



Colonial Heights Police Department

2018 Annual Report



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

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Message from the Chief of Police

It has been a most productive year in the City of Colonial Heights. Keeping our community safe and having our residents feel safe remain top priorities as the demands and expectations of a diverse community continue to challenge us on a regular basis. As a department, we are committed to adapting to changing needs, and we will continue to provide the best possible service to everyone in our community. It is a true honor to lead such an exceptional team. Our officers work very hard every single day to keep our community safe and to continue to provide a high quality of life for all citizens and visitors to our area. As our city continues to develop, the increasing demand on police services is still being met as we strive to maintain and improve relationships with all aspects of our community.

I want to personally thank you for taking the time to review our **2018 Annual Report**, and for taking an interest in your police department. This annual report is just a summary of the many services and programs that we provide to all who live in or visit the City of Colonial Heights. We work collaboratively to address crime concerns and quality-of-life issues with all stakeholders in our community. Realizing the importance of everyone working together to address issues in our city, we dedicate ourselves to educating our citizens on crime prevention and safety programs. Law enforcement is a job that we cannot do alone. Through collaborative efforts, hard work, and a true desire to improve lives, we have earned the trust of the people we serve. We share a close and beneficial relationship with our school system and our businesses. Our partnerships with citizens enhance public safety, improve relationships, and continue to make the City of Colonial Heights a very desirable place to live, work and visit.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or anyone in our department if you have questions, or if you or your group would like any information about the services that we provide. We look forward to another successful and rewarding year ahead for all who call the City of Colonial Heights home.

Respectfully,

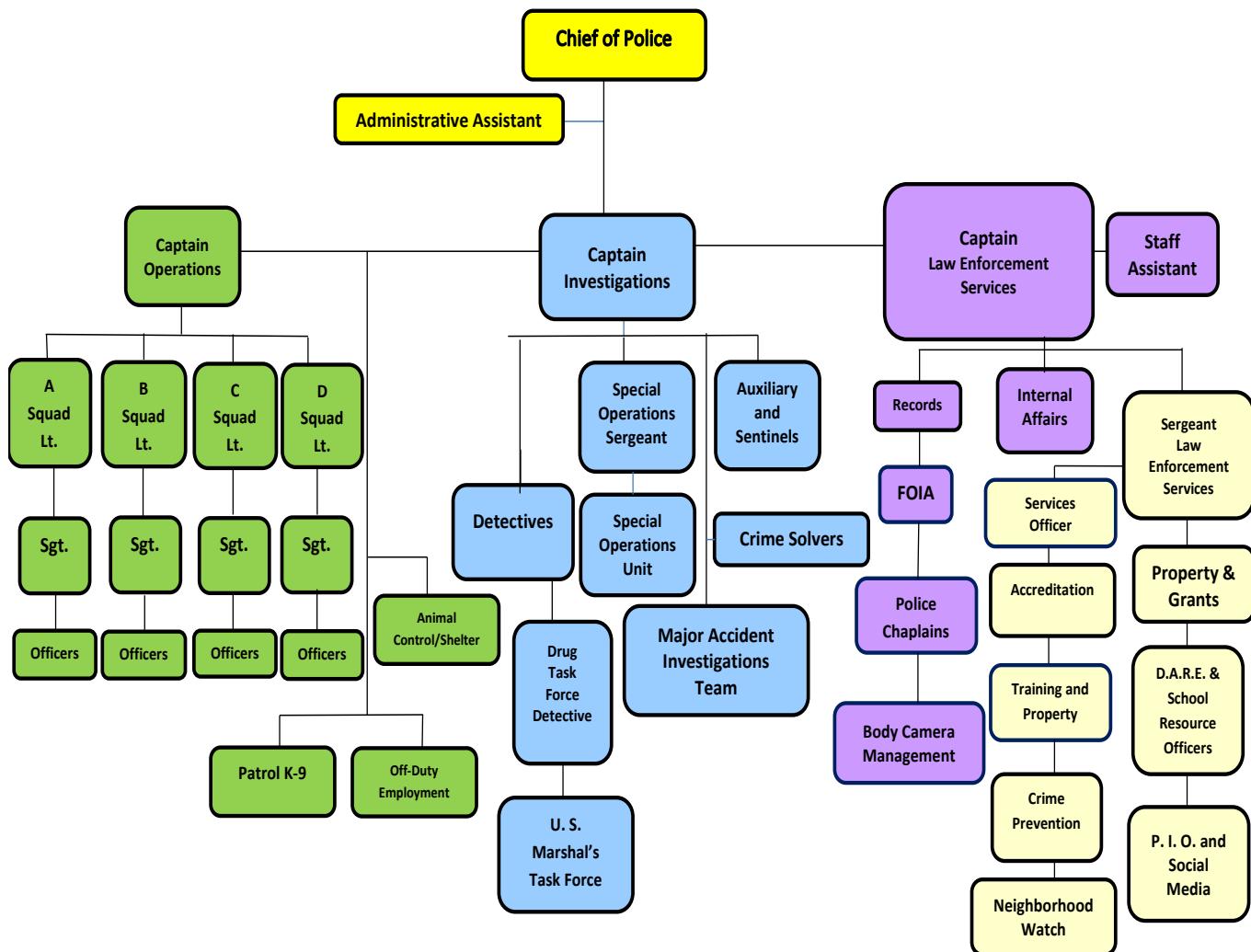
A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Col. Jeffrey W. Faries".

