

ALL COLLEGE STREET S

Jefferson Parish

Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice

Law Brings Faith-based Community Organizing to the Parish

In an unprecedented gathering of over 200 pastors and congregants, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office in partnership with the National Religious Affairs Association of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice launched the second phase of a strategic effort to unite faith and justice in a collaborative public safety initiative.

The meeting, held Friday and Saturday, August 27-28, 2004, was the third in a series of meetings to rally cops and clergy on some of the parish's most pressing issues and challenges in the areas of crime and criminal justice.

The Jefferson Parish Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice is based on seven of nine national areas of focus:

- Reentry and Mentoring of Offenders
- Disruptive and Violent Youth
- Disproportionate Minority Confinement, Disenfranchisement, and Detention Reform
- Mentoring Children of Prisoners
- Crime Prevention, Education, and Intervention
- Public Education, Training, and Civic Participation
- Strengthening Marriages and Families

Other workgroups offered through the national model include:

- Black Women Offenders and Special Needs Populations
- Prison Ministry and Restorative Justice



Jefferson Parish, Louisiana has implemented a law enforcement model of the National Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice.

Simply described, this model represents criminal justice leadership and collaboration with black churches and stakeholders to offer culturally competent training and produce positive change in the rate of crime, recidivism, detention, and the negative impact of each in their local community.

Community Participation

Attendance compiled August 27-28, 2004

Boynton United Methodist Cornerstone Christian Center Dominion and Power Ministries Ephasus Missionary Baptist First New Testament Baptist First King Solomon Greater Mt. Calvary Greater King Solomon Worship Center Israel Baptist Little Zion Baptist Little Zion Baptist #3 Marine Baptist Moreno Baptist New Birth Cathedral of Glory Missionary Baptist New Zion Baptist New Testament Baptist Bible Center New Jerusalem Baptist New Covenant Nineveh Baptist Olive Branch Baptist Progressive Baptist **Regular** Baptist Rock of Ages Baptist Second St. John Second Zion Baptist St. Joseph the Worker Catholic St. Rock Baptist St. Paul Baptist St. Mary Missionary Baptist St. James Baptist Temple of Praise Church of God in Christ True Hope Missionary Baptist True Hope Way Maker Ministries Westbank Cathedral

Each church provides one representative to serve on each of the seven special emphasis workgroups.

Each of these individuals, chosen by their pastor, will become subject matter liaisons and ultimately the expert for their church in their appointed area of focus (*i.e. reentry*, *mentoring children of offenders*, crime preention, etc.).

Each liaison will be responsible for working with representatives from other churches who have been appointed to their area of focus.

Focus groups will:

Meet once monthly for three months to be trained; Learn to identify the unique challenges to their church and the immediate community around it in their area of focus;

Work and train with other subject matter liaisons to develop community strategies to increase cooperation between law enforcement and faith groups while improving community conditions;

An important tool in working with Jefferson Parish Sheriff Department, NRAA will develop a timeline to be used in tracking the progress and deliverables of the initiative.

Jefferson Parish Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice

Local Advisory Council

Pastor Ennis Antoine, Sr. Pastor James Autry Pastor Sam Baker Pastor Gilbert Barnes Chaplain Rodney Batiste Pastor Nelson Brown Pastor Purcell Church, Sr. Pastor Charlie Davis Pastor George Davis, Sr. Pastor Robert L. Davidson Pastor George Davis, Sr. Pastor Jerry Davis Pastor Austin Dennis Elder Nelson Dexter, Jr. Pastor Richard Edmonds Pastor Louis Ernest, Sr. Pastor Thomas Glover, Jr. Pastor Orin Grant Elder Terry Gullage

Bishop Jerry Henry

Pastor Charles Johnson Pastor Edward Joseph Pastor Terrence Kinchen Pastor Alfeda Loston Pastor Johnny McKennis Pastor Paul McQuillen Pastor Sterling Mealancon Pastor Louis E. Phoenix Pastor Daniel Powell

Chaplain Kathy Radke Pastor Donald Robertson Pastor Alden Sonnier, Sr. Pastor Greg Ussin Pastor Nelson Waits Pastor David Walker Pastor Edmond Walker Elder James Williams



Sheriff Harry Lee Jefferson Parish, Louisiana



Chief Deputy Newell Normand



Jefferson Parish Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice

Making Connections to Prisoner Reentry Issues

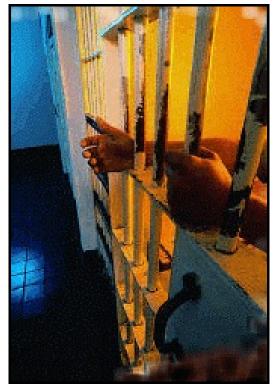
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Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice in Jefferson Parish

A four-year average analysis of murders in Unincorporated Jefferson Parish between 2000 and 2003 found the following:

- Guns were most often used (65%) followed by stabbing (12%)
- The top type of crime (26.5%) was classified as felony (murder committed while in the commission of another crime); Narcotics (23.5%) and quarrel (23.5%) tied for second
- 65% of the total murder victims and 70% of the murder suspects were black.
- 88% were male
- There were twice as many black murder victims as white murder victims
- There were three times as many black murder suspects as white murder suspects
- Average age of white victims was 29; the average age of white suspects was 31; the average age of black victims was 27; the average age of black suspects was 26
- An average of the 112 black murder suspects over the four year period, 2000 through 2003, is 28 black suspects per year which translates to one (1) in every 2,850 blacks committed murder, based on the 2000 Census Bureau population statistics
- An average of the 87 black murder victims over the four year period, 2000 through 2003, is 22 black murder victims per year which translates to one in every 3,627 blacks were murder victims, based on the 2000 Census Bureau population statistics
- In June 2004, there were five (5) murders, 17 rapes, 54 robberies, 128 assaults, 249 burglaries, 1,085 thefts, and 211 auto thefts.





