



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ
Parish President

Winter Weather Event 11—6 a.m.
Ascension Motorists Strongly Urged To Stay Home, Icy Conditions Throughout Parish

Contact: Lester Kenyon (225) 450-1138; E-mail: lkenyon@apgov.us
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 28, 2013

GONZALES – Because icy road conditions are prevalent throughout Ascension Parish, Parish President Tommy Martinez and Sheriff Jeff Wiley are strongly urging residents to stay home and avoid driving Wednesday.

“We want the residents of Ascension to realize that traveling today is not wise,” President Martinez said. “If you are just curious, stay home.”

Sheriff Wiley said several weather-related accidents have occurred overnight and road conditions are not expected to improve until later today.

“We’ve had several wrecks and multiple reports of cars sliding off roadways,” Sheriff Wiley said. “It’s imperative, and I strongly recommend, residents exercise prudence by staying safe in their homes and avoiding traveling at all costs. We’ve had widespread closures, especially overpasses.”

If residents must travel, Sheriff Wiley recommends:

- When crossing small bridges or overpasses which are likely to be impacted with icy conditions, travel at your slowest speed, braking gently and only when necessary.
- At no time should you pass other vehicles, and leave yourself plenty of room between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- To reemphasize, operating a motor vehicle with the current conditions can be very dangerous. Many of the roads and highways are already impacted by icy

conditions, conditions that most drivers are unfamiliar with. Further, we expect these road conditions to continue to deteriorate. The best and safest option is to remain where you are and should you need assistance, allow the Sheriff's Office to respond.

Sheriff Wiley also reminds residents to dial 911 only for emergencies. To report suspected icing or unsafe travel conditions, call the Ascension Emergency Operations Center at (225) 621-8360.

For more information about weather updates and road closures:

- Ascension 21, the parish's governmental channel
- www.ascensionparish.net/ohsep
- Facebook www.facebook.com/apohsep
- Twitter www.twitter.com/ascensionparish
- Community Information Line 1-866-380-2303.
- You may also contact their office at (225) 621-8360