

TOWN OF VINTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Serving the Citizens of Vinton
and
surrounding areas

WWW.VINTONPOLICE.COM



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2014

Foreword from the Chief



***Benjamin L. Cook
Chief of Police***

The Vinton Police Department's annual report for 2014 contains an overview of department activities, operations, and accomplishments of the department throughout the year. We continue to focus on providing professional police services to the community, and maintaining positive relationships and partnerships with those that we proudly serve and to create a safe place in which our citizens can live, work, and travel. Our officers are committed to ensuring that those we serve are provided safety, security, and outstanding customer service. Our officer's respond to many calls for service including fire and medical incidents and have been able to help those in need no matter what type of situation they find themselves in.

We continue to maintain a close relationship with the residents and businesses in our community through initiatives such as Citizen Police Academies, Neighborhood Watch groups, the Business contact program, citizen surveys, school liaison officers, senior citizen groups, and others. We also keep the department up to date with improvements in equipment, training, education, and technology.

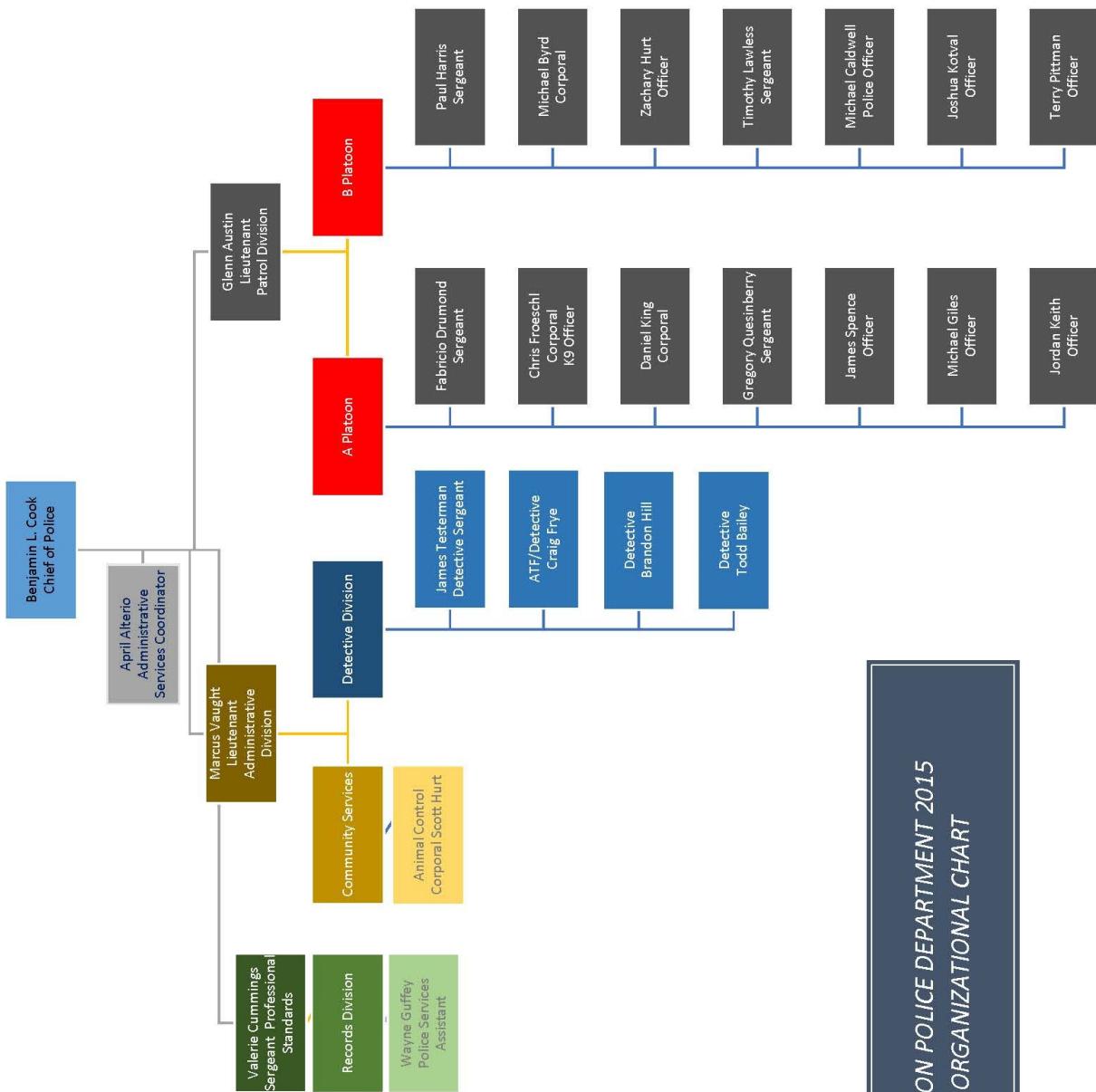
In September of this year, the department received it's fourth accreditation status through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, a designation that we work hard for and are very proud of. By being an accredited agency, it demonstrates our commitment to excellence in professionalism and integrity.

Through our partnerships with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, we have been able to create a cooperative and effective system of interaction and information sharing that has been proven successful in the investigation of crime and the prosecution of those who commit criminal offenses. We continue to have a Detective serve on the ATF task force, and assigned a Detective this year to work with the Roanoke Valley Regional Drug Team. Both of these officers are committed to making our community safer by addressing the problems we face with illegal narcotics and weapon violations.

The Vinton Police Department is a dedicated and professional group of officers and staff who will continue to work diligently to provide good customer service and ensure the best quality of life possible to those we serve. Thank you for reviewing our annual report and have a safe 2015!

2014

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



VINTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 2015
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

2014

RE-ACCREDITATION

At the November 18th Council meeting, Sheriff Ric Atkins, who serves on the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, and Program Director Gary Dillon with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, presented Chief Cook and the Vinton Police Department with it's fourth accreditation certificate. The department is proud to be an accredited police agency and has met all standards of professionalism set forth by the commission each year.

Pictured are Gary Dillon, Sheriff Ric Atkins, Chief Cook, and Sergeant Valerie Cummings, who is the departments Accreditation Manager.





2014

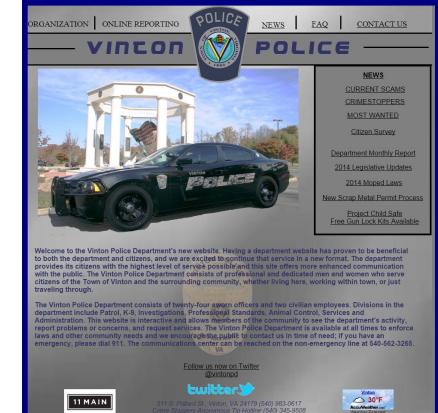
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Citizen Online Police Reporting



Police Department Website
WWW.VINTONPOLICE.COM

Jimmy Testerman
Detective Sergeant



In October of 2012, the Town of Vinton Police Department developed a new website, which expands upon features of the department's previous website and is maintained as a community oriented policing tool. The online reporting feature still enables the citizens of Vinton to effectively communicate with our department anytime of the day or night within the comfort of their homes or businesses. Not only is the site beneficial to the citizens by allowing them to voice their concerns through online reporting, but it offers a two-way communication platform from which the department can pass along critical information pertaining to the safety and welfare of its citizens.

In 2014, the Vinton Police Department website identified 6,930 unique visitors. A unique visitor basically identifies a person who has accessed a site and is based on the different IP addresses captured. Among those visitors, 363,600 page hits were recorded. Page hits are essentially captured every time a visitor selects content to look at on the website. It was found that August was the busiest month for website activity. Thursdays were the busiest days for activity during the week and the most popular time was around 6:00 p.m. Other than the United States customers who viewed the website, Finland was the second most popular country to access the site among other nations. Employment applications were the most downloaded content. The "Contact Us" and "Citizen Ride Along" forms were among the most popular submissions from our citizens, which totaled 152 submissions.

