

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

PART I

The Early Years

The earliest evidence of policing activities in Henrico County occurred in June of 1676. During that year the General Assembly, which met in Jamestown, established a means of suppressing unlawful assemblies, riots, tumults and rebellions. Known as Bacon's Laws, these laws further established that control of unlawful acts would rest with a Sheriff, thus the English traditions of law enforcement were perpetuated in America. In Henrico County, the Sheriff was selected from among several local justices and served a one year term. No Sheriff could serve consecutive terms. A Sheriff was considered the most powerful person in the County. In addition to enforcing laws, this individual was the tax collector and he sat as a judge in the County Court.

Although nearly all old records were burned by the British during the country's fight for freedom, the aforementioned system remained in effect through the mid 1800's. In 1851, Captain C. Eggleston and twelve other men were appointed to patrol an area of the County known as Union Hall to check on slaves.

In 1852, the Circuit Court appointed Alexander B. Hutcheson as Sheriff. Four years later, Mr. Hutcheson sold a parcel of land and building to the County, which at that time was to be used as an office for the Sheriff. This \$85.00 investment, located at 22nd and Main Streets in Richmond, was to later house the "modern" police department.

The Court appointed the last slave patrol ever to function in Henrico County during the month of March 1865.

The first mention of an appointed officer occurred on December 14, 1871, when Joseph A. Vaughan was made a special police officer. He performed his duties for \$15.00 per month.

No further records were found until 1908, when the Board of Supervisors recommended to the Circuit Court that mounted policemen be utilized in the County. As a result, two officers were provided for the Ginter Park area and one was appointed to Tuckahoe.

Seven years later on January 5, 1915, the department made its first real effort toward its present-day standing. At the suggestion of the Circuit Court, the Board of Supervisors appointed T. Wilson Seay as the County's first Chief of Police. Mr. Seay remained Chief until June 16, 1924, when he resigned to fill the unexpired term of Sheriff W. Webb Sydnor, who died in office. W.H. Lawrence was appointed to replace Mr. Seay.

Chief Lawrence served until April 30, 1928, when he was replaced by J.O. Blankenship. The department was increased to eight men. At the same time, the County adopted a new traffic ordinance.

On May 31, 1929, Chief Blankenship was replaced by O.C. Hedrick who remained Chief through the change in decades.

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1930's

The early 1930's proved to be an important transition period, not only for the Division of Police, but for the general government of the County as well. The County was experiencing a rapid growth in its population, particularly in the Westhampton and Windsor Farms areas. Both areas were occupied by the more affluent element of society, and as such, a politically strong nucleus began to develop. These persons soon recognized that a more efficient means of providing law enforcement for the County had to be found. They objected to letting the police function fall under the control of the Sheriff. Their efforts led to passage by the Virginia Legislature of an act that would enable the County's residents to vote on the County Manager form of government. As a result of a 1933 referendum, Henrico County adopted, and on March 15, 1934, converted to the County Manager form of government.

During the same time span, Chief O.C. Hedrick resigned to seek election to the position of Sheriff. He was replaced as Chief by Fred L. Bates on May 15, 1931. Chief Bates served until January 1, 1932. On February 2, 1932, Mr. J.C. Warriner was appointed Chief and served until October 1934. During his tenure the Board of Supervisors gave him the power to suspend or discharge personnel when necessary in the interest of the public, thus removing some of Sheriff's control over the police employees. In September 1934, the Division added a new employee. The appointment of Wilmer John Hedrick, son of the former chief, as a midnight dispatcher was to have a far reaching effect on the future of the Division of Police. Chief Warriner was replaced by Mr. Bates, who again served for only a few months.

When the County converted to the County Manager form of government, the Board of Supervisors selected Mr. Willard F. Day as the first County Manager. He began his duties on March 15, 1934, and was given the authority to select and appoint new police officers, but supervisory control of the Department still belonged to the Sheriff. This arrangement continued to cause many difficulties and eventually led the Board to authorize the Manager to appoint a Superintendent of Police. In late 1935 Mr. Day selected Edwin W. Savory, a sergeant from the Petersburg Police Department, as the Division's first and only superintendent.

While affiliated with Petersburg, Superintendent Savory had the distinction of graduating from the first FBI National Academy class. He was also responsible for changing the then existing olive green uniform to one of blue and gray. The new uniform, with a few cosmetic changes became the basis for the uniform worn by police officers today.

Regular officers were also provided an opportunity for training. During the early thirties the concept of the Central Police Training School began. The first week-long class was held at the Virginia Mechanics Institute in Richmond from 6 to 9 p.m. nightly. Later the classes were increased to two weeks and the location changed to the University of Richmond. New officers were required to successfully complete these classes as a part of their probation.

The "men in blue" were eight in number, two per magisterial district, and the Chief. The two Brookland District officers were Bryan and Joe Sheppard. They both lived on Woodman Road in the Laurel area. Each officer was responsible for matters occurring in his district, and even though there was no defined working schedule, officers were expected to equally share the load with their respective district counterparts. Due to the small number of personnel, each officer was required to demonstrate his desire and eligibility to answer calls in other districts when the occasion arose. All of this was done for a maximum of \$125.00 per month after four years of service. Prior to 1936, each officer was required to furnish his own vehicle and was reimbursed for its use. The only means of communications was the telephone, thus the expeditious handling of calls was difficult. In 1937 each vehicle was equipped with a receiver. Officers were made aware of calls over the Richmond City Police frequency, but Henrico officers still had to telephone a dispatcher to gather details of calls.

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In 1938 the Board placed complete control of the Division under the County Manager, thus paving the way for an operation that was free of political ties with the Sheriff.