Colonel Jeffrey W. Faries
Chief of Police



Colonial Heights Police Department

2018 Organizational Chart





MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Colonial Heights Police Department is to protect the life, individual liberty and property of all people within the City of Colonial Heights, to develop and actively pursue a positive relationship with members of the community and to foster a positive working environment for members of the Colonial Heights Police Department.

DEPARTMENT GOALS

The employees of the Colonial Heights Police Department are committed to accomplishing our mission through attainment of the following goals:

- Preserving individual rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States
- Effectively enforcing state and local laws and ordinances
- Aggressively investigating criminal offenses
- Providing timely apprehension of persons suspected of committing criminal acts
- Effectively managing departmental resources for optimal service delivery to all citizens
- Providing impartial, competent, and courteous service to the public without regard to race, creed, or gender



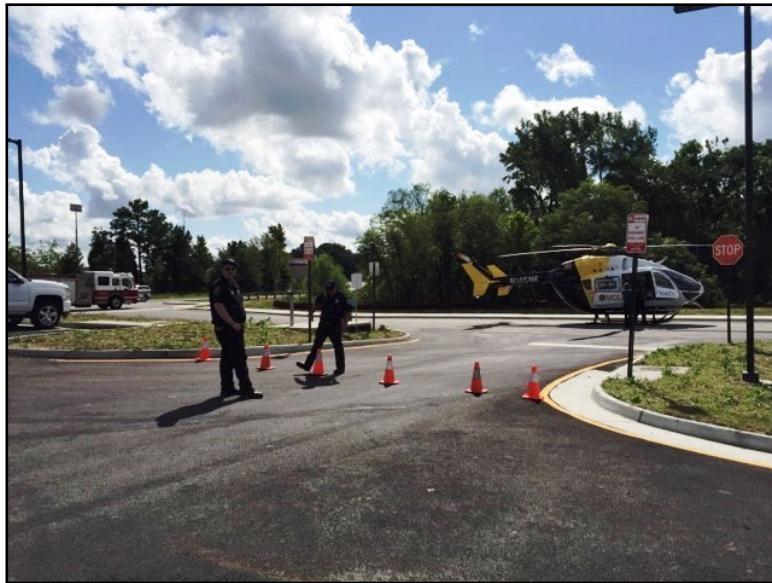
OPERATIONS DIVISION

Uniform Patrol

The Uniform Patrol Division falls under the purview of Captain Steve Groat, who is the Operations Division Commander. The division is comprised of 31 sworn officers divided amongst four squads. Each squad consists of a lieutenant, sergeant, and patrol officers. Squad personnel provide police protection 24/7, working 12-hour shifts.

Uniform Patrol officers provide a myriad of services to our community. Some of their responsibilities include: responding to calls for service, enforcing state and local criminal and traffic laws, conducting investigations, processing evidence, testifying in court, proactively identifying and addressing quality-of-life issues and concerns, and providing general guidance for citizen inquiries.

The department has a strong belief in building partnerships with the citizenry, other city departments, business leaders, civic organizations, and other criminal justice agencies. These relationships are critical in order for the department to provide the best multi-dimensional services as possible.



Investigations Division



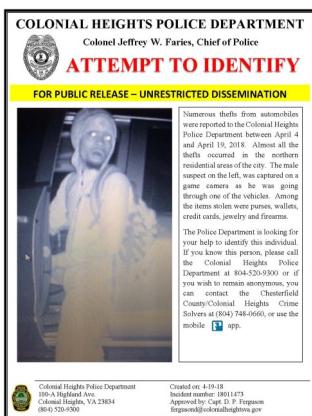
The Investigations Division of the Colonial Heights Police Department is guided by Captain Dann Ferguson and is comprised of two sergeants, three general detectives, two Task Force detectives, and two special operations officers. Detectives have the primary responsibility in the investigation of serious or serial crimes. Crimes commonly assigned to the detectives include rape, robbery, homicide, burglary, sex offenses, missing persons and fraud-related incidents. Task Force officers are assigned to the Virginia State Police Central Virginia Regional Narcotics Task Force, with a primary focus on investigations on middle- and upper-level drug dealers in the Tri-Cities, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie and Prince George Counties. The U.S. Marshals Service Regional Fugitive Task Force is a joint effort that investigates and apprehends local, state and federal fugitives, thereby improving public safety and reducing violent crime. The Special Operations Unit is a specialty unit comprised of police officers who concentrate on quality-of-life crimes (disorderly conduct, public intoxication, prostitution, etc.), narcotics, gang activity and any other tasks that would require their specialized skill set.