We encourage the public to visit the site and take advantage of what it has to offer. Citizens can access information pertaining to state and town laws, monthly/yearly department reports, animal control issues, court information, accident reports, crime statistics, citizen police academy information, employment, and much more. Citizens can also submit information pertaining to crime/traffic complaints, anonymous tips, officer complaints, and vacation/business watches.

You can also follow us on Twitter to get the latest news and information as it happens.





2014

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Citizens Police Academy

The 2014 Basic Citizen Police Academy, 9th Session, graduated on November 10, 2014, with the ceremony being held at the Vinton War Memorial.

Congratulations to all the Graduates !

Patsy Crowder
Charles Garner
Matt Hoyle
Bill Kayser
Chris McCarty
Bob McDaniel
Kim Miller

Tammi Wood

Kim Miller
Donna Pickett
Carol Simmons
Sandra Stump
Larry Tabor
Sabrina Weeks
Floyd Wood

Also pictured is Chief Benjamin Cook, Sergeant Paul Harris and Alumna Shirley Patsel





2014

SPECIAL EVENTS



Sergeant Greg Jones, Retired

After 16 years of Law Enforcement service, Sergeant Greg Jones retired from the Town of Vinton on September 30th. Greg started with the Police Department on March 3, 1998, he was promoted to Master Police Officer in 2006 and Sergeant in 2008.

Town Christmas Luncheon

The Town Luncheon was held at the Vinton War Memorial on December 10th. Sergeant Valerie Cummings was recognized for her 15 years of service, Detective Craig Frye for his 10 years of service and Sergeant Fabricio Drumond for his 5 years of service to the Town of Vinton Police Department.





2014

SPECIAL EVENTS



The Drug Take Back program was held on Saturday, April 26th, and September 27, 2014, at several locations in Roanoke, Vinton, and Salem. Medication was safely collected and then destroyed by local law enforcement and DEA Agents.



The event collected 532 pounds of various drugs from the Kroger location in Vinton. A total of 22,855.3 was collected statewide for the entire event.



The Vinton Police Department partnered with the General Federation of Women's clubs, The Vinton Women's Club, to recognize National

Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Women's Club signified the event by planting pinwheels in front of the Municipal Building. This event was recognized by Town Council in the April 1st meeting.





SPECIAL EVENTS



The Vinton Police Department participated in the **Click It or Ticket** campaign during the month of May. Special enforcement efforts were focused on occupant safety and zero tolerance was given to violators who were not wearing their seat belt.

A survey to calculate seat belt usage was completed before and after the campaign to see if there was an improvement because of the program. We are happy to report that seat belt use did increase after the campaign, from 86% use before to 88% after.



National Night Out was held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 6:00 pm at the Vinton Farmers Market. National Night out is a night when all of the neighborhood watch groups get together and celebrate the hard work they have done through the year and



show support for the night out against crime initiative. There were 75-80 people in attendance including the Mayor and Council Members, Town staff and other local police and sheriff departments.

A Huge Thanks to the Homestead Creamery, Vito's Pizza, and our rocking DJ Michael Giles.





SPECIAL EVENTS

May 18th thru the 24th was National Police, Emergency Medical Services and Public Works week. During this week the Town showed it's appreciation to all the employees with Home Stead Creamery Ice Cream and Vito's Pizza.





2014

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NEW EMPLOYEE'S



Wayne Guffey joined the Vinton Police Department (Again) On March 31. He came to us from The Roanoke County Communications Center and has taken over the position of Police Services Assistant.

Welcome Wayne !



Welcome Joshua Kotval to the Vinton Police Department. Joshua started on June 2, 2014, coming to us from Botetourt County, where he was a Lieutenant in the Jail. He attended Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy this year.



Welcome Michael Giles to the Vinton Police Department. Michael came to us from the Carilion Police Department where he worked for 14 years as a Law Enforcement Officer.

2014

PROMOTIONS



Officer Michael Byrd was promoted to the rank of Master Police Officer effective July 1, 2014. Michael was hired on November 15, 2010.



Officer Christopher Froeschl was promoted to the rank of Master Police Officer effective July 1, 2014. He was hired on June 4, 2012.



Officer Greg Quesinberry was promoted to the rank of Master Police Officer effective July 1, 2014. He was hired on July 23, 2012.



2014

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SPECIAL EVENTS



Congratulations to Officer Zach Hurt and wife Katelyn for delivering a healthy baby girl. Rylan Lily Hurt was born on April 26, 2014 at 11:19 am, 7 lbs 11 oz.



Congratulations!!

Michael Caldwell and Kristi Leigh were married on July 14th in Myrtle Beach.

Random photo's



Special Olympics



Trick or Treat



Honoring Veterans



TRAINING

The Patrol Division participated in numerous training events throughout the year that will ultimately increase their skill sets and provide a better quality of law enforcement services to the public. All officers completed their annual training in CPR/AED training, TASER recertification, RADAR/LIDAR certification, legal updates, blood borne pathogens, and cultural diversity. Continuing education training for members of Patrol include a defensive tactics refresher (provided in house), Driver Instructor Training, LIDAR Instructor, Evidence Technician, Level B VCIN, Active Shooter Response, First Line Supervisors School, NHTSA Standardized Field Sobriety Test class, Inter-Agency Gang training Consortium, Gang prosecution and human trafficking, Gang Investigations and Gang Task Force Round-table, Sovereign Citizens, Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs Investigation, EC/R II Breath Test Operator School, Active Shooter training in Roanoke City academy and Colt M-16/AR-15 Armorer School. Three of our newest Officers completed Basic Law Enforcement training at Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy, and our newest K-9 officer completed Police Canine training with his partner Jax.

The department conducted two firearms qualifications this year, which demonstrates officer proficiency in the use of their duty weapons. This training incorporates tactical and simulated exercises and is an opportunity for officers to become more comfortable and proficient with the use of their firearms. Officers respond to scenarios, such as traffic stops, building clearing, and other use of force situations that require them to use their training and knowledge to safely and effectively resolve the situation. The Department continued to assimilate Patrol Rifles into the Patrol Division. These rifles provide officers additional tools to resolve critical incident response involving weapons. All Vinton Police Personnel are now trained in and assigned Patrol Rifles.





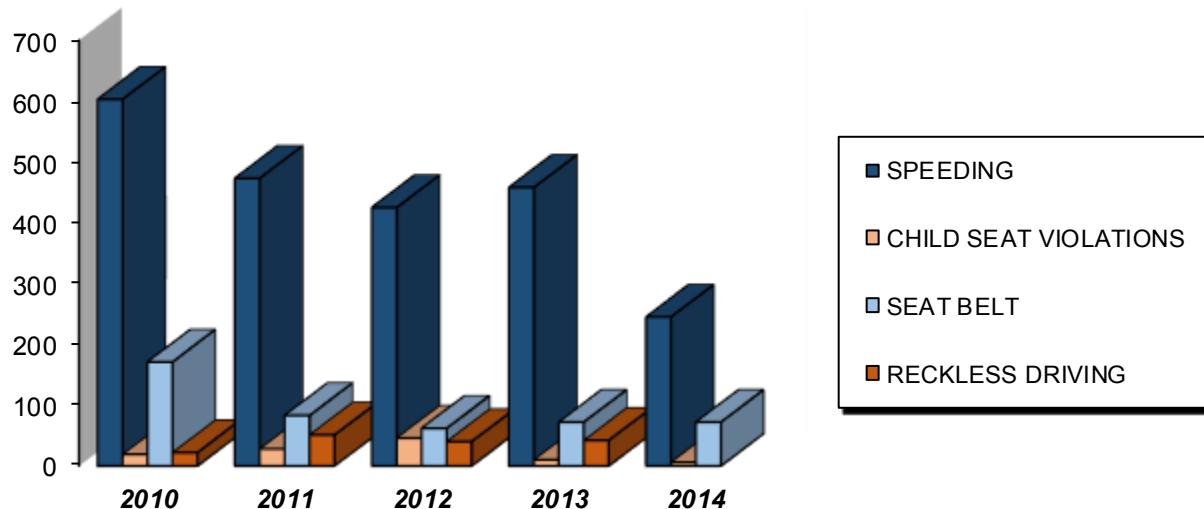
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Most people have experienced the “oh no” feeling after seeing a police car in the rear view mirror. Most people hit their brakes, even if they were not speeding. Personal physical reactions and experiences can influence perceptions of traffic enforcement efforts, and often prevent people from realizing its true benefits.

