

## ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

Construction update – The Sheriff and his crew are doing a great job with the large task of running their office and the jail during the major expansion of the jail. The reason it affects all the offices is that the ripple effect of the jail addition which requires an expansion of the kitchen and laundry. This expansion requires moving the trustee cells and the 911 office. The reshuffling will make the entire operation a better facility and the cost is included and planned for in the project. All these challenges for running a jail and sheriff's department has been challenging, I am sure. We should see completion by August. We are already moving prisoners into the new cells and saving money. More savings will be coming.

JP3 is moving along quickly. Wells Construction is really getting with it. The scale for the weigh station is being installed and that is the very first component. When that is done we can start the buildings. I think we can be finished by the end of the year on both projects.

We still have some minor things to do to the Justice Center. I want to open another entrance/exit from the front parking lot onto Broadway. I do not think the one access is enough, nor do I think it is safe. I want to put a crosswalk from the Courthouse to the Justice Center and cut steps into the curb so that the constant foot traffic back and forth will be safer. I also want to build steps to main street. It seems many people are parking on main and walking up. All of this is due to unintended consequences. When you build something like this it seems you do not see all the variables until it is in use. All in all, the Justice Center is working very well.

Court work for me is going well. I do not talk about it much, but I work hard to be up to date on the laws on the Benches I serve (Probate, Juvenile, Appeals, etc.) and process the court business with honesty and fairness. I still attend every training session held during the year that apply to me. Court work is roughly 50% of my duties as County Judge. I still believe that I am your employee and try to act as such!

Thank you for listening.

We want you to be proud of your county government.