scott Meunier for going above and beyond and making a difference!

"I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be; for I have also learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances."

Martha Washington

Police Captains Earn Distinguished Honor

Levee District Senior Officers Graduate from First National Command and Staff College for Leadership and Excellence



Captain Donald Juneau, Captain Terry Durnin and Captain Craig Boudreaux completed the first National Command and Staff College for Leadership and Excellence held in the United States. The Senior Officers were sponsored by Police Superintendent Kerry Najolia with the approval of President Joe Hassinger and CAO Derek Boese.

The officers participated in six weeks of online independent study followed by two weeks of class residency at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office Training Academy. This course was supervised and coordinated by Dr. Mitch Javadi. They were collectively responsible for three hours of video instruction training each night, including answering discussion questions, weekly essays, training case studies and finalizing the class with a team Capstone Project reviewed by top professionals, professors and analysts in the Law Enforcement Profession. All of this work was performed and handled with no leave taken from the agency and in conjunction with the officers' regular shift tasks and daily departmental responsibilities.

Capt. Juneau, Capt. Durnin and Capt. Boudreaux are three of 34 graduates of graduating class number 001. Graduation took place on June 15th at the St. Charles Sheriff's Office Training Academy. As graduates, Capt. Juneau, Capt. Durnin and Capt. Boudreaux hold the esteemed title of "MAGNUS" Leaders within their profession. Because the participants are stakeholders and graduates of the very first class, their evaluations and body of completed works will determine the structure of every class going forward.

The FPA congratulates Capt. Juneau, Capt. Durnin and Capt. Boudreaux for this extraordinary achievement.



Capt. Terry Durnin



Capt. Donald Juneau



Capt. Craig Boudreaux

Levee District Police Training



On June 8, 2018 newly and recently hired officers of the EJLD Police participated in Taser and Use of Force training, as prescribed by the Superintendent of Police. Use of Force training included exposure to current state law, provisions of the Louisiana Law Enforcement Handbook, Peace Officers Standards and Training Guidelines, legal aspects and departmental policies in the use of force. Additionally, these same officers certified in the use of the Taser Conducted Electrical Weapon, a less lethal option widely used in law enforcement.



Through this training, the officers' skill set will improve and they add another tool to their belt in service of the citizenry. By exposure to this training, these officers are kept current in the latest, best practices and guidelines, along with current legal trends.



FPA Team Member Quoted in Advocate

Kudos to Monica Hall on her admirable representation of the Flood Protection Authority while on the job performing levee maintenance responsibilities.

Monica was approached by Advocate reporter R. Stephanie Bruno and quoted in the New Orleans Advocate article, "A row of modern homes in Holy Cross, where a levee is a front-row seat to fireworks over the river" published on June 28, 2018.

Team members can read this interesting story online in the e-edition of the New Orleans Advocate.



**Monica Hall
Levee Foreman A**

Citizen Ride-along with EJLD Police

June 8, 2018

My night started with a spark...Kellie and Mr. Pinkston offered me the chance to shoot a Taser ...OF COURSE I took it! So my first souvenir was the barbed prong from the Taser cartridge!

I then toured headquarters, inside and out. I sure hope Kellie gets a designated ladies room in the new facility. Lol

So the shift began with a bite to eat at a local place that has some history. The person that owns the restaurant was a victim of the tragic incident that took place 20 years ago in a Vietnamese restaurant in New Orleans East. I remember the story so well.

Kellie then drove along the river side of the levee. Yep, it felt like we would tip over at times and eat grass but I was assured that would not happen...not in her vehicle. There were people jogging, biking, skating, walking their pets...the place is beautiful. Then we came across a guy in a restricted area which I was told, happens all the time. While Kellie was telling him to remove his body, I should have rolled down my window to hear his reasoning for trespassing...maybe worthy of adding to the "book of excuses".

Then we popped up on the lake side of the levee. The roads along the levee are so narrow! And yes, saw my share of alligator eyes! Why would anyone swim in these areas? I saw many pumping stations up close, a fur-baby park, human parks, high-crime neighborhoods, beautiful houses and many off-limit areas...and many people, including kids, along the levee way after dark. Then, all of the sudden, we are at the beginning of a runway at New Orleans airport! The network of levee paths/roads is like the Underground Railroad!

I was shocked at some of the places people "hang-out" where it is clearly restricted with walls, fences and locked ladders that they climb. OMG!

Kellie explained the role the grass/turf plays in preserving the levee...cutting the grass alone is a huge task and a science. The maintenance department must stay busy all year with regular work and repairs.

Thank you for the opportunity to experience a shift with the East Jefferson Levee District police department. Kellie was a wonderful 'babysitter' answering my many questions and keeping me entertained with all her experiences. She was very professional and extremely polite. I enjoyed spending the evening and getting to know her.

Stephanie



**Stephanie Passero
and EJPD Officer
Kellie Lopardi**

IT Helpdesk Ticketing System

In an effort to become more efficient and meet the needs of our user community, Information Technology has introduced a new cloud based helpdesk ticketing system. This appliance allows for easy tracking of all IT related incidents and tasks. Listed below are two links which allows users to submit a request.

When using the web portal, click on the “*New Ticket*” tab in the blue ribbon at the top of the page, a new ticket page will appear. Enter your requestor name, enter (**required**) subject, a detailed description of your request, at the bottom right of the page click the drop down menu to choose your “*Site Location and Department*”. In addition, you can click the “*Attach Files*” link to provide any supporting documentation. Once you are complete, click the “*Create New Ticket*” tab for submission.

Connect via web portal: <http://support.floodauthority.org>

Or

Email access allows users to enter a subject line and a brief description of the problem.

Connect through your email: helpdesk@floodauthority.org

Please allow at most a 2-3 hour response time for all requests.

Please provide feedback regarding ease of usage or any other concerns you may have. Your opinion is important.

Thanks, Roman Dody, MSCIS,
Regional Director of Information Technology

Calendar of Events

July

July 19 (Thursday) - Board/Committee Meetings

August

August 16 (Thursday) - Board/Committee Meetings

September

September 20 (Thursday) - Board/Committee Meetings

Reminders

Submit your Employee of the Month Nomination Forms by the last day of each month

Suggestions, comments, news items (weddings, births, significant anniversaries and other events you wish to share with your coworkers), original articles and other submittals are welcomed.

Editor: Glenda Boudreaux
Associate Editor: Wilma Heaton

Submittals can be placed in any “In the Levee Loop” suggestion box, emailed to gboudreaux@floodauthority.org or sent to Glenda Boudreaux, SLFPA-E, Airport Terminal, Suite 225, 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.