Officers assigned to the Investigations Division are charged with the task of bringing each assigned incident or case to closure. This is accomplished through the identification, evaluation, collection and documentation of facts and evidence specific to the incident. It is further consummated through a variety of interviews with victims, witnesses, suspects, etc. When it has been determined that a crime has been committed, all aspects of the case are compiled and forwarded to the Commonwealth Attorney's Office for prosecution in court.

Each officer is trained in basic investigation, interviewing, interrogation, forensics and photography. Specialty courses such as computer fraud, internet crimes, child sexual abuse, forensic science courses, narcotics investigations and social media have been completed by most of the officers. Officers are regularly enrolled in advanced training to expand their knowledge and skills necessary to carry out these complex investigations.

The Investigations Division routinely works with local, state and federal agencies while investigating crimes occurring in Colonial Heights and the region. Agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigations; U.S. Secret Service; Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; Virginia Lottery and the Virginia State Police provide or receive assistance from the Investigations Division annually.

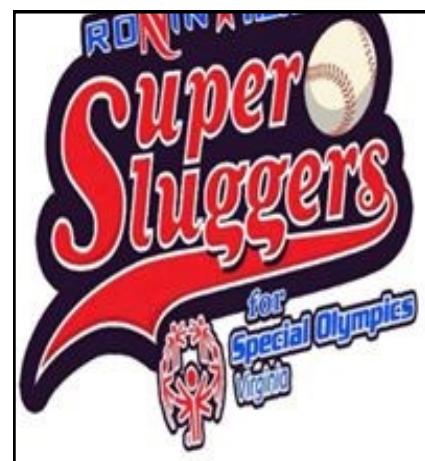
In 2018, CHPD partnered with the Chesterfield County Child Advocacy Center. The C.A.C. is a safe environment where children can reveal what has happened to them while in the presence of law enforcement and specially trained forensic counselors. This prevents the child victim from having to relive their victimization on multiple occasions. Victims and their families are provided with and can receive access to counselors, crisis intervention specialists and medical professionals, all in one central location.



Law Enforcement Services Division



Captain William Anspach commands the Division of Law Enforcement Services. Their mission is to provide support to all officers and staff of the Colonial Heights Police Department. The division is responsible for training; maintenance and purchasing of equipment; management of the property and evidence room; handling of social media and media relations; and overseeing accreditation and crime prevention. Additionally, the division conducts inspections, manages grants, and maintains and controls all departmental records and special projects, to include the body camera program. The Law Enforcement Services Division encompasses a services sergeant, an accreditation and crime prevention officer, Records personnel, and five School Resource Officers. Throughout the year, the division holds numerous community events such as Celebrate Safe Communities Night, drug take-backs, and other events that help to keep the community informed and in touch with their police department.



Law Enforcement Services Division



In 2012, the Colonial Heights Police Department was the first agency in the tri-cities to achieve accredited status. Each year since then, our agency has worked to ensure that we are meeting the requirements of the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission by providing "proofs" of compliance for more than 700 standards. In December of 2016, three certified VLEPSC assessors visited our agency for two days, thoroughly inspecting our operation from top to bottom. The result was that in January of 2017, we received our first reaccreditation certificate and a nearly flawless report from the assessors. Even with an assessment in 2017, the department understands the importance of this program and in July of 2018, six assessors from across the State conducted a "mock" assessment of our files, at our request. Although we received high marks, this practice assessment affords us an opportunity to improve and ensure that we are operating at our best. Our commitment to being an accredited agency shows our citizens that not only are we committed to professional police service, but also it provides a working environment that our employees can be proud of.

According to VLEPSC:

"Accreditation increases the law enforcement agency's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services to the community it serves. Accreditation enhances community understanding of the law enforcement agency and its role in the community as well as its goals and objectives. Citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency is increased. Accreditation, in conjunction with the philosophy of community policing, commits the agency to a broad range of programs (such as crime prevention) that directly benefit the public. Accreditation creates a forum in which police and citizens work together to control and prevent crime. This partnership will help citizens to understand the challenges that confront law enforcement. Law enforcement will, in turn, receive clear direction from the community about its expectations. Thus, a common set of goals and objectives will be arrived at and implemented."





