

Enforcement Division Donates Food Surplus to St. Vincent's

by Sgt. Rachel M. Zechenelly

Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita changed the lives of many enforcement agents in Louisiana. Agents from all over the state rushed to southeast and southwest Louisiana in a desperate, heart-wrenching effort to rescue trapped victims in floodwater-ravaged neighborhoods.

As the efforts progressed for several days, charitable people and organizations from all over Louisiana and the country provided rescuers with several types of food items such as nutrition bars, peanuts and other miscellaneous snack items, which helped sustain the energy and efforts of rescuers. The generosity of these fine people was so overwhelming, a surplus of food developed.

This past Thanksgiving, Col. Winton Vidrine of the Louisiana

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division was honored to donate the surplus food to St. Vincent's Depaul dining room in Baton Rouge.

St. Vincent's serves nearly 800 meals daily to the needy, provides shelter for homeless men and women, operates four thrift stores and runs a pharmacy that dispenses drugs for people who cannot afford the costs of their prescriptions.

In thanking LDWF for the donation, St. Vincent's employee Kay Kyes said, "The food items donated will be given out to the hungry to help sustain them between meals."

Just as agents were thankful for the outpouring of generosity when they received the food items, they were proud to return the kindness by donating the surplus to such a worthy charity. ■

