



CITY OF SHREVEPORT  
MAYOR TOM ARCENEUX

**For Media Inquiries Only:**

Leigh Anne Evensky

**Communications Director**

Leigh.Evensky@ShreveportLa.gov

318-205-4993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2025

---

**MAYOR TOM ARCENEUX AND COUNCIL CHAIRWOMAN TABATHA TAYLOR  
ADDRESS POSSIBLE NATIONAL GUARD DEPLOYMENT**

On Monday night, Governor Jeff Landry announced that he had requested Federal approval to send Louisiana National Guard members to several Louisiana cities, including Shreveport. That has raised a number of questions that we are working to answer.

The Governor's stated reason for requesting these troops is the high crime rate in our cities. We cannot speak for all of Louisiana, but we can speak for Shreveport. Crime rates in Shreveport are trending downward, as they have been for the past two years. Violent crime for 2025 is down almost 10%. Murders are down more than 20%. The dedicated officers of the Shreveport Police Department are increasingly successful in catching violent criminals, helped greatly by our increasing use of technology and the cooperation of our citizens. Every crime is a problem, but we are moving in the right direction.

While we welcome any assistance in dealing with crime or any other issue affecting our City, sending National Guard members to Shreveport raises a number of issues. We are working with the Governor's Office and the leadership of the National Guard to get answers. Areas of concern include:

- Determining what the specific mission of the Guard will be.
- Identifying exactly what the Guard members will be authorized to do.
- Determining how the Guard can best work together with our Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies.
- Specifying how long the Guard is expecting to be in Shreveport.
- Identifying how we will work together to assure that the Guard has a positive influence on our City and on our crime rate.

Mayor Tom Arceneaux stated “I have been in touch with our local law enforcement officials, Council Chairwoman Tabatha Taylor, and representatives of the National Guard. Local law enforcement officials and I are determining how the Guard’s presence in Shreveport would work and how we can best use our shared resources to make our city safer. Stationing military troops in our city is something we must handle with care, to make sure that it does not infringe on the rights we hold dear as Americans or jeopardize the trust we are trying to create between our police officers and the community. I assure our citizens that your city leaders will work diligently to use the Guard’s resources for the good of all law-abiding citizens.”

Council Chairwoman Tabatha Taylor, who participated in several discussions with the mayor and his staff on this matter, said, “My concern is and always will be the safety of our citizens. We are grateful to all the members who serve in our armed forces, including our National Guard, and we pray for them and their families daily. I want to thank the Shreveport Police Department, Caddo Sheriff's office, and the Shreveport City Marshal's office - along with our state and federal law enforcement partners, who are working tirelessly to reduce crime in Shreveport. Their coordinated efforts have already produced real progress and we pray for their continued safety daily.

The possibility of deploying National Guard troops into our city is a serious matter that requires caution. We must be certain that any such deployment strengthens - not undermines - the trust we are building between law enforcement and our citizens. I will continue to work with the mayor, my council colleagues, and our community to ensure that every decision made keeps Shreveport safe, while respecting the rights of our residents, and being in compliance with the law.”

###