SCHOOL RESOURCE



Career Officer Mike Duncan
Tussing Elementary



Master Officer Dale Waldrop
Colonial Heights High School

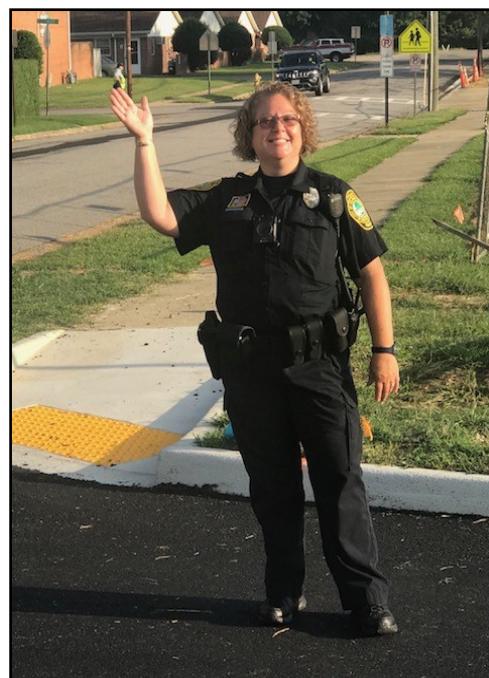


Master Officer Jared Brandederry
Colonial Heights Middle School



Senior Officer Andrew Barnhouse
Lakeview Elementary

The Colonial Heights Police Department is thankful to have five police officers who serve as full-time school resource officers. These officers provide a visible and positive image to their students, as well as a safe environment that is conducive to learning. SRO's also provide security at afterschool and sporting events, evaluate security threats and investigate and make criminal arrests. During the summer months and school vacations, SRO's assist the Operations Division by providing additional patrol coverage.



Master Officer Sophie Benkendorf
North Elementary



2018 Highlights

Meet your New Police Officer



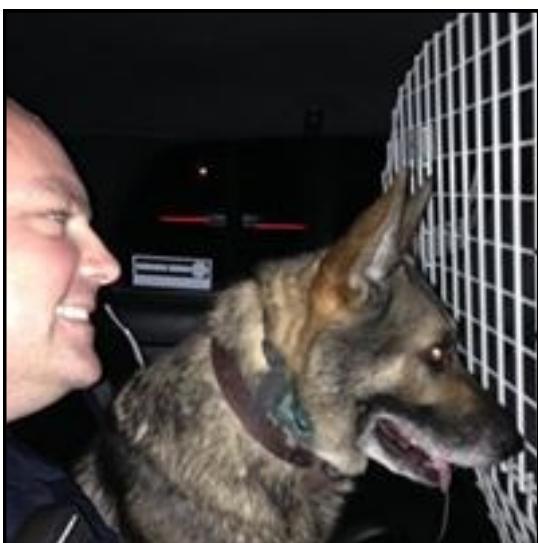
In September of 2018, Auxiliary Officer Jason Poe graduated from the 91st Basic Law Enforcement Police Academy. As a volunteer, Officer Poe was not required to complete a full-fledged police academy, but Jason was committed to the training. In fact, Jason was so committed that he walked away from his 9:00 to 5:00 job in order to attend the academy full time. Shortly after Jason began his field training, a vacancy in the police department opened up and he quickly applied to be a full-time police officer. In December of 2018, his hard work and determination paid off when he was officially hired as a Colonial Heights police officer.



2018 Highlights

K-9 Retirement

After eight years of service to our community, K-9 Blitz retired. Throughout his career, Blitz not only served the citizens of Colonial Heights by locating dangerous drugs, but he also served all the jurisdictions in the tri-cities area. Blitz routinely showed off his talents with demonstration events for D.A.R.E. and area businesses. He will continue to live with his handler and partner for all of those eight years, Master Officer Eric Allen.





2018 Highlights



On October 1, 2018, Captain William H. Anspach, III, attended the 274th Session of the FBI National Academy. A residential program, the FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement leaders that serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad. Its objective is to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge and cooperation worldwide. Its mission is "to support, promote, and enhance the personal and professional development of law enforcement leaders by preparing them for complex, dynamic and contemporary challenges through innovative techniques, facilitating excellence in education and research, and forging partnerships throughout the world. On December 14th, after 11 weeks of classroom study and physical training, Captain Anspach graduated and received a coveted "Yellow Brick", which not only signifies graduation, but also his successful completion of the Yellow Brick Road Marine Corp Confidence Course. Captain Anspach joins Chief Jeffrey W. Faries as alumni of the program.



2018 Prescription Take-Back Events



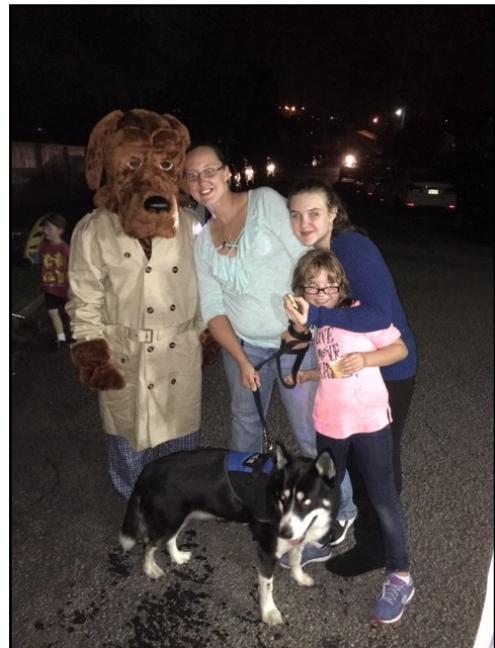
During 2018, CHPD participated in two separate prescription drug take-back events. During these events, we collected 575 pounds of unused prescription medications. Thanks to our partnership with CVS, we also collected another 195 pounds of prescription medications through our unwanted prescription drop box, located in the lobby of the police department.