During 1939 the Board of Supervisors desired to improve the County's severely lacking firefighting service. There was only one County-operated fire station, Lakeside, and a privately maintained volunteer company in Highland Springs. Because of this deficiency, the Board authorized placing of a fifty-gallon water tank and a seventy-five foot hose in the trunks of six police cruisers to assist in firefighting activities.

The decade ended with Mr. Savory being reassigned as a court liaison officer, leaving the Chief police officer's position unfilled.

1940's

The decade of the 1940's was one destined to bring about an era of policing in Henrico County that would place it in a progressive rather than the political mode, under which it had functioned prior to this period.

Even though the County Manager form of government was adopted in March 1934, there was a six-year period that saw a frequent change in tenure of the Chief of Police until March 1, 1940, when Patrolman W.J. Hedrick was appointed Acting Chief of Police. On December 31, 1940, Mr. Day resigned as County Manager, and on January 1, 1941, Mr. Sterry J. Mahaffey became County Manager.

Mr. Mahaffey was a staunch supporter of law enforcement, and even though his knowledge of the police function was limited, he was responsible for securing the purchase of equipment heretofore unavailable to the Division. Photographic equipment and special armament can be attributed to him. He appointed W.J. Hedrick Chief of Police on July 1, 1941.

During this time, the Division was housed at the Henrico County Sheriff's Office, at 22nd and Main Streets in the City of Richmond.

The new Chief was faced with many challenges as he assumed command of the eleven-man force, one being a transitional move from the Main Street office to the Dabbs House on Nine Mile Road. This historically significant building once served as headquarters for General Robert E. Lee during the Civil War. The Division occupied three of its rooms.

There was a need to redraft rules and regulations governing the operation of the Division, to direct a study to determine the proper tours of duty for officers and to recommend an appropriate fleet size. He also had to justify the cost and benefits of installing a two-way radio system in each vehicle. The radio system became a reality in February 1941 when the first two mobile transmitters were installed in cruisers.

Linwood T. Wade was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on January 15, 1941. His was the first police promotion under the County Manager system. His elevation was followed on July 1, 1941, by the promotion of W. J. Eacho to Sergeant.

On December 7, 1941, as a result of an attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan, the United States was thrown into the middle of a world conflict and faced a national emergency. As national efforts to support the war effort increased, members of the Division were faced with new duties to perform, oftentimes with limited resources. There was a large influx of military personnel to the County by virtue of Byrd Field becoming a major Army Air Corps base. This boom in population put an additional strain on the Division's policing capabilities.

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The Division was called upon by the Selective Service Board to locate and pick up persons who chose to evade the draft. During this period the Division also participated in test blackouts, which were designed to make target identification by enemy aircraft more difficult. Each citizen, when a test was implemented, was required to extinguish all sources of light in his home and to draw down window shades to prevent the escape of incidental light. The tests were supervised by designated air raid wardens, and citizen participation was mandatory. Police activities ranged from calling out key officials, to assisting wardens in gaining compliance with blackout procedures. On occasion, a less than cooperative citizen was alerted to the fact that a police officer was about to convince him of his national duty by a police siren being sounded as the officer approached the home in question. Most of the time, the house lights were out before the officer could exit his vehicle.

Police activity was not exempted from certain wartime sanctions. Due to the scarcity of petroleum products, police activities had to be curtailed to the point that the Division could comply with the regulations of the federal rationing boards. Perhaps with that in mind, the Division added a motorcycle to its fleet in May 1942, “ for the purpose of handling traffic in the busy areas of the County.”

In July 1942 the Division of Police instituted a bicycle registration system. Approximately 2,500 bicycles were registered that month.

Bryan Sheppard, one of the eight original officers, resigned in November 1942 to become a Special Agent with the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad.

Realizing that not all matters at home could be secondary to the war, Chief Hedrick actively sought, and in most circumstances was successful in gaining, draft deferments for members of the Division. His personal sense of duty led the Chief, in July 1943, to forego his own deferment, and he joined the United States Navy as a Lieutenant (j.g.). Sergeant Eacho was selected as Acting Chief.

On September 30, 1943, Mr. Mahaffey left his office as County Manager to be replaced on November 15, 1943, by Mr. Carlton C. Massey.

In October 1943 two additional two-way radios were installed. During that same year J.S. Sheppard became the Division’s first plainclothes investigator.

In March and April of 1945, two plane crashes occurred in close proximity to the Laurel Golf Course. Three persons were killed. On May 16, 1946, fifteen days after Chief Hedrick returned from active duty with the Navy to reassume his position with the Division, another plane crash occurred that took the lives of twenty-seven persons. The tragic event was in the Varina District. Concurrent with Chief Hedrick’s return, Mr. Eacho was appointed to the rank of Captain, the first such appointment under the County Manger system.

Officer Lewis R. Beddow died on September 8, 1946, as a result of being struck by a hit-and-run driver the previous day, September 7, 1946, while investigating a traffic accident on Williamsburg Road near Sandston.

Officer Welford Green was shot and killed on December 22, 1948, at the scene of a domestic disturbance on Williamsburg Road near Laburnum Avenue, and became the first member of the Division of Police to be slain in the performance of his duties.

It should be noted that there was no significant growth in the Division during this time frame until 1949, when the Division grew to fifteen enforcement personnel, including the Chief of Police. From this point on the Division was destined to grow rapidly during the next three decades.

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1950's

The year marking the beginning of the 1950's decade was significant. The County was at the threshold of its real post-war growth. The post-war "Baby Boom" served as a catalyst for residential development, which was soon followed by the need for increasing numbers in public schools.