Traffic enforcement is the most recognizable and universal police function. Marked police cars are easy to see and many drivers have been stopped for a traffic violation. Because of the punitive consequences attached to traffic enforcement, many do not have an appreciation for the positive benefits. Additionally, “myths” can result from misconceptions about the goals and motivations of traffic enforcement.

When you see a car pulled over, remember that the law enforcement officer may be doing more than writing a traffic citation. The officer may be apprehending a wanted person, or removing weapons and drugs from your community. Traffic enforcement can and does contribute to the quality of life in your community. Localities can realize the benefits of traffic enforcement and highway safety efforts; roads and neighborhoods will be safer, and police agencies will have more time to effectively police their communities. The Vinton Police Department continues to increase traffic enforcement efforts to ensure public safety.

CITATION TOTALS 2010-2014



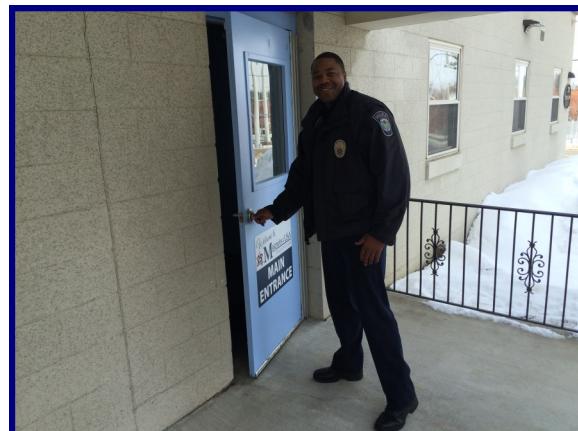


BUSINESS BLITZ

In 2001, the Vinton Police Department began a program in which officers were assigned certain businesses within the Town and would be the contact officer for that business. One purpose of the program was to have the officer obtain contact information about the business, which includes the address, type of business and emergency contact information in case someone from the business had to be called after normal working hours to be notified of a problem.

A continued goal of the program is to give the business owner a specific officer that they are familiar with so that the business owner can contact with questions or concerns. Typical concerns that are addressed involve parking issues, problems with customers and other situations. This also allows the officer to be familiar with the businesses and the layout of the property in case of certain emergencies. Emergency situations are handled by on-duty personnel, but the officer assigned to the business would frequently be called by the business owner and notified of the incident.

Patrol Officers are each assigned 10 to 20 Businesses organized by geographic location. These officers are responsible for maintaining contact with each assigned business on a regular basis to ensure that all contact information is up to date. Having up to date contact information is essential for after hours emergencies such as burglar and fire alarms. The Town of Vinton has approximately 203 active businesses, including 12 financial institutions. We have had great feedback from business owners and employees in regard to this program and we will continue this business-community policing effort.

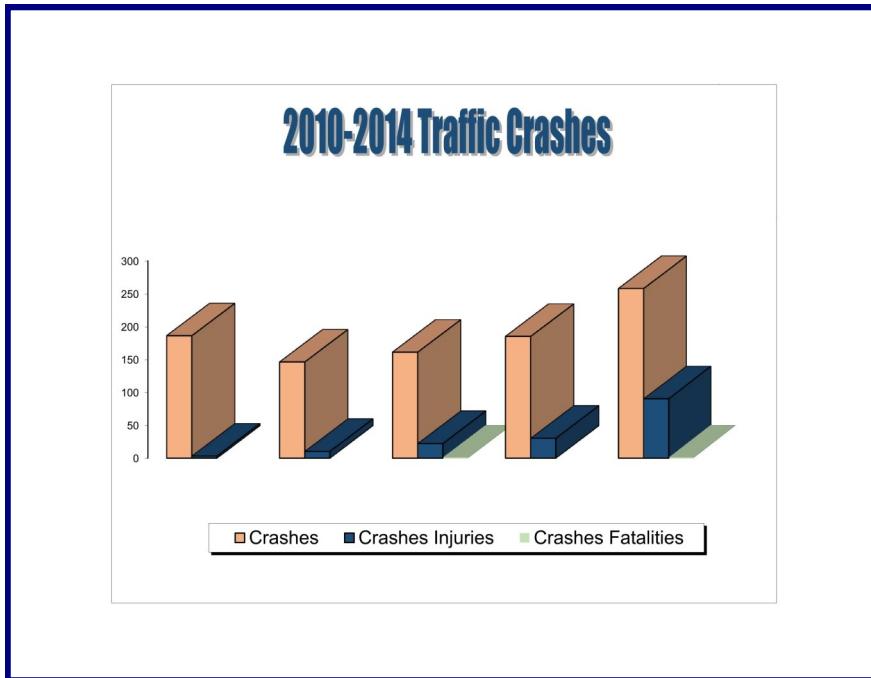


Corporal Michael Byrd meeting with the Account Manager, Kelly Green, of Magnets, USA, a new business on 3rd Street in Vinton.

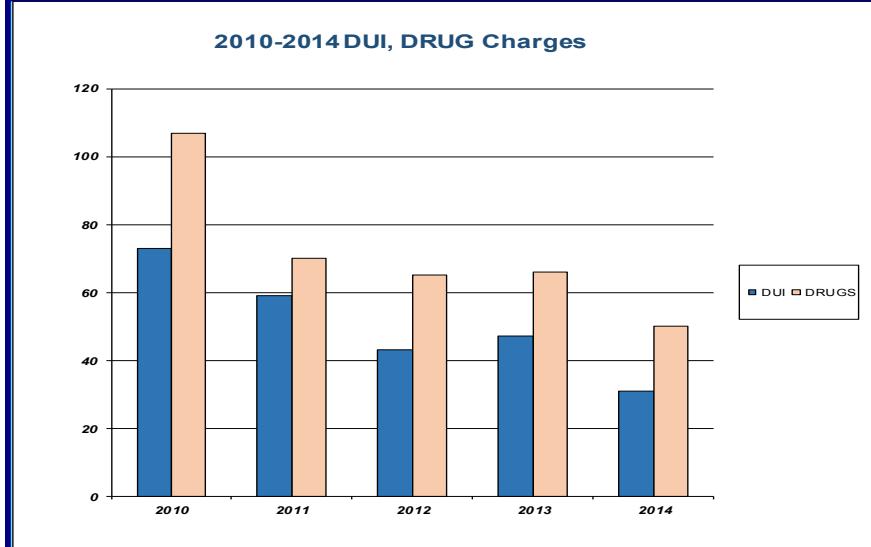


DUI & IMPAIRED DRIVING

The Vinton Police Department responded to 258 reported crashes in 2014. Out of these 258 crashes there were 90 crashes with injuries. There was 1 FATAL crash in the Town of Vinton for the year 2014. The Vinton Police Department has had numerous enforcement activities during 2014.