2018 Celebrate Safe Communities

On October 2nd, our community enjoyed a night out in our neighborhoods to "Celebrate Safe Communities". This year, 24 host families and businesses served food, enjoyed fellowship and discussed ways to deter crime in their neighborhood. We even had an open house at the police department and invited the community to come inside and see how their police department is working each day to keep them safe and secure.



2018 Honors and Awards



Officer Robert Brown received the American Legion "Officer of the Year" award for 2017



Sergeant Renee Walters received the Chamber of Commerce "Officer of the Year" award for 2017.



In 2018, Auxiliary Police Officer Bill Feasenmyer was the inaugural recipient of the Wiegratz and Miller "Volunteer of the Year" award".



In October of 2018, MADD recognized Sergeant Mike Foster for his pro-active work to keep drunk drivers off our roadways.

2018 Bloodhound Activities



Career Officer Chris Wulff and his K-9 Partner, Rose



2018 was a busy year for Rose. Rose and her handler, Career Officer Chris Wulff, responded to over 30 calls for K-9 related services, not only serving the citizens of Colonial Heights, but also aiding neighboring jurisdictions, to include Chesterfield County, Prince George County, Hopewell and Petersburg. The types of calls Rose and CPO Wulff responded to vary from attempting to locate burglary and assault suspects, to trailing missing adults and runaway children.

Our finest moment was when Rose and CPO Wulff were able to locate a mentally handicapped adult who had wandered away from his residence in Dinwiddie County. The adult male was located safely approximately a mile and a half away sleeping in the woods.

Rose and CPO Wulff attend hundreds of hours of training each year to sharpen and maintain their respective skills. This training is in partnership with other jurisdictions, including Newport News Police, Isle of White County, Newport News Sheriff's office, Franklin County and Portsmouth. In addition to being members of the Virginia Police Working Dog Association, Rose and CPO Wulff have recently been accepted into the Virginia Bloodhound Search and Rescue Association.



2018 Narcotics K-9 Activities



Senior Police Officer H.P. Calhoun and his K-9 Partner, *Justice*

The year 2018 was a good year for K-9 Justice. After successfully completing basic police narcotics training school, he and Sr. Officer Calhoun both were successfully certified by the Virginia Police Work Dog Association. Since then, K-9 Justice has been working to keep the City of Colonial Heights safe by removing illegal narcotics off the streets. K-9 Justice and Sr. Officer Calhoun have been deployed to search over 160 items, most commonly vehicles and people.

K-9 Justice has been responsible for 35 arrest warrants and has recovered marijuana, heroin, meth, and cocaine off of the streets. He has also been responsible for the seizure of illegal firearms. His most notable deployment was on Interstate 95, when he was called to assist another CHPD officer with a traffic stop. During this stop, K-9 Justice alerted on the vehicle. Along with a large amount of crack cocaine, an AK-47 assault rifle was also recovered.

K-9 Justice has been used several times by surrounding jurisdictions. He has helped to make an already strong working relationship with Chesterfield County Police even stronger. Sr. Officer Calhoun and K-9 Justice participate in a minimum of 16 hours of retraining every month. The team trains regularly with the K-9 Units of both the City of Richmond Police and Chesterfield County Police.

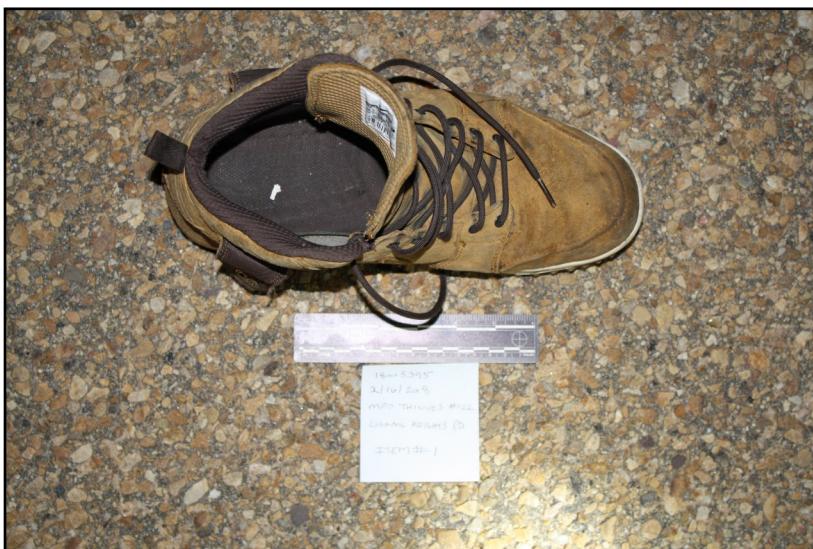




MAJOR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM

Officers assigned to the Major Accident Investigation Team (M.A.I.T.) are responsible for investigating fatal and major vehicle crashes, as well as crashes involving police department vehicles. M.A.I.T. members also provide expertise to patrol officers regarding the investigation of less serious crashes. Many investigations conducted by the team involve the determination of speed, crash reconstruction, interviewing witnesses, collecting and preserving forensic evidence, and courtroom testimony.