As Henrico's population grew, so did the need for visible police patrol. The division met the demands for visibility with a complete new fleet of 1950 Ford two-door sedans. The vehicles utilized by uniformed personnel were black with white doors and trunk lids. The doors bore a replica of the triangular shoulder patch, while the trunks were of a different design. These were the first fleet cars offered with "Police Special" engines.

Major W.J. Hedrick, Chief of Police, was the first member of the Division to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, graduating from the 43rd Session in Washington, D.C. Bringing his newfound knowledge back to the County, he embarked on a course of careful personnel selection, improved training and high standards of demeanor and performance.

Detective Joe Sheppard died July 24, 1950. No sooner had the Chief begun his program when he was faced with additional personnel shortages, caused in part by the Korean War, as well as death and attrition. On December 1, 1950, four officers were employed and on January 1, 1951, an additional officer was appointed, bringing the sworn complement to its full strength of twenty members.

The Henrico Volunteer Rescue Squad began operations as the forerunner of Emergency Medical Services in February 1951. Prior to this time the only service available was transportation provided by funeral home operators with ambulances. Some additional service was provided by an ambulance operated by the Medical College of Virginia. The rescue squad was quartered at Engine Company 7 on Rescue Avenue.

Captain W. J. Eacho resigned to assume the office of Sheriff.

On February 29, 1952, the County Manager, Mr. Massey, resigned to accept a similar position in Fairfax County. Mr. Edward A. Beck assumed the duties of that office on March 24, 1952.

During the spring of 1952 members of the Division who had been called to service during the Korean War began to return. L.E. Browning and L.T. Sheppard were the first to return, followed in July by J.R. Lindsey.

The County Ordinance requiring the purchase and display of County Vehicle License became law on July 1, 1952. Officers of the Division were issued a special summons form for those who failed to acquire the five dollar tag for their car.

G.J. Doeppe was promoted to Sergeant on May 1, 1953. Soon afterward he was assigned as the first supervisor on the Midnight Shift.

During the summer of 1953, Richard E. Byrd Airport hosted a two-day air show in honor of the Silver Anniversary of Aviation. The first day, Saturday, was not well attended. On Sunday all of the vacant fields at the airport were utilized for parking, and traffic was backed up along U.S. Route 60 west to Chimborazo Park during the afternoon. The Division was hard-pressed to manage events of this magnitude and provide regular services with twenty-three members.

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November 15, 1953, saw the chartering of Henrico Lodge Number Four, Fraternal Order of Police. The charter membership included fifteen members of the Division. The charter officers were J.R. Lindsey, president; E.T. Montgomery, vice president; L.T. Sheppard, secretary; and L.E. Browning, treasurer.

The Tuckahoe Volunteer Rescue Squad began operations from a garage area behind the Epiphany Lutheran Church at Horsepen Road and Monument Avenue during December 1953. This squad assumed responsibility for the area generally west of U.S. Route 1, and Henrico Volunteer Rescue Squad worked east of that artery.

The County's first two-way radio station began operations from the Dabbs House August 30, 1954. A single 200-watt transmitter, utilizing a tower 180 feet high was placed in service. There was a small, gasoline-powered generator at the base of the tower for emergency power. The generator served the radio and telephone only. All police and fire operations were dispatched over a single VHF, simplex operation. Car-to-car transmissions were possible, but the range was extremely limited. Mobile radios consisted of three trunk-mounted components: receiver, transmitter and signal generator. Very little space remained in a trunk once the six-volt radio was installed. Dispatchers were required to log all radio traffic on a typed log sheet.

All officers received Standard First Aid Training in the fall of 1954. Each officer was provided a first aid kit and each patrol vehicle had a metal tag on it notifying the public that the operator was a first-aider.

In 1955 radio communications was extended to the County Game Wardens and the two County-based rescue squads. The Division acquired six walkie-talkies. These units were approximately twenty-four inches by eight inches and rather heavy due to the large batteries required.

Additional mobile units were added to the communications systems in 1956. In addition to police, fire, rescue and game wardens, three units of the Department of Public Utilities and two from the Department of Public Works were added to the single frequency.

In August 1956 the Division acquired its first radio recording device. The recorder consisted of two turntables with small records which would accommodate approximately thirty minutes of radio traffic on each side. While this was a vast improvement over the typewritten log, it did require those working the dispatcher position to make record changes frequently.

Members of the Division completed traffic counts and related studies at the intersection of Libbie and Monument Avenues. This data led to the erection of the first traffic signal at the intersection of two County-maintained roadways.

On March 16, 1957, R.T. Harris was promoted to the rank of Detective. Officers Lindsey and Sheppard were promoted to Sergeant. Sergeant Lindsey was selected to be the first member of the Division to attend an Accident Investigation course at the Traffic Institute, Northwestern University.

Early in 1957 the School Board was placed in the position of having to revise school transportation policies. These changes resulted in increasing numbers of students walking to and from the thirty-three schools and a demand from citizens for increased emphasis on traffic enforcement and student safety education. Sergeants Doepppe and Lindsey were given this special assignment in September.

During the spring of 1958, eight new members of the Division completed the two-week basic training course at the State Police Academy. This training was sponsored by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police for agencies across the Commonwealth on an annual basis. It was still known as the Central Police Training School.

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In May 1958 the Division began its participation in the Annual National Safety Patrol Parade in Washington, D.C. Four officers in two patrol cars and one rescue squad unit escorted sixteen County school buses to this event. The statues limited the speed of this convoy to thirty-five miles per hour. Since the agenda included a trip to the zoo, in addition to the parade, the round trip required about fourteen hours.