The Police Department uses Department Of Motor Vehicle grants to conduct saturation patrols specifically targeting intoxicated drivers and speeders.



In 2014, DUI and Drug arrests decreased slightly from 2013.

We contribute this to aggressive traffic enforcement and increased police visibility throughout the year.

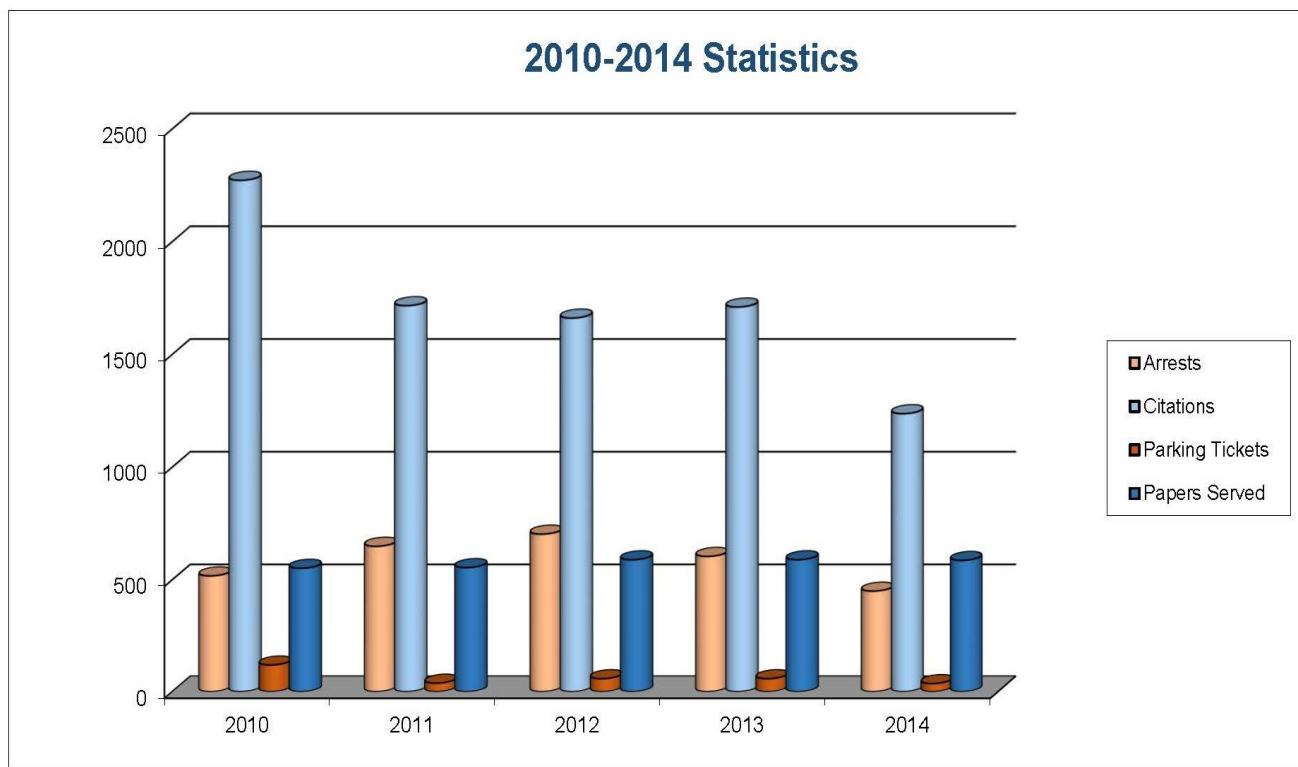


YEARLY STATISTICS

The following graph shows the comparison of statistics, such as;

Arrests
Citations
Parking Tickets
Papers Served

from 2010 thru 2014



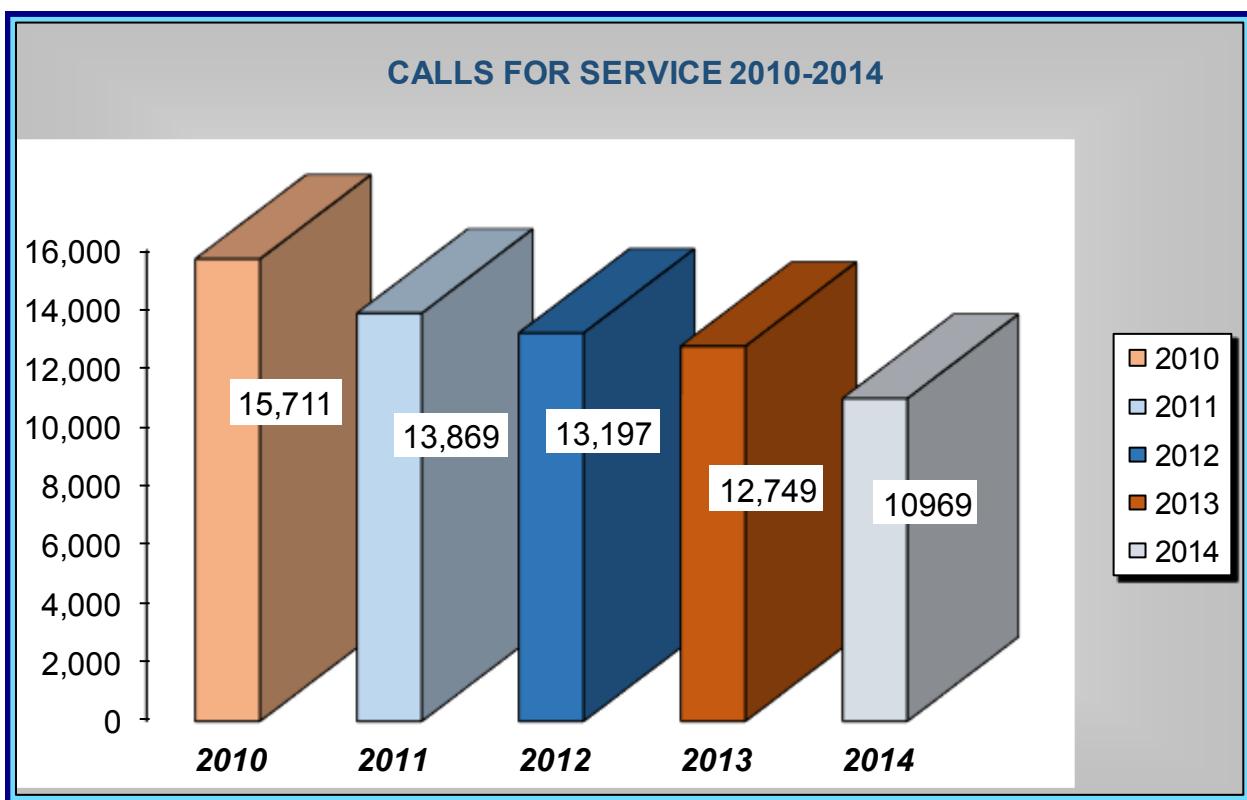


CALLS FOR SERVICE

A call for service is an event that occurs in or near the Town of Vinton that involves Vinton Police personnel. These incidents may be dispatched by the Emergency Communications Center or may be an officer initiated event.

Often times these events will require formal documentation in the form of an incident report, supplemental reports, arrest reports, motor vehicle crash reports and traffic summons.

The Vinton Police Department has seen a fluctuating level of calls for service over the past five years.





