



CITY OF SHREVEPORT

## MAYOR TOM ARCENEUX

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tom Arceneaux

**MAYOR**

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### ***COOPERATIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS***

Shreveport Police Chief Wayne Smith, Caddo Parish Sheriff Steve Prator, Caddo Parish District Attorney James Stewart, United States Attorney Brandon Brown, along with representatives from the Louisiana State Police and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms met with Mayor Tom Arceneaux on Friday, March 10, 2023, to discuss and confirm existing cooperative efforts and to renew those efforts to reduce violent crime in Shreveport.

Law enforcement personnel across all of the jurisdictional lines are in frequent contact. The agencies have formed a Violent Crime Abatement Team for north Louisiana to help coordinate and enhance those efforts. The team has been in existence since approximately 2021.

One of the main goals of law enforcement is getting illegal weapons off the street and getting weapons away from juveniles with nefarious intentions. While persons under 21 cannot legally purchase handguns, they can legally possess them. However, most juveniles using weapons in the commission of violent crimes are using illegal weapons. The United States prosecutes few, if any, juveniles because of internal restrictions on juvenile prosecutions.

Shreveport Police Department (SPD), as part of a three-year Public Safety Partnership (PSP) grant, will be hosting a symposium of invited stakeholders to address violent crime in Shreveport on from 8:00 a.m. until noon on May 4, and 5, 2023. *The symposium is by invitation only in accordance with the grant, and PSP personnel will be on hand to facilitate the meeting.*

All the participants in the meeting with the Mayor are committed to a maximum effort to drive down violent crime in Shreveport.

"In light of the continued shooting violence in Shreveport, it is important that all law enforcement agencies continue and enhance their cooperative efforts to apprehend the perpetrators of these crimes and, when possible, to take them off the streets before they can commit more serious crimes," Mayor Arceneaux said.

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