

Sheriff T.K. Waters

With 30 years of experience, Sheriff T.K. Waters is a proven dynamic leader within the law enforcement field.

Personal

Born into a devoted military family, T.K. learned at a young age the importance of service to country, to community and to family. While growing up, his father served as a Command Sergeant Major in the United States Army, which led his family to be stationed in multiple locations throughout much of his childhood. T.K. graduated from the Würzburg-American High School in West Germany. He went on to receive his Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, with a minor in Homeland Security from Liberty University.

T.K. is a devoted husband, father of three and grandfather. He resides in Jacksonville, Florida with his wife, Robin, a retired Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Detective, and current investigator for the State Attorney's Office for the Fourth Judicial Circuit.

Professional

Following the loss of his cousin to a violent crime, T.K.'s career path was solidified as this incident made him realize his passion to serve and protect.

In 1991, T.K. joined the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office as a Correctional Officer. He later graduated from the Police Academy in August 1993.

T.K. has served in numerous capacities within the agency's major departments of Patrol & Enforcement and Homeland Security & Investigations. He has demonstrated significant leadership with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office in the following ways:

- Served as the Chief of the Investigations Division overseeing operations including, but not limited to Homicide, the Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC), Violent Crime, Violence Reduction, Firearms Laboratory, Special Assault, Missing Persons/Kidnappings, Officer Involved Shootings, Cold Cases, Traffic Homicides, Robbery, Burglary, Economic Crimes and Auto Crimes;



- Created the launch of the JSO's Violence Reduction Strategy with a focus on Group Violence Intervention, an evidence-based strategy founded on the focused deterrence model;
- Met with more than 450 young men who were identified as group or gang members to help in finding the best ways to change their lives for the better.

As a Chief, T.K. was committed to establishing strong partnerships within the Jacksonville community and the National Network for Safe Communities. With the assistance of several key partners internally, as well as outside the agency, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office was able to expand its approach to addressing violent crime.

In July 2022, T.K. retired from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office to run for Sheriff of Duval County.

In November 2022, the citizens of Duval County, Florida elected him to serve as the seventh Sheriff of Duval County since consolidation in 1968. Sheriff Waters was officially sworn in on Sunday, November 20, 2022, by outgoing Sheriff Pat Ivey.

During his administration, Sheriff Waters will be focused on making Jacksonville an even better place to live and raise a family. He plans to increase staffing levels; focus on violent criminals and gangs for prosecution; build trust through robust community outreach and engagement; make efficient and effective use of taxpayer dollars; and leverage new technology.