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THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE

## Landrieu's second-in-command leaving

### Hebert heading to Water Institute of the Gulf

BY JEFF ADELSON  
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Jeff Hebert, New Orleans' chief administrative officer and chief resilience officer, is leaving Mayor Mitch Landrieu's administration this month for a job with the Water Institute of the Gulf.

Hebert, who became

Landrieu's second-in-command last year, will serve as the Water Institute's vice president for adaptation and resilience, according to a news release.

He will start work at the Water Institute in January. The Baton Rouge-based, nonprofit research and technical organization seeks to help communities with coastal restoration and

with reducing the risk of flooding caused by climate change and sea-level rise.

"Jeff has led so many of our initiatives to move the city forward toward what we always knew she could be and to prepare our city for our tricentennial," Landrieu said in a written statement. "As my CAO, Jeff has been critical in continuing



Hebert

our legacy of a smart and efficient government that delivers strong fiscal stewardship." Judy Reese Morse, a long-time Landrieu aide who serves as deputy mayor or for citywide initiatives, will take over as CAO as the mayor closes out his second term, ending in May.

Hebert has served in the administration since shortly after Landrieu took office in 2010, starting as the point person for developing and implementing the city's blight reduction strategy.

He then took the reins of the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority, refocusing what was a troubled agency on putting 4,000 properties back into use during four years as executive director.

While in that role, he became the city's first resilience officer, a position created as part of the Foundation's Global Resilience initiative. In that role, he saw the drafting of the city's first resilience strategy called "resilience strategy 2030." He led the team that put together the Gentilly Resilience project that was funded by a \$141 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

See **HEBERT**



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### Well, it seemed like a good idea

J.B. Castagnos, of Donaldsonville, tells a story that illustrates why the GPS for cars was such a good idea:

"I was at a party recently and someone mentioned following a limousine. It made me think of the time my wife and I attended a wedding at a chapel on the LSU campus.

"We got in the car to go to the reception across town and realized we hadn't brought the invitation with the address and directions.

"My wife said, 'Follow that limousine; he's going there.'

"Sounded like a good plan to me, so I stuck behind him — no cameras on the signals then, so no problem with yellow caution lights.

"I thought we were getting close when the limo turned in to a 'quick-lube' place for an oil change.

"A phone call home got us the directions."

#### It's a guy thing

Richard Orgeron, of Lafayette, says, "I believe the end of Sunday afternoon rides started when television became more accessible, along with professional football games being televised.

"However, back in the 1950s, my older brother and I would sometimes go on a Sunday afternoon ride with our grandparents.

"They had a beautiful Packard sedan that my brother would drive. Mamou would ride in the front seat with Daddy Joe and me in the back seat.

"When driving in the country, we would sometimes come upon a herd of cattle, and when we passed by a bull grazing, my grandfather would tip his hat to the



## SANTA'S HERE



Deloris St. Martin, left, and Mary Coulon, center, talk to Brandon Syme, dressed as Santa, above, on Monday during a visit to the Padua House by members of the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation who gave gifts to the residents in Belle Chase. Over 30 members of the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation dressed as Santa or his helpers to give gifts and sing carols.

LEFT: Over 30 Santas are greeted by residents of the Padua House.

ADVOCATE STAFF PHOTOS  
BY MAX BECHERER

## Man accused of killing estranged wife

Violent crime scene found in Mandeville

BY SARA PAGONES  
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George Dargis was found at his parents' St. Tammany Parish home Saturday covered in blood and a bullet wound that he had made. He had "hurt" his wife, according to St. Tammany Parish Sheriff Randy Smith.

Deputies sent to her Mandeville home found 37-year-old Dargis dead, stabbed multiple times, her face smashed and her torso open.

A spokesman for the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office said an autopsy is not yet concluded because of the victim's injuries. Smith said Monday that the scene was "a bloody scene, a nasty scene."

George Dargis, 37, was found at some point on Monday morning, Smith said. He then took off in her car to commit a string of robberies along U.S. 190 in the Mandeville area, robbing Edgely's, a robbery of its cash register, then attempting to rob three other businesses: a Dollar General, a Lacombe Car Wash, and a driving or backing into the bus.

He finally wreacked the vehicle on the east side of Interstate 10 twin-spur, apparently heading toward Slidell, Smith said.

See **WIFE**