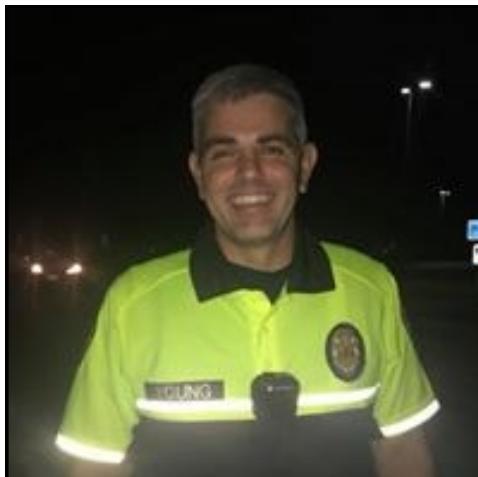
In 2018, M.A.I.T. officers investigated one fatality crash that was determined to be a medical incident and one crash with serious injuries that involved a motor vehicle versus a pedestrian.



AUXILIARY AND VOLUNTEERS



The City of Colonial Heights has always valued the citizens who volunteer their time and services for the betterment of the City. The Police Department is no different. Each year, our Auxiliary and Sentinels volunteer thousands of hours to our department. The year 2018 was no different, with our volunteers contributing 2,854 hours to our department. This time was spent patrolling our neighborhoods and businesses, assisting with extraditions, guarding prisoners, training, and countless other tasks that would otherwise require a police officer to complete.



Auxiliary Officer Bill Feasenmyer is honored as "Volunteer of the Year" at CHPD's annual Honors and Awards Banquet for the many hours he contributes to the City

In June of 2018, the CHPD Auxiliary, with the assistance of Dance's Sporting Goods, raised money by raffling off a Yeti cooler

CHPD Hosts the 24th Annual Tri-Cities Law Enforcement Memorial Breakfast



In 2018, the Colonial Heights Police Department was the host agency for the 24th Annual Tri-Cities Law Enforcement Memorial Breakfast. This event brought together nearly 300 officers, family members of fallen officers and community members to pay tribute to those officers in the tri-Cities who have made the ultimate sacrifice. As the host agency, our invited guest was Virginia's Speaker of the House and Colonial Heights' very own Delegate Kirk Cox.



C.R.A.S.E. Training Begins



In 2018, CHPD began teaching **Civilian Response to an Active Shooter Event**, or "C.R.A.S.E.", to businesses, schools, city employees, churches and any other group that was interested in learning more about this topic. In 2018, CHPD officers provided nearly 700 individuals with this life-saving information.



Operation Public Eye

New Initiative in 2018



In 2018, CHPD began a new program to help identify those citizens who own private security cameras and would be willing to share with our agency any videos that could contain evidence of a crime. The **“Operation Public Eye”** link can be found on our webpage and is just another way our citizens can partner with their police department to help solve crimes in our neighborhoods.

Media Release

Colonial Heights Police Department

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Colonel Jeffrey W. Faries, Chief of Police

100 A Highland Avenue

Colonial Heights, VA 23834 (804-520-9300)

www.colonialheightsva.gov

www.facebook.com/colonialheightspolice



Colonial Heights Police Launch

“Operation Public Eye”

Do you currently use private video surveillance at your home or business? If you do, we would like to hear from you. This new initiative will enable residents and businesses to help fight crime that takes place in the City. This voluntary program will give law enforcement access to surveillance recordings of criminal incidents.

The Colonial Heights Police Department is asking residents and businesses in the City to register their privately owned surveillance camera systems. As our department responds to incidents throughout the City, we may be able to use footage gathered from these security cameras to assist in the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals involved. By registering your system, we can identify nearby cameras that may have captured criminal activity. The department will only contact you in the event that an incident occurs in an area where your surveillance system may provide assistance.

Registration is simple and only takes a few minutes. You will provide basic information and let us know where your cameras are located. There is no cost associated with registration.

You can register your camera by going to the City’s website at www.colonialheightsva.gov and following the link on the Police Department’s site.

If you have additional questions regarding this program and/or need assistance regarding any crime prevention matter, please contact Career Officer Scott Whirley at 804-520-9318 or by email at whirleys@colonialheightsva.gov.