The Animal Protection Section was initiated July 1, 1958. Three Deputy Dog Wardens were appointed; two were provided International pick-up trucks and one operated the sedan, with a cage in the truck, formerly utilized by the County Game Warden. All impounded animals were kept in a series of open cages located at the Virginia Randolph Landfill. The first Wardens were D.V. Campbell, Fred Harlow and W.T. Smith.

The Lakeside Volunteer Rescue Squad began operation in the central area of the County on August 29, 1958. This organization assumed some of the areas previously served by each of the earlier squads.

Robert Hester Beck, a well-known member of this Division and an extremely proficient detective, died unexpectedly January 15, 1959, from cardiac arrest. The attendance at his funeral was so great, many persons were forced to stand outside the funeral home in the bitter cold weather.

The Division received its first radar in early 1959. This equipment consisted of three units and was mounted permanently in one patrol car. A graph was also acquired to permit the radar to be utilized for speed limit studies, another of the Division's traffic engineering responsibilities.

The Board of Supervisors enacted a comprehensive revision of ordinances related to motor vehicles and traffic for the first time since 1936. The adoption of Chapter 9 was encompassed in a 118-page paperback issued to each officer in late 1959.

On June 3, 1959, Sergeant Doeppé completed his studies at the FBI National Academy, graduating with the 63rd Session.

An eighteen-inch speedometer was installed on the roof of a patrol unit. The Speed-Minder proved to be very popular with motorists who wanted to verify the accuracy of their speedometers. This device proved to have a great deterrent effect on those inclined to disobey the speed limit when it appeared September 1959.

The year 1959 also brought forth the Division's first vehicles designed expressly for transporting prisoners. The two black 1959 Ford panel trucks purchased were used on patrol and for detention and transportation from the State Fair. Prior to this time the County had utilized City of Richmond "paddy" wagons at the Fair.

During the fifties the Division's complement, arrests and calls for service all more than doubled as the population increased 87.5 percent in the ten-year span.

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1960's

The sixties decade began with the complement and services increasing steadily. The 1960 General Assembly passed legislation which permitted Henrico County to begin weight enforcement on its road system. Four portable wheel weighers were acquired along with a station wagon to transport them. Members were trained by the State Police and the Virginia Department of Highways in the proper use of this equipment.

The less than desirable animal pens near Virginia Randolph School were replaced with a new Animal Shelter on Dabbs House Road in 1961.

Sergeant Sheppard graduated with the 67th Session of the FBI National Academy on June 7, 1961.

At 9:24 p.m. November 8, 1961, a chartered Imperial Airlines Constellation with seventy-nine persons on board crashed just east of Beulah Road, between Charles City and Portugee Road. Seventy-four members of the U.S. Army and three crewmembers died. Only the pilot and flight engineer survived. This event was Virginia's worst air disaster at the time. The inaccessibility of the crash site to emergency equipment, plus the large number of sightseers, severely taxed the Division's resources.

On December 31, 1961, Detective David W. Walker retired. He was the first member to leave after the County provided a retirement plan other than Social Security.

A reorganization was accomplished to provide increased supervision on January 1, 1962. George Doeppe, Robert Lindsey and Leslie Sheppard were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, joining H.W. Henshaw, who already held that rank. R.A. Wiltshire was promoted as the first Detective Sergeant. All detectives reported to him instead of the Chief of Police, a practice that had been followed since Captain Eacho resigned to become Sheriff.

Also promoted on that New Year's Day were W.J. Bourne, D.J. Cobb, J.R. Gray, R.T. Harris and C.W. Wingo to the rank of Sergeant. Named to the rank of Detective were L.R. Baker, C.L. Camp and A.L. Winter. Mattye Broaddus was elevated and became the Division's first Office Assistant, the equivalent of an Office Manager. As such she supervised all dispatchers and clerical personnel.

In May 1962 the Division's first photography laboratory was opened. It occupied space in the basement beneath the west wing of the Dabbs House. The small room was in an area which previously served as two detention cells. Although a vast improvement over the contractual services previously used, the equipment was primitive by today's standards. The two Lieutenants responsible for its operation, Lindsey and Sheppard, were also the Division's primary photographers. They were each furnished a "four-by-five" Crown Graphic camera and were on call for pictures around-the-clock.

The Chief of Police gave approval for the use of the Division's "rabbit ears" radar for speed enforcement in time for the Memorial Day weekend in 1962. It was useful only in the stationary mode.

On September 4, 1962, the volunteer mothers who had served as crossing guards in the Lakeside area under the guidance of Lieutenant Doeppe, formed the nucleus of the first paid School Crossing Guards. Those in the first detachment were Grace R. Chandler, Hazel D. Carter, Caroline Holland, Jean W. Mays, Evelyn B. Nuckols and Katherine R. Toney.

An increase in the volume of calls for service brought approval for an additional Deputy Dog Warden on July 1, 1964. He was assigned to a shift covering the evening hours.

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On April 19, 1965, the Emergency Operating Center (EOC), an underground complex at the rear of the Dabbs House, was occupied by the Division of Police and the Division of Fire staff. This fallout shelter was constructed with Civil Defense funds. Each space was designed to serve two purposes: the day-to-day operation of the two agencies and as the seat of government in the event of attack or natural disaster. At the time it was completed the Division of Police vacated all its space in the Dabbs House.

Not complete at time of the relocation was the 199-foot communications tower. The new tower was completed in July 1965 as a replacement for the cable-supported, 180-foot tower built in 1954. The first tower was knocked to the ground December 29, 1964, by a truck delivering equipment to the EOC construction site. During an eight-month period the Division operated from a temporary ninety-foot pole. This "barn pole" was erected on the same day the original tower was toppled.

