



St. Johns County Sheriff's Office

"Taking Care of People"

BIOGRAPHY OF SHERIFF DAVID B. SHOAR

Sheriff Shoar began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the St. Augustine Police Department in December of 1981. He served as a patrol officer for 10 years until his promotion to Sergeant in 1991. In 1997 Sheriff Shoar was promoted to Operations Commander overseeing the Patrol and Detective Divisions. In 1999, he was assigned as the Administrative Services Commander and served in that capacity until May of 2000 when City Manager Bill Harriss appointed him Chief of Police.

Sheriff Shoar is a 1987 Honors graduate from St. Johns River Community College and he graduated with "highest honors" in 1996 from the University of North Florida earning a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. In December 2001 he was awarded a Master's Degree in Public Administration with "highest honors" from the University of North Florida. Sheriff Shoar is a member of several academic honor societies including Phi Kappa Phi and the Golden Key National Honor Society. He currently serves as an adjunct professor at St. Johns River Community College in St. Augustine, Florida. In 2005, Sheriff Shoar was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from Flagler College. Also in 2005, Flagler College created the "David B. Shoar Award for Academic Achievement" to be awarded to the graduate of the Public Administration Baccalaureate Degree program (a program he started in collaboration with Flagler College) who maintains the highest grade point average. Sheriff Shoar is scheduled to attend an executive series program at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in 2013.

In May 2005, Sheriff Shoar retired after 24 years of service with the Florida Army National Guard. He began his military career as an enlisted soldier and eventually earned his commission as an officer through the Florida National Guard Military Academy's Officer Candidate School in 1988. Sheriff Shoar has served as a platoon leader, company executive officer and unit commander. Sheriff Shoar has served our country and state during several operations including the Gulf War and during relief efforts after Hurricanes Andrew and Opal. He also served as an Operations Officer at the Guard's State Headquarters in St. Augustine, FL. Sheriff Shoar retired with the rank of Major and has been decorated numerous times including being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (twice), Humanitarian Service Medal and several others. He was also awarded the Liberation of Kuwait Medal from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Sheriff Shoar retired from the St. Augustine Police Department in 2004 after being elected to serve as Sheriff of St. Johns County. In 2008 Sheriff Shoar was elected to a second term as Sheriff with no opposition. In 2012, Sheriff Shoar was elected to a third term with no opposition. In 2016 Sheriff Shoar was elected to a fourth term as Sheriff. Shoar is a 1998 graduate of the 193rd session of the FBI's National Academy, a 2003

graduate of the 46th session of the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (LEEDS) and a 2004 graduate of the 35th session of the Chief Executive Seminar sponsored by the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute. Sheriff Shoar holds memberships in numerous clubs and civic organizations including but not limited to the Veteran's of Foreign Wars, Masonic Lodge, Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Guard Officers Association, Florida Sheriff's Association, Florida Police Chiefs Association and the Northeast Florida Law Enforcement Executives Association. In 2014 Shoar was elected by his fellow Sheriffs to serve as President of the Florida Sheriff's Association. Sheriff Shoar serves on a variety of advisory boards including the University of North Florida's Institute of Government, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and he has served on the Board of Directors of EPIC here in St. Johns County.

Sheriff Shoar has been fortunate to be recognized for his public service efforts over the years. In 2006, Sheriff Shoar won the "America's Most Wanted" National "First Responder" Award; Sheriff Shoar received \$10,000 as part of winning this award which he promptly donated to a disabled Deputy Sheriff. In 2007, Sheriff Shoar was selected by the American Legion as Florida's "Top Cop" and as recently as 2008 he was awarded the "Good Samaritan" award by the Catholic Charities of St. Johns County. In 2008 Sheriff Shoar received St. Johns County's most prestigious award for civic involvement, the Salvation Army's "Gus Craig" award. In 2017, Sheriff Shoar was awarded the "Lifetime Achievement" award from Mental Health Inc. of North Florida for his many years of assisting those suffering from mental health disorders. In 2017 he was also awarded the prestigious "Colonel Ed Taylor" award from the St. Johns County Veteran's Council for his many years of dedication to our Nation's veterans.

Sheriff Shoar is married to the former Laura Giannotta for 30 years. They are the parents of two children, Emily 27 and Matthew 24. They live in the Crescent Beach area of our county and they belong to St. Anastasia Catholic Church in St. Augustine.