

Biography for Capt. Jack Varnado

House Energy and Commerce Communications and Technology Subcommittee Hearing

12.16.2025

Capt. Jack Varnado began his public safety career in 1986 as a volunteer firefighter where he earned his EMT-Basic certification. Capt. Varnado began working in emergency communications in 1989 as a line-level Emergency Communications Officer with East Baton Rouge Parish EMS/9-1-1 and was promoted through the ranks to become Chief of Communications. He then moved into Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness before becoming the Deputy Director at St. Tammany Parish Communications District in March 2004. In May of 2013, Capt. Varnado began the position of Captain at Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office, Communications Division, in the parish he has called home for nearly 30 years. In this position, Capt. Varnado was responsible for 9-1-1 Operations and Emergency Communications for 7 Law Enforcement Agencies and 11 Fire Departments.

Capt. Varnado then moved into the 9-1-1 Director position with Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office where he is overseeing the current transition to the FIRST true Next Generation 9-1-1 System in Louisiana along with a new cloud-based CAD System.

Capt. Varnado has also served as an Adjunct Instructor with APCO International from 2002-2020. During this time, he had the honor of representing the APCO Institute in Amman, Jordan where he conducted training for the Jordanian National Police Force. He also conducted training at the APCO World Congress in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Capt. Varnado was elected as APCO's First Vice President in 2024 and transitioned to President in July 2025. Prior to this role Capt. Varnado served on the APCO Board of Directors representing the Gulf Coast Region.

Capt. Varnado enjoys spending time with his wife Peggy and their children, Madelynn (26) and Jacob (24), on their family farm.