After a long and tedious study, the four members of the Board of Supervisors approved a sweeping reorganization of the Division. On August 11, 1965, the Board adopted a plan which increased the complement by forty-six officers to a total of 155 employees; allowed for payment of a six-dollar fee for off-duty court appearances; reduced the work week from six days and fifty-four or sixty-hours, to five days and forty-four hours; and provided for a salary increase, additional supervision and loss of the individually assigned patrol cars.

September 22, 1965, was Dedication Day for the EOC. Governor A.S. Harrison was the principal speaker as the \$284,820 facility was officially opened for public inspection. Fire, police, and rescue demonstrations were provided, and radio station WRVA broadcast from what became Training Classroom Number One.

Elizabeth W. Matthews became Henrico's first female police officer October 16, 1965. "Liz" was one of the first, if not the first, of her sex to serve as a general duty police officer in this country.

On March 1, 1966, as a part of the previously approved reorganization and after competing in the Division's first competitive promotional examinations, twenty members were promoted. The Division's new Captains and their assignments were: G.J. Doeppe, Services; J.R. Lindsey, Traffic Safety; L.T. Sheppard, Uniform Patrol; and R.A. Wiltshire, Investigative Section. This group comprised the Division's first "command staff," along with D.V. Campbell, Animal Protection Supervisor.

The new Lieutenants were L.E. Browning, D.J. Cobb, H.N. Green, V.D. Greer, E.T. Montgomery and A.L. Winter. Herb Green rose from patrolman to his new rank.

C.R. Brooks, C.W. Kitchen, A.D. Mathews, J.H. Parker, R.C. Pence, L.P. Rotelli, C.R. Schesventer, G.J. Smith, J.G. Stanfield and E.M. Williams were promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Accompanying the reorganization was the Division's first organized effort to provide in-house training. A fourteen-day training period was required of all sworn members. The training included traffic signal operation, patrol techniques and the new organizational structure. Recruit personnel continued to attend the Central Police Training School.

On May 15, 1966, twenty uniformed members gathered at the old flagpole site, where the Dabbs House driveway intersects with Nine Mile Road. This was the first, and very simple, ceremony in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day celebrated by this Division.

Officer Jerry E. Trimmer was returning to the Dabbs House when his police car went out of control on August 14, 1966. The vehicle left Laburnum Avenue and overturned in a field at Harvie Road. Officer Trimmer died shortly after the accident at the local hospital.

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W.L. Davis and L. Kirk were the first members to be part of the Scuba Team. This service was first provided in April 1967.

Officer Wirtley G. Samuels retired December 1, 1967, becoming the second member to benefit from the relatively new retirement program.

Under sponsorship of the Ginter Park Junior Woman's Club, and due to efforts of the Henrico and Richmond Police and many businesses, Safety Town, Inc., was opened May 10, 1968, at Azalea Mall Shopping Center.

During the summer of 1968 every sworn member of the Division was provided an eighty-hour course of instruction in Traffic Accident Investigation. This course was performed by instructors from The Traffic Institute, Northwestern University under the auspices of a Highway Safety Grant.

On April 1, 1969, Wesley P. Arwood, a detective, retired after nearly thirty years with the Division.

Captain R.A. Wiltshire was the only member of the Division to have had the singular honor of graduating in the White House. On May 28, 1969, the members of the 83rd Session, FBI national Academy held their ceremony at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D.C.

On July 1, 1969, Chief W.J. Hedrick was promoted from the rank of Major to Colonel. This action was taken by the Administration and Governing Body in recognition of his continuous leadership achievements.

The Fairfield Ruritan Club had been celebrating the Fourth of July with parades from Glendale to the Dabbs House for several years. In early 1969 they decided to donate a memorial to the officers of this Division who had died in the line of duty, The monument, walkway and landscaping were provided by the Club, and their officers worked with County officials who provided funding for the three flagpoles. This tastefully executed project in front of the Dabbs House was dedicated July 4, 1969.

1970's

The advent of the decade of the seventies found the Division more intimately involved with the social problems of the community. These problems created needs for training which had not been anticipated before.

During the early part of 1970 training in the area of narcotics and drug abuse was provided for the first time. Although those substances were relatively unknown in the County prior to the late sixties, the training was certainly an omen of the future. As a direct result of this problem, two members, Sergeant J.H. Parker and Detective A.S. Powell, were assigned to concentrate on Vice and Intelligence activities beginning May 4, 1970.

The use of motorcycles has occurred throughout the Division's history. In the late 1940's and early 50's one had been available for limited use at special functions. From 1956 and through the decade of the sixties, motorcycle usage ceased. The Division returned to the use of the solo motorcycle during May 1970 when two Harley-Davidson police cycles were purchased. Three officers were selected from a group who trained under Corporal Paul Downey of the Fairfax County Police. The first Motorcycle Squad was composed of Officers W.C. Crittenden, III, T.L. Morgan and S.P. Stephenson.

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Captain Sheppard, because of his increasing responsibilities, saw the necessity for instituting the position of Administration Sergeant in Uniform Patrol. Sergeant L.P. Rotelli was the first member to serve in this capacity, commencing January 1, 1971. Sergeant Rotelli and Officer T.A. Clark were assigned to investigate various schedules used by other police agencies. The results of this study were presented to the members of Uniform Patrol. It was decided to institute a four platoon system, which permitted a change of shifts every seven days. The system in use prior to March 1971 required an officer to work each shift twenty-eight days. The new schedule also allowed each officer a "long weekend" once each month, something not available under the former system.

During the summer of 1971, two-watt, two-channel, personal portable radios were acquired for all of the School Crossing Guards under a Highway Safety Grant. A few of these radios also were made available to supervisory personnel in the Traffic Safety Section. This was the first time the Guards had been provided communications capability, and the Division received nationwide publicity for this program. The second frequency was a tactical channel licensed primarily for radar operations.