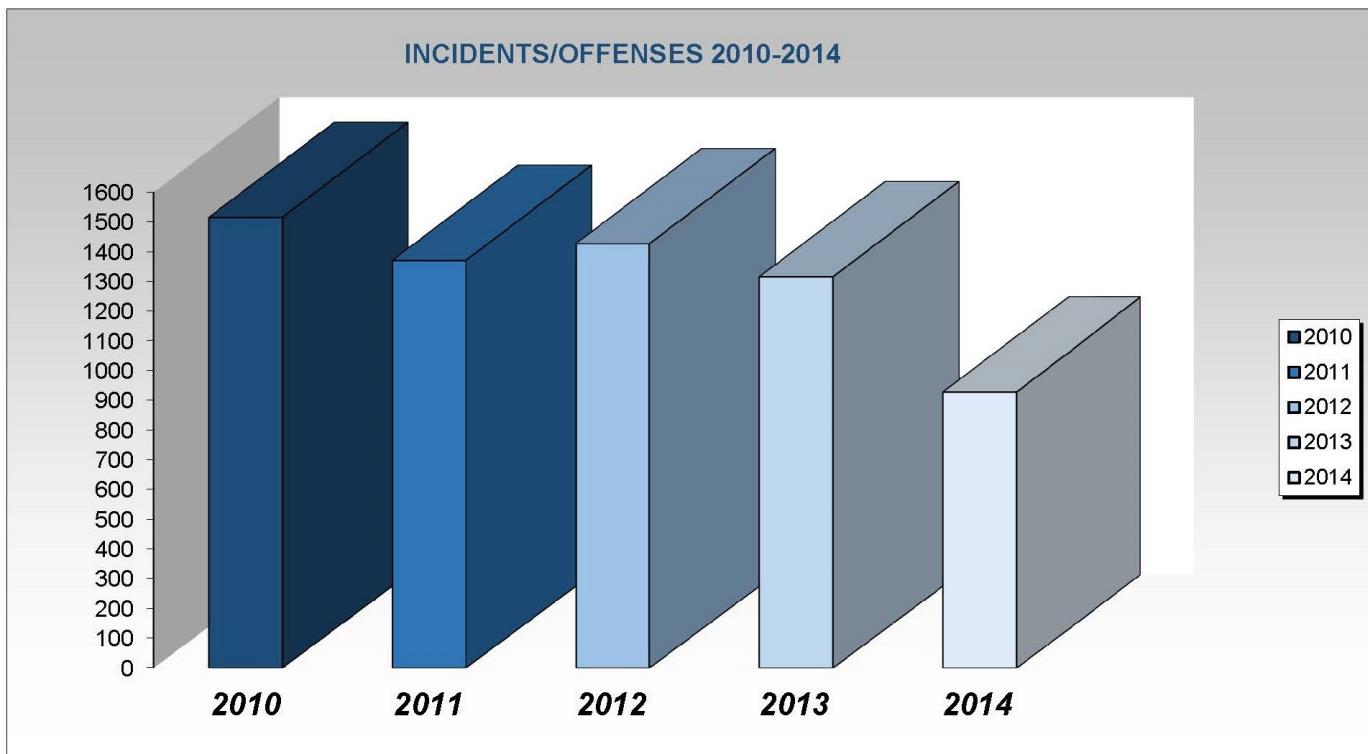
CRIME STATISTICS

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is a system of collecting and analyzing crime statistics gathered on selected crimes by participating law enforcement agencies throughout the Commonwealth.

The Vinton Police Department gathers and transfers, to the State Police, all reportable class 1(A) (rape, robbery, burglary, serious offenses to the public well being) and class 2(B) offenses (alcohol offenses, drug offenses, victimless crimes, theft, etc.).

These incidents fluctuate from year to year. This years UCR reported Incidents decreased slightly from last year.

According to the most recent data available, the Town of Vinton has one of the lowest crime rates in the Roanoke Valley. This is based on FBI Part 2 crimes which include the more frequent offenses reported, and is based on a per 100,000 population.





2014

GRANTS

The Police Department received a grant from The Department of Criminal Justice services, in the amount of 7,046.00, with a match of \$705.00. The police department used this money to replace our electronic filing system with the Laserfiche system.

The word "Laserfiche" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located in the top right corner of the letter "e". The background is a solid orange color.

From The Department of Criminal Justice Services Bullet proof vest grant, we received 4,000.00. This grant covers 1/2 the cost of a new vest for police officers.



2014

PATROL DIVISION

In 2014, the Patrol Division continued to focus their efforts on fostering better relationships and providing quality public safety services for the citizens of the Town of Vinton. The patrol division's main objective continues to be the protection of life and property by detecting and deterring violations of the law. This is accomplished through being a visible presence in the community, and having approachable professionals who provide excellent customer service. Crime prevention and community involvement are equally important among the patrol division, to which numerous special duties have contributed to those efforts. In the fall of 2014 Patrol Sergeant Harris directed the Citizens Police Academy, with the participation of many patrol officers as instructors. The Citizen Police Academy allows citizens the opportunity to meet and familiarize themselves with police department staff and is a valuable crime prevention strategy. Some of the various topics covered include tours of the 911 center and Roanoke County Jail facility, as well as classes on Patrol, Crime prevention, Traffic Enforcement and RADAR, Criminal Investigation and Drug Investigations and Accreditation.

The patrol division continues its "Business Blitz" initiative by maintaining a line of communication with our local business owners to ensure that any concerns are addressed in the most efficient and effective way possible. The business contact model allows the Police Department to ensure that new business in town are quickly recognized, and their information obtained for after hours emergencies.

Our patrol officers are the most visible part of what the police department does on a daily basis. As such our officers are involved in community outreach. These activities take the form of the Fall Festival, National Night Out and activity days at Herman L Horn and W.E. Cundiff elementary schools. Corporal Byrd and Officer Caldwell maintained weekly visits to the two schools in order to foster relationships and involvement with the school children. These events include speaking to 5th Graders at HLH and WE Cundiff elementary schools about school year expectations. Corporal Byrd also participated in Bedford County Sheriff's Office Cop Camp, and the Special Olympics Car Show in Bedford. Corporal Byrd also spoke with youth at Vinton Church of the Brethren on bridging the gap between the youth and police. All of these initiatives allow the police department to maintain and develop connections to the citizenry and offer a more personal approach to community policing and public service in general.

In the fall of 2014 we saw the graduation of one of our newest patrol officers, Josh Kotval from Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy. We saw the retirement of Sgt Gregory Jones after 16 years of service with the town. We celebrated the promotion of Greg Quesinberry, Michael Byrd and Chris Froeschl to Corporal. A new patrol officer joined the VPD during this fall, Michael Scott Giles came in as a certified officer from the Carilion Police Department.



PATROL DIVISION CONTINUED

The Patrol Division also participated in numerous training events throughout the year that will ultimately increase their skill sets and provide a better quality of law enforcement services to the public. All officers completed their annual training in TASER recertification, RADAR, legal updates, blood borne pathogens, and cultural diversity. Continuing education training for members of Patrol include Field Training Officer, Advanced DUI prosecution, Level B VCIN and VCIN re-certification, Active Shooter Response, First Line Supervisors School, EC/R II Breath Test Operator School, Active Shooter training with the Roanoke County Police, NHTSA DUI class, Autism Awareness training for law enforcement train the instructor, Street Gang training and Sovereign Citizen movement training, and Reid Interview and Interrogation Advanced, and Crisis Intervention Training. During the course of the year those officers that are certified Instructors completed re-certifications to maintain their instructor status such as General Instructor, Firearms instructor, and Intermediate Weapons instructor. Two patrol Sergeants participated in the Institute for Leadership in Changing Times, an intensive program coordinated with Virginia Tech geared toward leadership.

The department conducted two firearms qualifications this year, which demonstrates officer proficiency in the use of their duty weapons. This training incorporates tactical and simulated exercises and is an opportunity for officers to become more comfortable and proficient with the use of their firearms. Officers respond to scenarios, such as traffic stops, building clearing, and other use of force situations that require them to use their training and knowledge to safely and effectively resolve the situation. All Vinton Police Personnel are assigned Patrol Rifles, which provide officers additional tools to resolve critical incident responses.

