



# CITY OF KENNER

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**MICHAEL S. YENNI**  
MAYOR

**EMILE LAFOURCADE**  
ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR,  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **DODT APPOINTED KENNER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HEAD**

#### **Former Police Commander Retired Oct. 29, Started New Post Nov. 1**

Kenner's new emergency management coordinator started work Monday after completing a career in law enforcement that spanned 32 years, 27 of them at several levels in the Kenner Police Department. He retired from the KPD on Friday, October 29.

Mayor Michael S. Yenni said that **Doug Dodt**, a former KPD lieutenant, was among 10 candidates who topped the list for the post and one of three who were interviewed for the post.

The mayor said Dodt had an extensive background in emergency planning for the police department, wrote the bulk of Kenner's existing 700-page-plus emergency plan and is working on developing additional portions of it.

"He wrote our (emergency) plan," Yenni said. "That certainly helped put him over the top."

Since 2006, Dodt has served as the police department's liaison to the mayor's emergency management advisory group which reviews local, state and federal emergency protocol and works with various segments of the local community (from civic, business and church organizations to utility, medical, transportation and private first response companies) to propose plans to protect city infrastructure, assist Kenner citizens in facing emergencies and restoring city services after an emergency threat has passed.



Doug Dodt

Dodt started his law enforcement career as a deputy with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office in 1978 and moved to the Kenner Police Department in 1983, starting as a police officer. He retired as a detective lieutenant and commander of the internal affairs department to take his new position. Among his roles in the KPD were director of training, a hostage negotiator, a S.W.A.T. intelligence officer, a patrol squad commander and a detective in the criminal investigations division.

Dodt said that in an emergency, Kenner will be a focus of any recovery or evacuation because the city houses Louis Armstrong International Airport, Interstate-10, five major railroads and links the continent's largest river with one of its largest lakes.

"Kenner is really a strategically important location not only for the region but also for the state," he said.

Dodt wrote the police department's operations manual in 1990 and its emergency response plan in 1991. He also established the police department's emergency command post in 1990. He also helped plan the city's command post established for Hurricane Gustav in 2008.

He will be stationed at the former Barbre School Building, which has been remodeled and now designated City Hall Building D. Located on Rev. Richard Wilson Drive, the building will soon house the Kenner Department of Public Works, serve as a staging area for city resources and equipment during emergencies as well as house public workers called to respond to those emergencies.

Dodt will also be responsible for keeping Kenner's emergency plan current with federal and state F.E.M.A. and Homeland Security guidelines, maintaining city contact with parish, state and federal emergency management officials, and do research and apply for federal grants. "This will hopefully get us a better seat at the table for funding for the city of Kenner," the mayor said.

Dodt holds an associate degree in law enforcement from Delgado College and has attended numerous training courses in homeland security and emergency preparedness. He is certified by FEMA in the National Incident Management System. He is a 2007 graduate of the Center for American and International Law, Institute for Law Enforcement Administration at Dallas. His salary is \$45,027 a year.

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