Later that same year the Investigative Section was able to acquire surveillance equipment through grants from the Division of Justice and Crime Prevention. Three investigators received a one-week training course on its utilization and maintenance.

During the summer of 1971 a van was acquired for use as a Crime Scene Search Unit and four members received extensive training in its use. By virtue of the Federal Grant which financed the unit, it was originally shared with other law enforcement agencies in Planning District 15. Later it became the property of the Division, but was still dispatched to other jurisdictions requesting assistance.

Lieutenant Cobb graduated with the 88th Session of the FBI National Academy November 3, 1971.

In November the International Association of Chiefs of Police presented a survey report on the Division to the County Manager and the Board of Supervisors. The on-site study was initiated during June and continued through August.

In 1972 a "Special Patrol" concept was adopted. Eight officers from Uniform Patrol operated in plainclothes and unmarked vehicles. They were utilized to investigate offenses which the Investigative Section could not handle due to manpower constraints.

Lieutenant Horace W. Henshaw retired from the Division June 27, 1972.

In the fall of 1972 the "Ride-Along" Program began. It was implemented to aid college interns interested in law enforcement careers, as well as high school students and adult citizens who wanted to know more about the Division's operations. This program became so popular, it was necessary to restrict participation of a continuing nature.

Sergeant Engels was the first member of the Division trained in Explosive Ordinance Disposal, attending classes at Redstone Arsenal in January 1973.

On June 22, 1973, Captain Lindsey graduated with the 93rd Session of the FBI National Academy, being the first member of the Division to have the opportunity to attend the Academy at the new Quantico campus.

Eight members were promoted June 27, 1973. R.G. Engels and C.R. Schesventer were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant; J.W. Gammon, S.C. Garner, C.S. McCray, H.D. Patterson, A.S. Powell and A.D. Salter were promoted to Sergeant.

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The Division of Fire and the Department of Welfare were relocated to 4900 West Marshall Street during the summer of 1973. The space formerly occupied by those agencies was renovated for use by Uniform Patrol and the Investigative Section. This relocation permitted the Administrative Services and Traffic Safety Sections to have more operating space in the EOC. The area formerly used by investigators was later renovated for use by the Chief of Police, and his old office became the Training Lieutenant's.

A survey was conducted among uniformed members of the Division during October 1973 to determine if the majority wished to retain the triangular shoulder patch or to go to a new design. The "vote" indicated 96.5 percent favored the new design, and it was issued in April 1974.

In March 1974 a Juvenile Unit was made part of the Investigative Section. The unit was first staffed by Sergeant R.A. Stapleton and Officers J.E. Comer, R.C. DeShazo and J.H. Turner III.

The Chief of Police recognized that traditional methods of handling certain high risk situations were inadequate. As such, in May 1974 members of the Division attended an extensive tactical training course at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. Lieutenant Engels, Sergeant Salter and Officers L.J. Albert, J.H. Eberly and L.E. Seigal became the Division's first Tactical Team.

After more than a year of planning the Special Action Force (SAF), also known as the High Intensity Target (HIT) Squad, began operations in July 1974. This group was formed under the auspices of a grant which encouraged development of innovative programs designed to deter major crimes. SAF members received special training in the use of firearms, surveillance, disguises and confrontation, their stated mission being on-scene apprehension of burglars and armed robbers. This unit was also provided with its own communications system, teletype, special weaponry and the first regular-issue ballistics vests in the Division.

The SAF was provided with quarters away from the primary police operation due to its need to function covertly. For the first time vehicles were used that were "non-police" in appearance. These cars and vans provided ideal concealment for surveillance. An important part of the surveillance function was provided by an especially equipped Cessna 172 which had sophisticated optical equipment on board and was modified to fly slowly and quietly. It was the Division's first aircraft. Four officers received pilot training.

The original SAF complement consisted of Lieutenant C.R. Schesventer; Sergeants R.W. Justice and S.C. Garner; Officers J.W. Atkinson, B.T. Cook, J.H. Eberly, W.B. England, J.E. Giovantti, W. J. McCormick, M. S. Sharp, R.H. Sherry, F. R. Spicer, V.M. Swanson, R.A. Taylor, A.R. Titman and U.T. Walker. The pilots were Officers G.B. Cary, M.L. Denton, C.W. Lewis and J.F. Phillips. Mrs. Frances C. Lumpkin was the unit's Clerk-Stenographer and T.J. McGonigle Jr. the Systems and Procedures Analyst.

On July 15, 1974, the Division began issuing all personnel new revolvers and leather. The six-inch, blue steel, Colt .38 caliber revolvers that had so long resided in swivel holsters were replaced by the Smith and Wesson, four-inch, stainless steel, .38 caliber, Model 64, in a semi-high rise holster. With the change in leather, the "Sam Browne-type" of across-the-shoulder belt was phased out.

During the fall of 1974 construction of the Firearms Training Facility began at a former Department of Public Works gravel pit south of the intersection of LaFrance and Portugee Roads.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

On October 27, 1974, Officer Charles R. Brosius was killed in an automobile accident. Officer Brosius, who resided in Hampton, was enroute from his home to begin a midnight tour when the crash occurred. He had been employed September 18, 1974, and was in the process of purchasing a home in Highland Springs. On the day of his death he had been home to help pack for the move to Henrico County. Shortly after his death, his wife gave birth to their second child.

Nine members were promoted October 30, 1974. The new Lieutenant was R.L. Foster; F.W. Chandler, T.A. Clark, R.D. Clements, C.W. Lewis, L.E. Seigal, L.E. Shaw, S.P. Stephenson and W.L. Vaughan were elevated to the rank of Sergeant.

