

## Beaches Watch 2015 Jacksonville Sheriff Candidate Questions

Candidate Name: Ken Jefferson

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1. Beaches Assistance:

- a. What are the major public safety issues facing the Beach Cities that you as Sheriff can help with? **Some of the major public safety issues affecting the Beach cities include traffic control, crime scene and criminal investigations. Our Beach Cities are overrun with traffic during virtually every major holiday and many additional times during the year. Additionally, while smaller police departments can effectively handle calls for service, they are rarely equipped or sourced to handling crime scene investigation and latent investigations (follow-up investigations). The Sheriff should provide the resources necessary to bolster the police department's ability to serve the citizens who live and frequent the Beaches.**
  - b. How will you assist the Beaches during special events and major holidays like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July? **I plan to work with the Beach Police Departments and elected officials to develop and implement a traffic control plan to facilitate safe and expedient travel for our citizens who live and frequent the Beaches communities.**
  - c. Would you assist in transportation of prisoners from the Beach if large numbers of arrests become necessary? **The Sheriff's Office would absolutely work with the local Police Chiefs to facilitate transportation of prisoners from the Beaches if large numbers of arrests became necessary.**
2. Mutual Aid Agreements: Do you have any intention of making any changes to the current mutual aid agreements signed by the Beaches agencies and the current Sheriff? If so, what changes would you propose and why? **The current Mutual Aid Agreement needs to be reviewed and should be updated each year to ensure the information within the agreement is consistent with the National Incident Management System. I recognize the need for the Sheriff to provide law enforcement support including training and resources to the beaches communities not only in times of natural disasters, but in times of critical need that would include holidays, major events and major criminal investigations.**
3. What will be your process for coordinating mutual issues with the Beach Cities? **I would immediately review the current Mutual Aid Agreement to ensure it is in compliance with the National Incident Management System protocols. I would ensure all of my command staff were trained in the NIMS system. I would provide and/or facilitate NIMS training for all of the Beaches Police Departments supervisory personnel.**
4. Hurricane Evacuation Support: The current sheriff has made a very strong commitment to the beaches in the event of a hurricane. He has agreed to transfer approximately 100

officers to the Beaches Complex (for all three beaches) before during and immediately following the event. The current plan puts those officers under the direction and command of the Beaches Complex. This is in addition to the number of Sheriff's officers needed to assist with any evacuation to the Beaches. Are you willing to make the same level of commitment to public safety at the Beaches in the event of a hurricane? **I am willing to give the same commitment to our Beaches Communities in the event of a hurricane and/or natural disaster. Additionally, I am willing to work with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement through state protocols for Mutual Aid Agreements to provided additional resources from Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments and state Law Enforcement from around the state of Florida to ensure our Beach communities are protected and served.**

5. Relationship with Beaches:

- a. What ideas do you have that will facilitate and ensure a cohesive working relationship with the Beach Police Departments? **I will regularly meet with the Beaches Police Chiefs. And, I will implement a monthly intelligence sharing meeting for the Sheriff's Office Detectives and Beaches Police Departments to discuss crime trends and criminal investigations. The Sheriff's Office will provide investigative resources to assist the local beaches Police Departments with their criminal investigations. The Sheriff's Office will also make training opportunities available to the beaches Police Department's police officers.**
- b. Is there anything that you want to specifically do to improve the relationship between the sheriff's office and the beaches? **Provide investigative resources, provide training opportunities, provide crime scene investigation personnel, work with Beaches Police Chiefs through strong Mutual Aid Agreements to support law enforcement needs during natural disasters, evacuations, large public events and holidays.**
- c. How often will you commit to meeting with the Beach police chiefs? **I will meet with the Beach Police Chiefs once a month, at a minimum, to coordinate how we can best meet the law enforcement needs of the Beaches Communities and support their police departments.**

6. Mayport Road Corridor:

- a. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office frequently conducts law enforcement investigations and operations in the Mayport Road Corridor to include areas that fall within the City of Atlantic Beach. What is your plan to ensure that the sheriff's office shares critical information regarding criminal intelligence and on-going investigations and undercover operations that could impact the efforts and safety of the Atlantic Beach police officers? **Beaches Police Chiefs will be made aware of critical information pertaining to any active investigation within their jurisdiction. I will meet with the Police Chiefs on a monthly basis to support and strengthen our relationships. Intelligence gathered during JSO investigations will be shared with Beaches Police Departments where investigations can be worked jointly.**
- b. What are your plans to maintain a positive relationship with the community along the Mayport Road Corridor? **I will support the beaches Police Chiefs in maintaining a positive relationship with the community along the Mayport Road Corridor through the effective implementation of Community Oriented Policing. My**

Plan to Reduce Violent Crime, Drug Crime and Gang Activity by 25 % my first year in office extends to all of the Beaches Communities as well through effective Community Policing where we will all work together as partners for a better community.

7. As Sheriff, how do you feel about sharing the Sheriff's RMS and CAD systems with the Beaches Police Departments? I believe sharing the Sheriff's Office RMS and CAD systems is an option that has merit. In recent years, the state of Florida converted to a joint dispatch system where radio systems and dispatch are now shared by a common radio operator. These consolidations enhance radio interoperability between agencies, enhance mutual aid capabilities, and potentially saves hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars.