



"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY"

Sewerage & Water Board of NEW ORLEANS

MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU, President
SCOTT JACOBS, President Pro-Tem
CEDRIC S. GRANT, Executive Director

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837 OR 52-WATER
www.swbno.org

For Immediate Release
April 19, 2017

Contact: Shermicia Calice 504-439-3098
Brenda Thornton 504-269-7819

Water Dogz Win Big in Texas



NEW ORLEANS - Today, Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans (S&WB) announced that the Water Dogz **won six First Place Awards**, defeating some of the best operations teams in Texas at the **2017 Water Environment Association of Texas Conference** at the Austin Convention Center on April 12, 2017.

The Dogz won **First Place Overall - Division 2**, as well as, **First Place in Maintenance, Process Control, Laboratory, Collection, and Safety**.

The Water Dogz is an all-employee competitive team consisting of individuals working in various areas of the Board including Networks Repairs, Networks Engineering, Training, Water Quality, and Environmental Affairs. They were honored at Wednesday's Board meeting.

The team competes against other national and international utility teams several times a year. Winners are selected by a weighted point system designed to test skills required for the operation and maintenance of water and wastewater treatment facilities, their collection systems and laboratories.

The competition showcased the skills and talent of operators who work at Louisiana and Texas' wastewater treatment plants and collections facilities. These employees perform highly specialized tasks by treating millions of gallons of wastewater every day, keeping both states' waters safe and clean.

Team members Jerome Marshall (coach/captain) - Networks Division, Carlton Allen (team captain) - Networks Division, Mark Bearchild - Technical Services, Phillip Minor - Networks Division, JaRyan Youngblood - Networks Division and Ron Ferdinand - Networks Division, represented the Board.

The Water Dogz became **Louisiana Water Environment Association State Champions** last month in Lafayette. Their next competition will be in Chicago at the Water Environment Federation WEF Annual Conference in October.