On November 5, 1974, Officers R.K. Ainsley and J.E. Rollins were on routine patrol on West Broad Street at 1738 hours. Officer Ainsley was driving and Officer Rollins, who had been appointed to the Division October 16, 1974, was in the right front seat. As they passed 5600 West Broad, Officer Rollins observed someone lying on the floor in the Richmond National Bank. Officer Ainsley turned back to the bank, and at that instant there was a radio transmission that it was being held up. They learned the suspect had fled west on Broad Street on foot. At the intersection of Spencer Road and Broad Street they observed him about to enter a car. Officer Ainsley called to the individual to "freeze," and the suspect began firing into the police vehicle with a revolver. Officer Ainsley was wounded in the left shoulder before he could exit the police car. Officer Rollins exited and was wounded in the head as he returned fire from behind the police car. As the suspect fired and ran, Officer Rollins wounded him fatally. Both officers recovered from their wounds and subsequently returned to full duty.

Twenty-five recruits entered into twelve weeks of intensive studies as the First Basic Training Academy was launched on January 6, 1975.

A significant increase in residential burglaries caused County Manager E.A. Beck to approve creation of the Burglary Enforcement Attack Team (BEAT) in March 1975. The Unit was initially staffed by an Acting Sergeant, R.C. DeShazo, twelve Police Officers and eight Police Aides. The group was provided specialized training in techniques designed to reduce the opportunity to successfully commit residential burglaries. The areas with the highest incidence of this type of crime were canvassed; security surveys and other "target-hardening" information were provided to those who were interested.

The classification of Police Aide was introduced during this time. These "para-professionals" were provided training and assigned duties which did not require fully-trained police officers. In addition to the eight Police Aides assigned to the BEAT Program, two assumed fleet maintenance duties and four were assigned to the service of non-arrest legal documents.

On April 16, 1975, the number of patrol beats was increased from fifteen to twenty-one. The following month the first phase of construction at the firearms range was completed, and it was immediately placed in service.

R.C. DeShazo, H.B. Norton and J.R. Poteat were promoted to the rank of Sergeant on June 25, 1975.

The Division implemented the Police Planning Section under a Division of Justice and Crime Prevention Grant on July 1, 1975. The original members of this Section were Captain Lindsey, Officer J.D. Fox, Planner Karen S. Layne, Systems and Procedures Analyst Tom McGonigle and Clerk-Stenographer Evelyn C. Marken. When the Planning Section was initiated, the Traffic Safety Section was reduced to unit status and placed under Uniform Patrol.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

On the evening of July 21, 1975, Officers J.E. Duke and D.L. Kimmick responded to 5705 Bethlehem Road in response to a domestic disturbance call. They were confronted by a man wielding a shotgun. When this circumstance was reported via the radio, other units responded. During attempts to negotiate with the individual an opportunity presented itself to seize the individual and his shotgun. In the ensuing struggle the .12-gauge shotgun discharged, striking Detective R.W. Saady in the left shoulder. The damage was extensive and Detective Saady subsequently separated from the Division.

In December 1975 all police officers were required to undergo a thorough and complete physical examination at the Nelson Clinic, Medical College of Virginia. Prior to this time pre-employment physical examination had not been required.

At a meeting in May 1976 the Board of Supervisors approved preliminary plans for the new Public Safety Building and authorized the architects to proceed with a final design.

The Police Planning Section completed drafting a Directives Manual. A survey of all members had indicated this project should have that new Section's highest priority. Goals and objectives from each section and unit were completed and transformed into a work plan for the next fiscal year. It was the first time that these types of documents had been formalized, published and issued in book form.

For National Police Week the Division put its "best foot forward" with a significant exhibit at the new Regency Square Shopping Mall. The weeklong exhibit had been held in previous years at Eastgate Mall and Azalea Mall.

On May 31, 1976, Lieutenant Herbert N. Green retired from active service with the Division.

The National Association of County Officials recognized the Division's use of para-professionals in law enforcement at its annual conference in June 1976. Henrico received the "New County, USA" award for this innovation.

A contract was awarded for the second phase of the firing range. In June construction began on the skeet course and the administration-control tower building.

Lieutenant Engels graduated with the 150th Session of the FBI National Academy on June 17, 1976.

On June 23, 1976, H.W. Stanley, Jr., was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Promoted to Sergeant on this occasion were P.L. Brauer, J.E. Comer, W.C. Crittenden III, D.M. Fitzgerald, R.E. Loving, W.R. Lynch, J.W. Pierce, M.O. Rowe and F.R. Spicer.

On July 7, 1976, thirty-one police officers took the oath of office, becoming the largest group ever appointed at one time.

Under the auspices of federal grants, additional portable radios were acquired and, for the first time, tape recorders and cameras were placed in patrol units during July.

The Police-School Liaison Program began in September. Three Juvenile Officers were assigned to the secondary schools to aid in diversion programs.

Under a contractual arrangement entered into by the County and the Capital Region Airport Commission, the Division assumed responsibility for overseeing the screening of passengers at Richard Evelyn Byrd International Airport. This new operation began in October 1976 during a peak in airline hijacking.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

By December 1976 the single radio frequency, which had been placed in operation twenty-two years before, was completely saturated with radio traffic. Even though the Division of Fire and General Government agencies each had their own frequencies, the rapid growth of the Division mandated more "air-time." The Board of Supervisors approved funds to renovate the communications space in the EOC, provide an additional police console, and construct a 100-foot tower and transceiver at Henrico Avenue and Ridge Road. This site, at one of the County's highest elevations, would serve the western areas with a 100-watt base station. Approval was granted even as planning was initiated for a complete new communications system in future years.