Public Information Officer: Sgt. Renee Walters (804)520-9306 waltersr@colonialheightsva.gov



COLONIAL HEIGHTS ANIMAL SHELTER

2018

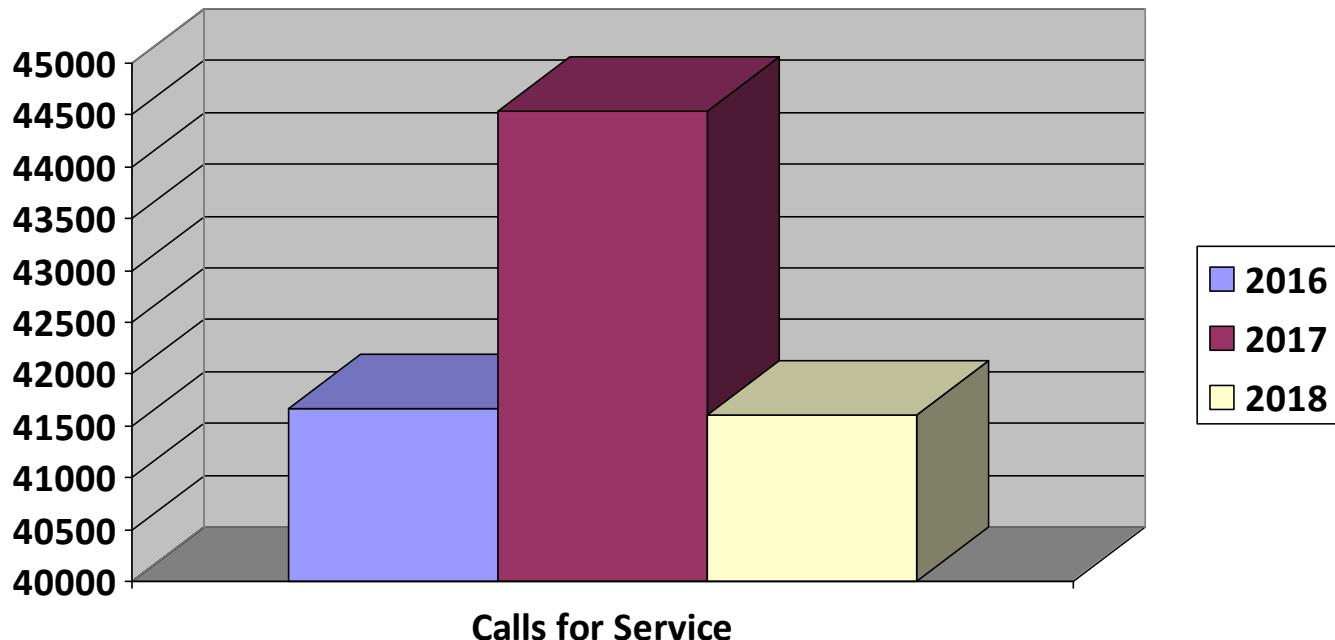
	STRAYS	SURRENDERED	RETURNED TO OWNER	ADOPTED	EUTHANIZED	TOTAL ANIMALS
DOGS	157	113	128	91	1	327
CATS	199	49	27	172	5	248





Calls for Service

Year	Calls for Service
2016	41,664
2017	44,540
2018	41,607





2018 Crime and Traffic Statistics

Part I Crime Clearances

Crime	Number of Offenses	Cases Cleared	% Cleared
Homicide	0	0	100%
Rape	7	7	100%
Robbery	9	7	77%
Aggravated Assault	22	22	100%
Total Violent Crimes	38	36	95%
Break & Enter	32	21	65%
Larceny	685	381	56%
Vehicle Theft	27	11	41%
Arson	2	1	50%
Total Property Crimes:	746	414	55%
Total Part I Crimes:	784	450	57%



2018 Part I Crimes Comparisons

Crime	2016	2017	2018
Homicide	0	2	0
Rape	6	4	7
Robbery	17	18	9
Aggravated Assault	17	18	22
Total Violent Crimes	43	46	38
Break & Enter	48	25	32
Larceny	785	701	685
Vehicle Theft	20	17	27
Arson	2	8	2
Total Property Crimes	855	751	746
Total Part I Crimes	898	797	784



OTHER REPORTED CRIMES

Crime	2016	2017	2018
Simple Assaults	150	200	205
Assaults on Police	12	13	24
Annoying Phone Calls	5	12	10
Bomb Threats	3	1	1
Child Neglect	35	54	20
Curfew Violations	10	8	8
Drugs/Narcotics	329	517	392
Disorderly Conduct	27	13	25
Domestic Violence	360	346	365
Drunkenness	76	41	52
Embezzlement	40	16	27
Credit Card Fraud	70	78	69
Fraud by Swindle	101	94	117
Forgery	57	46	29
Hit and Run	170	176	154
Kidnapping/Abduction	11	5	7
Missing Person	9	11	18
Resist Arrest	33	35	25
Pornography	4	10	5
Indecent Exposure	4	6	7
Sexual Assault	34	33	19
Stalking	3	1	2
Suicide	4	2	2
Trespassing	52	53	61
Vandalism	173	128	94
Weapons Violations	39	73	54
All Other Offenses	920	952	1,178



PERSONS ARRESTED BY OFFENSE

Offense Type	2016	2017	2018
Homicide	0	2	0
Manslaughter	1	0	0
Rape	4	3	4
Robbery	11	20	11
Aggravated Assault	11	23	22
Other Assault	186	187	208
Burglary	30	24	19
Larceny	756	666	533
Vehicle Theft	7	9	7
Arson	2	9	2
Forgery / Counterfeit	56	45	39
Fraud	188	130	173
Embezzlement	58	25	38
Vandalism	78	61	39
Weapons Offenses	54	137	83
Sex Offenses	26	24	10
Drug Sales	33	113	66
Drug Possession	337	604	328
DUI	154	162	190
Alcohol Violations	58	43	40
Drunk in Public	82	42	54
Disorderly	42	50	52
Runaway	29	11	12
Curfew	39	8	29
Other	1858	1861	1891
TOTAL	4,100	4,259	3,850



