FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 29,2025

MEDIA CONTACT:

Pamela Matassa, Ascension Parish Government Deputy CAO and Communications Director

Email: pamela.matassa@apgov.us

Phone: (225) 270-6871

Ascension Parish Leaders Urge Boating Safety Ahead of Summer Season

Ascension Parish, LA – As summer begins and water activities pick up, Ascension Parish President Clint Cointment and local safety officials are urging residents and visitors to make boating safety a top priority on our parish waterways.

In a joint public service announcement, Ascension Parish President Clint Cointment, Ascension Parish Fire Chief James E. LeBlanc, Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office Colonel Donald Capello, and Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sergeant Randy Lanoux are coming together with one message: Stay safe on the water.

"We want everyone to enjoy the beauty of Ascension Parish's rivers, lakes, and bayous this summer," said Parish President Clint Cointment. "Too often, accidents on the water are avoidable, so we're reminding everyone to be smart, respectful, and alert while boating or enjoying time near the water."

The officials offer these important reminders for all boaters and water recreation enthusiasts:

- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket.
- Stay aware of your surroundings, including other boaters, swimmers, and changing weather conditions.
- Avoid alcohol while operating a boat.
- Check your vessel and safety equipment before launch.
- Keep our waterways clean—please refrain from littering or leaving behind debris that could cause harm.
- Know the rules for operating watercraft and follow posted signs and navigational markers.

This summer let's work together to keep Ascension safe, keep Ascension clean, **Keep Ascension Beautiful**, and remain #AscensionProud.

LINK TO PSA ON BOATING SAFETY: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RDLDbttslw