Cases of note:

Officer Byrd conducted a traffic stop at Lynn Haven and Washington Ave in reference to a lookout from Roanoke City (Hit and Run). He approached the vehicle and identified the driver. At that time of the stop, the driver appeared to be intoxicated and was subsequently put through Field Sobriety Testing. The driver was later arrested for DUI. Roanoke City was notified and arrived on scene shortly after. Officer Saunders, with the Roanoke City PD, advised that the vehicle was stolen from a parking garage near downtown Roanoke. The driver was also charged with 1 count of grand larceny-auto theft and destruction of property.



PATROL DIVISION CONTINUED

Officer Byrd conducted a traffic stop in reference to speeding and failure to maintain lane. The operator was driving erratically. The driver finally came to a stop near the Eagle tobacco II store on Washington Ave. It was determined that the driver was impaired and resulted in an arrest for DUI and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Other officers arrived on scene and noticed that there were brand new items in the back of his vehicle. One item in particular was a rifle of some sort. The driver advised it was a BB gun that he had recently purchased to shoot birds with. Other items were located in the vehicle during the inventory search. It was later determined that all of the items found were stolen just minutes prior to the stop from the Walmart on 460. The driver was charged by Roanoke County Police for the thefts from the Bonsack Walmart.

Officer Zach Hurt responded to a larceny at Kroger involving the theft of a cash register till. A witness advised that a white male had took the till out of the cash register and concealed it by placing it in a trash can and walking out of the store. While conducting further investigation he received a call from a female subject who advised that her friend had stole a cashier's till from Kroger. The female subject provided the suspect's name and location he was at that time. Units then responded to the suspect's location. The suspect initiated into a foot pursuit with responding officers and disappeared into the woods.

A perimeter was set up around the suspect possible location and Corporal Froeschl and K9 Jax were deployed to locate the suspect. Corporal Froeschl, K9 Jax, and officers began to track the suspect up a hill through thick vegetation eventually leading to the back yard of a residence. K9 Jax track stopped at the back of the residence along a fence line. The remaining area where the track stopped was searched, which located the suspect in an outside stair well near the residence. The suspect was then taken into custody and the cashier's till was recovered with its contents.

Sergeant Lawless initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle due to high rate of speed. Once vehicle was stopped Sergeant Lawless smelled the odor of raw Marijuana coming from the vehicle. The vehicle was searched and 5.66 oz. of Marijuana was found along with a loaded hand gun that was hidden under the seat. Investigation revealed that the suspect was on his way to sell drugs. Several items were seized including the suspect's vehicle.



2014

PATROL DIVISION CONTINUED

Sergeant Lawless initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle. Sgt. Lawless located over 1 pound of Marijuana hidden in the vehicle. This case was passed over to the detectives due to the large amount of drugs found, which lead to a search warrant of the suspects residence. There was a large amount of drugs seized at the residence during the search warrant.

Sergeant. Lawless responded to an Assault & Battery that had taken place where a juvenile was assaulted, as well as her mother, by the juvenile's boyfriend. The suspect then broke the glass on the front door before running off before Police arrived on scene. The suspect was later arrested and charged for Assault & Battery x2, and property damage. Sergeant. Lawless worked an accident where significant damage was done to the complainant's vehicle. The driver of the other vehicle who caused the accident fled the scene. After a thorough investigation, the driver that fled was identified and charged with multiple traffic violations including a felony.

Victim was scammed out of \$3503.00. After investigation and video footage from the bank, Officer Caldwell was able to obtain a suspect and warrants were obtained, and suspects were then arrested.

Victim stated someone was banging and kicking on front door at 0300 hours, screaming and yelling. Upon Officer Caldwell's arrival, suspect took off running on foot. After short foot pursuit, suspect was caught and arrested for obstruction and DIP. Officer Caldwell responded to the BP station for a possible fight in parking lot. Officer Caldwell located the aggressor, and was arrested for DIP (interdicted), violation of protective order, obstruction, and assault and battery on police officer.

Officer Caldwell worked a case where an employee took \$700.00 out of the safe. After investigation, suspect was arrested for Felony Embezzlement.

Officer Caldwell observed a small toddler riding a big wheel on Cedar Ave. unattended and getting ready to run into traffic on W. Virginia Ave. The 3 year old was taken into care until grandmother was shortly located at 525 Cedar Ave. The child was about 100 yards away from home. Warrants obtained for Felony Child neglect and suspect arrested.



2014

PATROL DIVISION CONTINUED

Officer Caldwell responded to Cundiff Drug Store for a female trying to pass a fraud prescription that was called in by fraud as well. After investigation, Officer Caldwell determined that the 3 females that were on scene were all involved and all 3 suspects were arrested for prescription Fraud.

Officer Caldwell responded to a domestic fight where a firearm was brandished. 2 subjects were arrested for domestic A&B, and one subject arrested for brandishing.

Officer Caldwell responded to a domestic where the victim's ex-girlfriend left his residence and as she was leaving she pointed a rifle at him and put victim in fear for his life. Warrants were obtained for brandishing a firearm and suspect was arrested.

Corporal. S. Hurt observed a green Jeep Cherokee, which had been reported stolen out of Roanoke County on 4/5/14, traveling in the Midway area of town. Cpl. S. Hurt confirmed that the vehicle was stolen, and stopped it at 6th / Dale, and took the driver into custody. Roanoke County responded and took custody of the suspect, and Cpl. S. Hurt charged him with Drive Suspended DUI related

While assisting Officer Byrd in a DUI stop, Officer Quesinberry observed some items in the car that were still in its original packaging, some displaying security features normally removed at stores. After an investigation it was determined that the subject had stolen almost 600 dollars worth of items for the Bonsack WalMart.

Officer Quesinberry was involved in a multi jurisdictional pursuit initiated by Bedford County Sheriffs on a motorcycle that entered Vinton at a high rate of speed on Washington Ave and attempted to drive into the officers lane (on-coming lane). Officer assisted in the pursuit where the driver was apprehended after crashing in Roanoke on Gus Nicks Blvd and Eastern Ave. The operator was charged with felony elude, reckless driving, and suspended operator's license.

Officer Quesinberry responded to a suspicious call where a suspect had struck a highway sign. The suspect vehicle was stopped by the Roanoke City Police where the driver was subsequently arrested for DUI and charged by Officer Quesinberry with Hit and Run

2014

PATROL DIVISION CONTINUED

Officer King stopped a vehicle of a suspected suspended driver, once contact made the driver was indeed suspended, had been drinking and was in possession of a concealed weapon. Driver was charged for carrying a concealed weapon and suspended operator's license.

Officer King observed a vehicle traveling 43 in a 25 on Gus Nicks. Officer King went after vehicle, while attempting to gain ground on the vehicle , speeder was involved in an accident with injuries. Driver would be determined to be intoxicated and be in possession of a concealed firearm. He would ultimately be charged with DUI and concealed weapon violation.

Officer King stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. Through the course of the investigation it was determined that the driver did not have a license. A passenger was also wanted in the vehicle. While preparing to tow the vehicle several drug items were found in the vehicle. Ultimately charges would be issued for PWID, possession of a controlled substance (heroin) and possession of marijuana.

Officer Spence investigated a Robbery at 725 S Pollard St where victims reported that they were robbed of 1400 dollars.

Officer Spence worked a breaking and entering of a residence , with a larceny where several items of value were stolen from a residence. Officer Spence developed a suspect and investigated the case for days. Officer Spence located the suspect driving on a suspended license and attempted a traffic stop which became a vehicle pursuit. The suspect parked his vehicle behind a business and fled on foot. The pursuit resulted in a seizure of a safe in the vehicle resulting in a search warrant. Suspect was later apprehended.

