

# Thomas K. Waters

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## PROFILE

I was born on December 8, 1969 in Ft. Bliss, Texas. I attended high school and graduated in 1987 from Wurzburg American High School in West Germany. I was hired by JSO as a Corrections Officer in December of 1991 and graduated the Police Academy in August, 1993.

## EXPERIENCE

### **Assistant Chief / Violence Reduction Section, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office**

**April 2016-Present**

I am presently assigned as the Assistant Chief and Project Manager for the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Violence Reduction Strategy. In this position, I am responsible for the JSO Gang Unit, the JSO Violent Crime Impact Team, and our Community partnerships that work together with us in an effort to decrease violent crime in the city of Jacksonville. Since being appointed to my current position, I have had the opportunity to travel to and learn from peer law enforcement agencies in New York City, Chicago, Illinois, Birmingham, Alabama, Stockton, California and Detroit, Michigan. I have worked closely with the National Network for Safe Communities as a partner agency with the JSO. During my tenure as the Assistant Chief of the Violence Reduction Section, I have personally visited the homes of 345 gang members and young men that have been involved in or victims of violent crime. The goal of those visits has been to convince those young men that we want them to live.

### **Assistant Chief / Zone 5 Commander, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office**

**July 2015-April 2016**

After my appointment to the rank of Assistant Chief, I was assigned as a Zone Commander. During my tenure as the Zone 5 Assistant Chief, I commanded approximately 170 police officers, sergeants, and lieutenants. My responsibilities included proper manpower allocation, monthly Sheriff's Watch meetings and address crime problems in sectors and sub-sectors. As a member of the Sheriff's staff, accountability is key. Every week I attended the Sheriff's CRIMES meetings where I explained what crime issues we were having and how we were addressing those issues. I attended weekend walks, community meetings, and conducted Chief's walks throughout my zone.

### **Homicide Detective Sergeant, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida**

**2005-2015**

I was assigned as a HOT Team Sergeant within the Homicide Unit. In this position, I had the responsibility of supervising a team of four homicide detectives during murder, kidnapping, undetermined death, and suicide investigations. The last 10 of those years, I supervised over 200 high profile homicide investigations and several hundred undetermined death cases, suicides, and kidnappings. Primary responsibilities include overall scene supervision, media relations, liaison between homicide detectives and State Attorney personnel. I have worked and coordinated with members of agencies outside of JSO to include The United States Marshals Service, The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Clay County Sheriff's Office, and several others. It is also my responsibility to keep my direct supervisor and staff updated during these complex investigations. As a homicide supervisor, accountability is key. I attended biweekly Director's staff meetings to keep him, the Division Chief, and Assistant Chief informed of case status and completed tasks on each unsolved case.

### **Auto Theft Sergeant, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida**

**Jan 2005-March 2005**

As the Auto Theft Unit Sergeant, I supervised a squad of Auto Theft detectives during shop investigations. I tracked auto theft patterns and trends. I represented the Auto Theft Unit along with my unit commander during Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Crimes meetings.

**Traffic Enforcement Sergeant, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida****2002-2005**

I served as a Traffic Enforcement Sergeant in Patrol Zone 3. I supervised a squad of 12 traffic officers, 6 of which were motorcycle officers. During that time, I also supervised and trained a group of JSO's first Community Service Officers. My duties included maintaining a vast amount of traffic equipment, vehicles and trailers assigned to our unit. I also managed traffic deployments, DUI Wolfpack, and check points. I actively participated in two Presidential Motorcades, partnering with FHP and the United States Secret Service. I supervised several special events and funerals for fallen and retired police and corrections officers. I supervised traffic control at Jaguars games for nearly three years and I retired police and corrections officers. I supervised traffic control at Jaguars games for nearly three years and I was responsible for traffic direction and control around the Adams Mark Hotel during Superbowl 39 (Superbowl HQ).

**Patrol/PRT Sergeant, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida****2001-2002**

I was promoted to Sergeant in April of 2001. I worked as a Patrol Sergeant in patrol zone 6 and was transferred to work as the Problem Response Team Sergeant shortly thereafter. I supervised a squad of 5 Police Officers. Our team was tasked with looking for and identifying patterns and trends within our assigned zone. During that time we identified and addressed issues such as auto thefts from rental car companies at the Jacksonville International Airport, residential construction site burglaries, and drug complaints. It was during this time that I was recognized as supervisor of the month and the 2003 Supervisor of the Year.

**Patrol Officer /Zone 5 PRT Officer /Traffic Officer, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office****1998-2001**

As a patrol officer, I performed the duties of a first responder answering calls for service and directed deployments to combat identified crimes. I served as a field training officer and also served as out squad P.I.C. (patrolman in charge) on many occasions. During my assignment to Zone 5 Problem Response Team, I addressed violent, drug, and property crime issues within the zone. I was also assigned as a zone traffic enforcement officer. During that time, I answered calls for service involving crashed vehicles. I addressed traffic complaints, school zone complaints and HFC's (high frequency crash) locations. I also participated in Wolf Pack DUI deployments and DUI checkpoints.

**Narcotics Detective, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida****1996-1998**

During my time as a narcotics detective, I participated in many undercover drug investigations. I conducted buy bust operations (purchase drugs from dealers) and I also worked several reverse drug sting operations (sell counterfeit narcotics to drug abusers). I have conducted surveillance, mobile and stationary, worked with confidential sources and confidential informants and served several drug search warrants. During my time as a narcotics detective, I was asked by then Assistant State Attorney Angela Corey to assist in an undercover investigation. I was asked to wear a jail jumpsuit and enter a jail cell at the Duval County Courthouse with an inmate that was claiming to have witnessed someone other than Leo Jones killed Officer Tom Szafranski. Leo Jones had already been convicted and was sentenced to death for that murder. The goal of the operation was to get that witness to admit that he was lying about the information that he was preparing to testify to. After approximately 3 hours, the false witness admitted on tape he had not seen any other person commit that murder. Leo Jones was subsequently put to death by the State of Florida.

**EDUCATION**

4 years at Liberty University Distance Learning Program, Virginia  
Student at The Bible Doctrine Institute, Jacksonville, Florida

**TRAINING**

Instructor Techniques, Field Training Officer/Supervisor, Radar/Laser Instructor, JSO Motorcycle School graduate, Bike School, Injury and Dead Investigations, Advanced Homicide Training, Interview and Interrogation School, Kinesic Interviews, Child Death Investigations, Medical Examiner training, Undercover Narcotics training, Tactical Narcotics training, Incident command System training, Line Level Supervisor Training, Close Quarter Combat training, Courtroom Testimony training, Firearms training, Annual Homicide Training at the State Attorney's Office.

**SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Preaching and Teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and singing in my gospel quartet (FourGiven)  
Appointed as 1 of 4 Church Trustee's at Bible Believers Baptist Church (16 year member)