TO: Professors Andrea Armstrong and Nishi Kumar

**FROM:** Ally Crosby **RE:** Sulphur City Jail

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# **Sulphur City Jail**

## **Introduction**

Sulphur is a city located in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. It is part of the Lake Charles metropolitan area. As of 2021, the population was 21,641. The Sulphur City Jail is a low-security facility operated by the Sulphur City Police Department. Sulphur Police Department is headquartered at 500 North Huntington Street, Sulphur, Louisiana, 70663.

# **Jail Characteristics**

Sulphur City Jail has a capacity of 18.<sup>5</sup> The Sulphur city jail is short-term facility that mainly houses offenders with short sentences and those awaiting trial.<sup>6</sup> Starting at 2019, it had a staff of around 11.<sup>7</sup> The Sulphur Police Department covers roughly 52 square miles (83.69 km2).<sup>8</sup> Most of the inmates serve for crimes less serious in nature, and they are sentenced for less than one year.<sup>9</sup> Currently, the Sulphur City Jail does not provide an updated online inmate roster or maintain an active website with facility details..

### **Public Records Request and Inmate Mortality**

Since 2014, there has been one inmate death in Sulphur City Jail. On July 17, 2017, Jacob Naegele was arrested for public intoxication. Subsequently, he was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.sulphur.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://sthelenaso.org/louisiana/police-department/sulphur-police-department/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://macomb-sheriff.com/louisiana/city-jail/sulphur-city-jail/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Id*.

<sup>9 14</sup> 

 $<sup>^{10}\ \</sup>underline{https://www.americanpress.com/2017/07/20/sulphur-police-investigate-inmate-death/}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Id*.

taken to the Sulphur City Jail and placed in a holding cell. Around 2:45 a.m., during a routine cell check, a jailer discovered Mr. Naegele deceased in his cell. <sup>12</sup> An immediate investigation commenced, revealing no signs of foul play. <sup>13</sup> Mr. Naegele's body was transferred to the Calcasieu Parish Coroner's Office for examination. <sup>14</sup>

As of November 27, 2023, there has not been a response to public records requests regarding any inmate deaths for the years 2022 and 2023

### Jail Leadership

The Chief of Police for the Sulphur Police Department is John Wall. He has been in this position since September 2022. 15 Prior to John Wall, Lewis Coates was the Chief of Police. In the 2022 fiscal year, the revenue from Sulphur Police Department was \$6,762,73. 16

#### **Jail News Coverage and Transparency**

The Louisiana State Police are currently running an investigation into an officer involved shooting that lead to the death of one individual.<sup>17</sup> The incident occurred on November 20, 2023. The details of the interaction were not disclosed, with troopers refraining from providing additional information.<sup>18</sup> It was clarified that no officers sustained injuries.<sup>19</sup> The identity of the individual who was shot has not been disclosed at this time.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Id.

<sup>15</sup> https://www.sulphur.org/department/index.php?structureid=13

https://app2.lla.state.la.us/publicreports.nsf/0/b25c1fa9d2197009862589420075cc20/\$file/00000946.pdf? open element & .7773098

<sup>17</sup> https://www.kplctv.com/2023/11/20/state-police-investigating-officer-involved-shooting-henning-dr/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Id*.