Officer Spence responded to the Vinton Pawn Shop where he provided first aid and CPR to a subject not breathing, Officer Spence through his experience was able to resuscitate the elderly male.

Officer Spence was involved in a vehicle pursuit. The pursuit started at the Vinton/Roanoke City line and carried into Roanoke County. The female driver was apprehended at her parent's residence in Falling Creek where she was taken into custody and transported to RMH for a mental evaluation. Warrants were obtained for eluding police.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION



Detective Sergeant
James M. Testerman

The Vinton Police Department Criminal Investigations Division encompasses two primary investigators, one ATF Task Force member, A HIDTA member and a supervising Lieutenant. The division's primary mission is to assist the Uniform Patrol Division with the investigation of Felony and complex misdemeanor investigations. Investigators are also certified crime scene technicians who remain on-call at all hours to respond to



Detective
Brandon B. Hill

crimes where evidence collection and further follow-ups are needed.

Investigators handle a variety of cases, but are primarily responsible for serious Felony offenses, such as Murder, Rape, Robbery, Burglary, Arson, and Fraud. Investigators are also tasked with presenting the department's criminal indictments to the Grand Jury on a bi-monthly basis. Besides these normal duties, Investigators also participate in a variety of multi-jurisdictional groups in order to address issues affecting the community as a whole and collaborate on law enforcement initiatives.

In 2014, the division investigated 133 cases. Out of those, 71 cases were cleared by arrest with a case solvability rate of 53%. In 2014, the Criminal Investigations Division obtained a total of 69 Felony warrants and 8 Misdemeanor warrants on offenders.



2014

EVIDENCE



Sergeant of Professional Standards
Valerie L. Cummings

The evidence and property room management is an important function of the department.

Sergeant Valerie Cummings is the primary Evidence Custodian, and is assisted by **Detective Sergeant James Testerman**.



Detective Sergeant
James M. Testerman

No changes have been made in the property room custodians. During 2014 an annual audit of property was conducted. Quarterly inspections of the property and evidence function

were conducted and the Chief of Police made unannounced inspections of the Property and Evidence room twice during the year. A destruction order was obtained for numerous items of drug evidence no longer needed by this Department.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS



Sergeant Valerie Cummings

Accreditation:

In September of 2014, the Vinton Police Department had its re-accreditation assessment. A team of VLEPSC (Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission) certified assessors visited our Department. They toured the building, viewed our specialized equipment, participated in a ride-along, and interviewed numerous officers prior to thoroughly inspecting 190 accreditation files. The files consisted of four years worth of policy and proof documentation which showed the assessors that this Department is in full compliance with the standards set forth by VLEPSC. The assessment took three days and all 190 files were found to be in compliance and in need of no corrective action.

The accreditation function is an on-going process in which proof documentation is collected on a daily basis. The files are maintained in the Professional Standards Office. An Excel spreadsheet is used to track progress and is accessible to the Chief of Police.

Policy Manual:

28 police department policies were reviewed and revised during 2014.

Internal Affairs Investigation:

No activity to report.

2014

K9 OFFICER



Corporal
Christopher J. Froeschl

Over the last year, K9 "Jax" and Handler, Corporal Christopher Froeschl, has helped seize \$475,297.00 worth of Narcotics, generating twenty arrests. This resulted in 10 Kilos of Cocaine, 50.0523 Pounds of Marijuana and 7.7 Grams of Heroin taken off the streets.

The majority of the K9 Deployments took place on Saturdays during the hours of either 5:00 PM or 2:00 AM and September was the busiest month during the year. K9 "Jax" and Corporal Froeschl have assisted The Roanoke County Police Department, The Roanoke City Police Department, The Bedford County Sheriff's Office and the HIDTA Task Force in addition to The Vinton

Police Department.

K9 "Jax" and Corporal Froeschl were once again Certified through the North American Work Dog Association and the Virginia Police Work Dog Association in Tracking, Narcotics Detection (Marijuana, Cocaine, Methamphetamine and Heroin), and Apprehensions. Training during the year of 2014 consisted of Apprehensions, Narcotics Detection, Suspect Searches, Tracking and Obedience totaling 158.65 hours of training. The K9/Handler Team currently has a training reliability of 98.85% and a field deployment reliability of 93.1%. Narcotic Free Air Sniffs involving vehicles were the largest deployment usage with the K9 Team being used 56.58% of the time for that purpose.

K9 "Jax" and Handler are scheduled to attend a three day advanced narcotic detection training in Christiansburg in May of 2015 and will continue to attend monthly maintenance trainings throughout the upcoming year.