DOMESTIC CALLS FOR SERVICE 2018

	2016	2017	2018
Total Domestic Calls for Service	360	346	365
Total Arrests	99	106	118
Adult Male	63	58	75
Adult Female	28	37	30
Juvenile Male	7	6	4
Juvenile Female	1	6	9

ASSAULTS ON POLICE 2018

Type of Call	2016	2017	2018
Disturbance	4	0	7
Handling Prisoner	1	0	5
Other Arrest	4	5	6
Traffic Pursuit / Stop	3	2	3
Mental Subject	1	3	0
B&E in Progress	0	1	0
Suspicious Person	0	2	3
Total Assaults	13	13	24

TRAFFIC OFFENSES BY TYPE



Offense	2016	2017	2018
DUI	154	162	190
DUI Test Refusal	27	35	33
Speeding (Radar)	1176	2536	1735
Reckless (Speeding)	70	107	82
Reckless (General)	52	51	29
Habitual Offender	12	9	4
Hit and Run	36	34	35
Following too Closely	118	129	116
Fail to Keep Proper Control	14	17	14
Improper Turn	5	7	1
Improper Lane Change	44	51	37
Fail to Obey Highway Sign	512	711	625
Fail to Obey Highway Signal	135	167	106
Fail to Yield	87	103	77
Fail to Obey Siren/Lights	33	31	18
Expired or No Operator's Li-	283	391	316
Suspended Operator's License	536	695	477
No Safety Restraint	133	163	241
No Insurance	52	100	90
Expired or No Inspection	540	763	833
Expired or No Registration	157	200	142
Expired or No License Plates	470	474	501
Improper Equipment	356	403	328
Fail to Dim Headlights	57	23	16
Miscellaneous	108	264	198
TOTAL	5,651	5,178	6,244



TOP TEN CRASH LOCATIONS

Rank	Location	2018
1	Parking Lots	201
2	Temple/Roundabout	78
3	Temple/Conduit	47
4	Southpark Boulevard/ Temple Avenue	24
5	Charles Dimmock/ Southpark Boulevard	23
6	Boulevard/Temple	21
7	Charles Dimmock/Temple	20
8	Boulevard/Ellerslie	14
9	Conduit/Southpark Circle	13
10	Boulevard/Dupuy Tied with East Roslyn/ Southpark Blvd.	7

TRAFFIC CRASHES BY MONTH

MONTH	2017	2018
January	77	73
February	81	88
March	101	118
April	91	76
May	110	107
June	81	113
July	88	73
August	114	101
September	95	78
October	115	94
November	96	114
December	124	109



2018 Agency Internal Activities

Response to Resistance by Quarter for the Year 2018 Total Calls for Service 41,607

First Quarter (January, February, March)

Taser	ASP	Control Hold	Spike Strip	Pepperball	Handgun Displayed	OC Spray
02	0	06	0	0	02	0

Second Quarter (April, May, June)

Taser	ASP	Control Hold	Spike Strip	Pepperball	Handgun Displayed	OC Spray
02	0	05	0	0	04	0

Third Quarter (July, August, September)

Taser	ASP	Control Hold	Spike Strip	Pepperball	Handgun Displayed	OC Spray
01	01	02	0	0	02	0

Fourth Quarter (October, November, December)

Taser	ASP	Control Hold	Spike Strip	Pepperball	Handgun Displayed	OC Spray
0	0	04	01	0	01	0

Emergency Vehicle Pursuits by Quarter for the year 2018

First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
01	05	02	03

During 2018, our agency received and investigated a total of 12 complaints against officers. Each incident was assigned and investigated, no matter if the complainant was known or anonymous. Investigations into these incidents resulted in 10 of the matters being unfounded and two were founded.



Dedication

We would like to dedicate our **2018 Annual Report** to those individuals who were instrumental in making this year's annual "**Heroes and Helpers**" shopping event the best ever.

In December of 2015, the Colonial Heights Police Department began a partnership with the Colonial Heights Target in order to bring Christmas to children who may not otherwise have the opportunity. The event was a success. As the event grew, more volunteers and sponsors joined in to meet the needs of the community.

In December of 2018, CHPD, Target, Colonial Heights schools, Colonial Heights Kiwanis, and Sedona Tap House partnered to bring smiles to the faces of 37 children and their families. More than 40 volunteers descended upon Target and, together, children, families, police officers, school officials and community leaders shopped for Christmas presents.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone involved and say how thankful we are to have individuals in our community who are willing to step forward and be a part of these events. This is just one of the reasons our Community is so special and why living in Colonial Heights is truly a joy.