The initiative will assist in the development of neighborhood supports and networks in this parish which is particularly challenged in its communities characterized by high incarceration rates.

The combined effects of all the sanctions suffered by ex-felons detract from their ability to participate constructively in community life - to the individual detriment of the ex-felon, and the overall detriment of the families and neighborhoods in which they are concentrated.

Some of the neighborhoods of Jefferson Parish have large numbers of residents leaving for and returning from prison. These neighborhood, without this intervention, will continue to suffer the kind of destabilization that undermines the development of trust and interdependence among neighbors.

Jefferson Parish Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice

Community Ownership and Participation



Ms. Donna Alford

Ms. Margo Johnson

Mr. Flovd Chapman

Mr. Gerald I. Sanson

Mr. Nathan Denis

Ms. Lana Turner

Mr. Werner Carr

Mr. Mike Tillman, Sr.

Mr. Casey Jumpiere

Ms. Paulette Warner

Ms. Barbara Bateast

Ms. Helen Sanders

Ms. Debra Edwards

Mr. Clarence E. Ballard

Ms. Carolyn T. Dennis

Dr. Mickey Griffin National Facilitator

> Reentry and Mentoring of Offenders



Ms. Marcia Peterson Mr. Nathan Denis Mr. Allen J. Sonnier, Sr.



Dr. Ann Williams National Facilitator

Black Women and Special Needs Offenders

Ms. Lorraine Dounceroux Min. Ruth R. Henry Ms. Valeria P. Robinson Ms. Bridgett Simmons Ms. Lynette Jones

Mr. Preston Jenkins Ms. Audrey Carey Ms. Claudie Allen Ms. Freida Howard Ms. Bessie Simmons Ms. Raney M. Antoine Ms. Renee B. Castillo Mr. James Evans, Jr. Rev. David L. Lawson, Sr. Ms. Priscilla Cleggett Mr. Alvin Wesson Ms. Lillian Rankins Mr. Wane Henry Mr. Lonnie Kerce Mr. Kendal Taylor Mr. Timothy Burnside Mr. Raymond G. Williams Ms. Cheryl Martin Ms. Wanda Riggins Ms. Grace Harry



Rev. Robert L. Damion Ms. Cynthia T. Davis Dr. Earnestine Davis Ms. Jannie Barnes Ms. Debbiero Allen Ms. Vanessa Rickerson Mr. Herbert Norton Ms. A.R. Norton Elder James Williams Rev. Louis Ernst, Sr.

Ms. Addie Richburg National Facilitator

DMC/Detention Reform Disruptive and Violent Youth

Mr. Isiah R. Rollins Ms. Lorraine Washington Ms. Angela St. Hill Ms. Frances K. Turner Ms. Alice S. Grav Pastor Charles L. Johnson Ms. Jeanette Turner Rev. Edward Joseph Mr. Daniel I. Powell Elder Ennis Antoine Rev. Chester Brown Ms. Debra H. Johnson Mr. Ron Hudson Pastor Sterling Mealancon



Pastor Steve McCoy National Facilitator

Prison Ministry and **Restorative Justice**

Min. Craig Henry Ms. Evelyn Washington - Henry Rev. Austin Dennis Ms. Carolyn Granderson Rev. Thomas Nunnery Rev. Kathy Radke Rev. Richard Edwards

Dr. M. Jeanne Cotton National Facilitator

Strengthening Marriages and Families



Jefferson Parish Black Church Taskforce Initiative on Crime and Criminal Justice

Community Ownership and Participation

Additional Participation

Mr. William Anderson Ms. Josephine Anderson Ms. Shirley Anderson Rev. Nelson Waits Mr. Cornelius LeBlanc Missionary Lee Ms. Oreatha Bell Mr. Marian Brown Ms. Brenda Robertson Ms. Delores Henley Mr. Cedric Henley Ms. Thelma Chopin Ms. Yvonne McPerson Rev. Isaac McPherson, Sr. Rev. Freddie L. Frazier Ms. Hawann Wilson

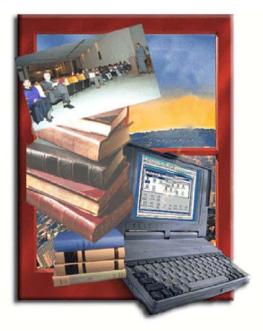


Rev. Mark Scott National Facilitator

Mentoring Children of Prisoners

Mr. C. Chapman Mr. Everett Goodwin Ms. Mary Bradley Ms. Leanne Long Ms. Violet Grant Ms. Elice Marshall Ms. Lois Walker Ms. Beverly P. Gilbert Ms. Lynnette Dentz Mr. Tim Tisdale Ms. Jean W. Scrubbs Ms. Linda Hudson Ms. Latasha Coleman Mr. William Coleman Mr. Carter Gordon Ms. Sharon Barnes Ms. Inez Griffin Ms. Annette Williams Ms. Lynn G. Locus Mr. Al Locus Ms. O. Mitchell Mr. Emmett Gilbert Ms. Evelyn P. Gilbert





Acknowledgments

Ms. Veronica Ballard, NABCJ National Rep Rev. Dr. Michael T. Bell, Keynote Speaker Mr. Glendale Hayes, Support Staff Ms. Carrie Richburg, Support Staff Dean Eleanor Murkey, Trinity Universal Center Staff of the Reentry National Media Campaign Deputy Chief Richard Rodrigue, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Ms. Angela St. Hill, Recorder

Disclaimer

We apologize for any omissions. Any names not represented were illegible or were not signed prior to departure.



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