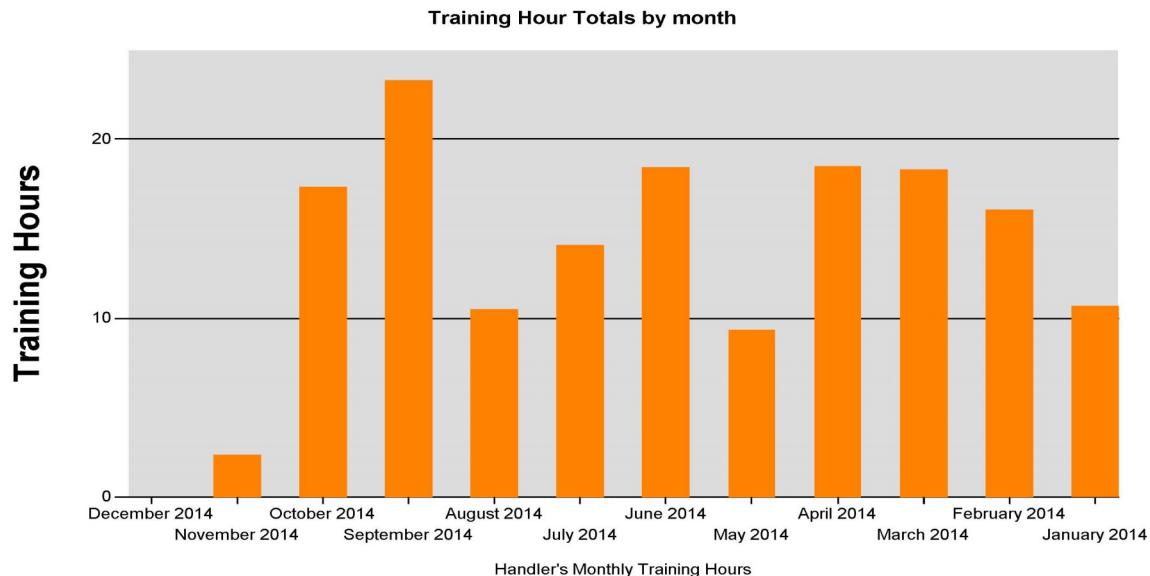
2014

K9 OFFICER STATISTICS



Vinton Police Department Graph of K-9 Training Hours

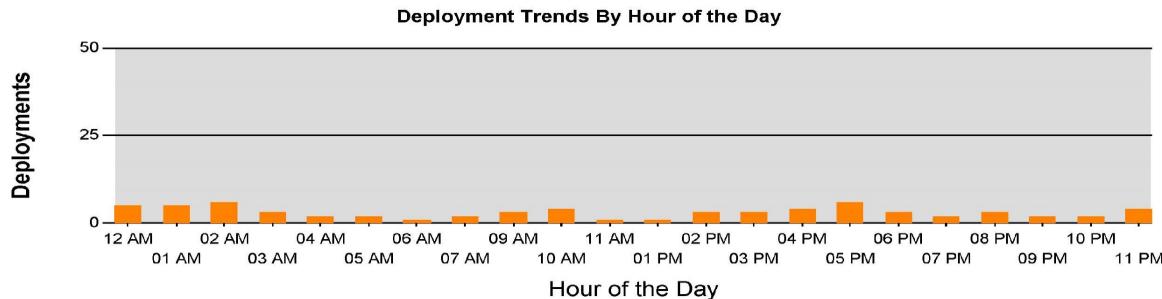
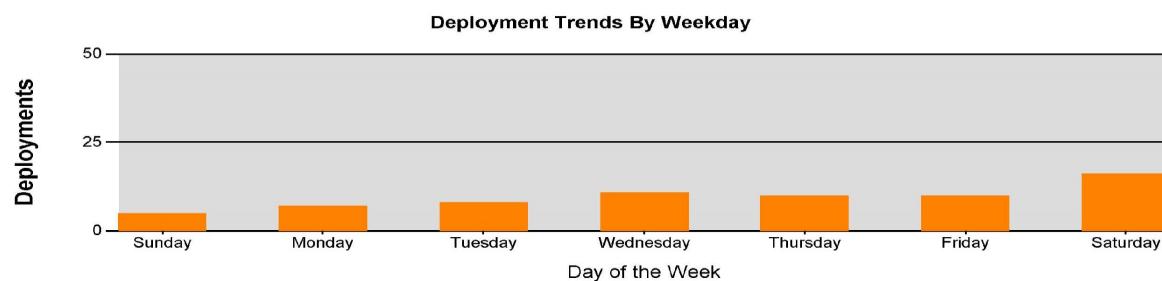
Grouped by Month and Handler



Vinton Police Department Deployment Trends by Weekday and Hour

Shows average Deployment levels by Day of the Week and hour.

of Deployments evaluated (67) From- 1/9/2014 9:11:00 AM To- 12/29/2014 3:13:00 PM





AWARDS & RECOGNITION

The 14th Annual Vinton Police Department Awards Banquet was held on November 24, 2014, at the Vinton War Memorial.

Our guest Speaker this year was **Randy Krantz**
Bedford County Commonwealth Attonry

This years Event was Catered by Center Stage Catering. All pictures were taken by **Barry Brooks of Barry Brooks Photography**.

Mayor's Customer Service Award winner
Officer Daniel King

Presented to the member of the force whose actions, deeds, or accomplishments most personify the highest ideals of customer service and overall good service to the Community.

Leadership award Winner
Sergeant Timothy Lawless

Presented to the member of the force who has shown and applied outstanding leadership skills in the performance of their duties.

Chief's Medal of Achievement award winner
Sergeant James Testerman and Sergeant Valerie Cummings

Awarded by the Chief of Police to the member of the force who, through some outstanding deed(s) or achievement(s), brings acclaim and/or technological or other advancement to the department and the law enforcement profession.

Meritorious Service Award winner's
Sergeant Matt Harris, Master Police Officer Michael Byrd, Officer Zachary Hurt

Presented to the members of the force who through dedication and perseverance, solves an extremely difficult and serious criminal case, or apprehends a dangerous felon that poses a threat to the community

Chamber of Commerce Career Achievement Award
Detective Craig Frye

Presented to the member of the force whose action, deed, or accomplishment most personifies the highest ideals of professional police work in conjunction with service to the community.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Negotiator Award

Master Police Officer Christopher Froeschl

Presented to the member fo the force who, while acting in the role of a negotiator, brings about a successful conclusion to a critical situation whereby death or life threatening injury is avoided

Certificate of Commendation

Master Police Officer Gregory Quesinberry

Certificate of Appreciation

**Master Police Officer Michael Byrd and Officer Michael Caldwell
Sergeant Matt Harris**

Life Saving Award

Presented to the members of the force who, during a police duty, performed some prompt, extraordinary action or procedure whereby some person's life was saved

Officer James Spence

Sergeant Fabricio Drumond

Officer Daniel King

Master Police Officer Greg Quesinberry

Honorable Service

Master Police Officer Scott Hurt

Presented to an officer who arrests an offender during the commission of a felonious crime through intelligently applied investigative techniques, or has brought some extremely praiseworthy benefit of safety or wellbeing to the community

Good Conduct

Presented to the members of the force who over a 5 year tenure has received no disciplinary action above a verbal warning or oral counseling

Sergeant Valerie Cummings 15 years

Detective Craig Frye 10 years

Sergeant Fabricio Drumond 5 years



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Traffic Safety Awards

Presented to the officers who rise above the rest in Seat Belt, Speed, and DUI Enforcement

Occupant Protection award

Sergeant Todd Bailey

DUI Enforcement Award

Master Police Officer Michael Byrd

Speed Enforcement award

Officer Michael Caldwell

Best Dressed

Detective Brandon Hill

Academy Graduates

Officer Joshua Kotval

Top Gun/Triumphant

Presented to the member of the force for the highest average of qualification scores

Master Police Officer Gregory Quesinberry

Drug Buster

Presented to the members of the force whose work or accomplishments in narcotics enforcement has resulted in the substantial or praiseworthy seizures of narcotics

Detective Todd Bailey

Detective Craig Frye

Master Police Officer Greg Quesinberry

Sergeant James Testerman

Sergeant Matt Harris

Master Police Officer Chris Froeschl

Sergeant Timothy Lawless



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Distinguished Community Service Shirley Patsel

Unit Citation

Presented to the members of the force who played an active role in a team effort directly involving at least three members of the force for criteria specified in recognition of meritorious service

Sergeant Timothy Lawless

Master Police Officer Scott Hurt

Master Police Officer Chris Froeschl

K9 Jax

Officer Zachary Hurt

Master Police Officer Michael Byrd

Detective Brandon Hill

Officer Daniel King

Officer James Spence

Detective Sergeant James Testerman

Sergeant Fabricio Drumond

Detective Craig Frye

Detective Todd Bailey

Sergeant Valerie Cummings

Sergeant Matt Harris

Lieutenant Glenn Austin

Lieutenant Marcus Vaught

2014

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Master Police Officer
Michael L. Byrd

Grand Cordon (Officer of the Year) Award Winner

Master Police Officer Michael Byrd

The Officer of the Year award is one of the most distinguished recognitions that the department awards.

The person receiving this award is nominated by their peers, and they have demonstrated exemplary performance throughout the award period.

The officer shall display professionalism and dedication to duty and hold themselves to a high standard of ethics and honesty.

Master Police Officer Byrd is a proactive patrol officer, who focuses on community policing and represents the department well. Master Police Officer Byrd also works with our Elementary School students and staff as one of our school liaison officers. Being able to interact with our youth at an impressionable age is both important and rewarding.

National Police Week
**This week was the time to honor fallen Law Enforcement Officers
and their families**

*I never dreamed it would be me,
my name for all eternity*

*Recorded here at this hallowed place,
alas my name, no more my face*

*"In the line of Duty" I hear them say,
my family now the price to pay*

*My folded flag stained with their tears,
we only had those few short years*

*The badge no longer on my chest,
I sleep now in eternal rest*

*My sword I pass to those behind,
and pray they keep this thought in mind*

*I never dreamed it would be me,
and on my heavy heart and bended knee*

*I ask for all those here from the past, Dear God,
let my name be the last*

*"The Monument"
By
Sergeant George Hahn, LAPD (retired)*

A Police Officers Prayer

Lord I ask for courage

Courage to face and conquer my own fears

Courage to take me where others will not go

I ask for Strength

Strength of body to protect others and strength of

spirit to lead others

I ask for dedication

Dedication to my job, to do it well

Dedication to my community

To keep it safe

Give me Lord, concern for others who trust me and

compassion for those who need me

And Please Lord

Through it all

Be at my side

-Author Unknown-