On January 14, 1977, Captain Lindsey met with members of the Eastern Henrico Clergy Association to discuss the feasibility of a Clergy Ride-Along Program. Sergeant T.A. Clark was appointed Division Coordinator to work with them.

During February 1977 promotional examinations were conducted for those aspiring to the rank of Captain. Tests had not been conducted at this level since 1965, and nine Lieutenants competed in the process.

Detective R.B. McRae was wounded while assisting Federal authorities on February 27, 1977. The FBI had been conducting a "sting" operation and began to execute their warrants on the evening of February 26. One wanted subject was not at home; his apartment and the one next door were occupied by the Special Agents along with Detective McRae. When the suspect and a companion entered the apartment, the agents identified themselves and were immediately fired on. Detective McRae and the agents in the adjoining apartment rushed to assist, and Detective McRae was wounded in the shoulder. The assailant was fatally wounded by shotgun blasts, and his accomplice was captured a short time later. Detective McRae was away from his duties for six weeks, and on light duty for a period of time after his return to work.

Colonel Wilmer J. Hedrick, who had served as Chief of Police since March 1, 1940, announced his intention to retire effective March 15, 1977. He had guided growth of the Division from eleven to four hundred and six members, supervised acquisition of vastly improved equipment, and instituted high standards for recruiting, training and demeanor, all while serving as Chief of Police for a tenure greater than all of his predecessors holding that title combined.

Captain Leslie T. Sheppard was appointed Chief of Police by County Manager E.A. Beck. He was sworn in at a ceremony presided over by Edmund W. Hening, Jr., Chief Judge, Henrico Circuit Court, on March 15, 1977. The new Chief, son of William Bryan, and nephew of Joe Spencer Sheppard, both of whom died in the 1950 era, continued a family tradition of law enforcement service which began in the 1920 decade.

Captain J. Robert Lindsey was promoted to Major and assigned as the Division's first Executive Officer March 16, 1977. D.J. Cobb and R.G. Engels were promoted to the rank of Captain and assigned to command Police Planning and Uniform Operations respectively. W.L. Davis and R.A. Stapleton were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. M.A. Batten and C.E. Demory were elevated to the rank of Sergeant.

On Sunday afternoon following Colonel Hedrick's retirement the members of the Division hosted a reception in his honor at Chamberlayne Elementary School. A great number of Colonel and Mrs. Hedrick's friends, fellow-workers and admirers attended. Gifts and praise were heaped upon this couple, who had meant so much to so many for so long.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

On March 11, 1977, the firearms range was completed and officially dedicated as the “Wilmer J. Hedrick Public Safety Training Center.”

March 31, 1977, marked retirement for the County Manager, Mr. Beck. His duties were assumed by Mr. William S. Dewhirst, who was named Acting County Manager by the Board of Supervisors.

On the occasion of National Police week, the Division joined with other law enforcement agencies for the first “Day in the Park With a Friend.”

On July 1, 1977, the Animal Protection Agency was reorganized. The title of Animal Protection Officer replaced Deputy Dog Warden, and a new intermediate shift supervisor was implemented. C.P. Stinson was promoted as the first Senior Animal Protection Officer on July 6, 1977.

Lieutenant R.L. Foster graduated with the 110th Session of the FBI National Academy July 10, 1977.

The Internal Affairs Unit, which had operated on an informal basis since late 1975, was formally made a part of the organization in July 1977. Its first commander was Sergeant R.W. Justice. The number of patrol beats was increased from twenty-one to twenty-four during July.

During August 1977 the added communications capability, funded by the Board of Supervisors nine months before, became operational. Even as this was occurring, staff members and the Acting County Manager were visiting other police agencies as plans were being made for future, improved communications to be located in the new Public Safety Building.

Lieutenant C.W. Kitchen graduated from the FBI National Academy with the 114th Session September 22, 1978.

In October an experimental program was instituted in Communications. Experienced police officers were assigned to the Telephone Reporting Unit (TRU). This concept permitted citizens to utilize the telephone for reports of minor offenses. Time was saved for the reporting party, and each TRU officer was handling more than double the volume of calls for service than was being accomplished by his field counterpart. The users were pleased with the service and the County benefitted by having lower fleet costs and greater officer availability for major incidents.

Lieutenant Schesventer was the first member of the Division to graduate from the Administrative Officer’s Course, Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville. His class, the 58th, graduated November 10, 1977.

During November 1977 the Clergy Ride-Along actually began with Uniform Operations. Seven months later the program was expanded to the entire Division. The original eighteen clergymen in this program were James Athearn, David Bailey, William Bare, John Boon, Carnie Burcham, David Canada, Louis Carson, Charles Cooke, David Dyer, Wollom Jensen, David Lewis, James Lowder, Clyde Nuckols, Xel Sant’Anna, Victor Schmick, Sherrill Stevens, Kenneth Webb and John Wimer.

Animal Protection Supervisor “Junie” Campbell was instrumental in making the November groundbreaking for the Public Safety Building “different.” He graciously donated the use of his mule, “Elli,” and a single plow. The members of the Board of Supervisors, the County Manager and the Chiefs of Fire and Police demonstrated their farming prowess at this significant ceremony.

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November 1977 was significant in other respects too. Mrs. Edith L. Butler, a Clerk-Typist assigned to the Investigative Section, retired to live in Middlesex County. That month Law Enforcement Explorer Post 608 began with five members under the direction of Investigator Dave Collins. The Post was designed to give high school students interested in law enforcement experience by working with police officers. Students could participate in the ride-along program, field trips and related activities.

Henrico County joined with the City of Richmond in initiating the universal emergency telephone number, 9-1-1, during the last month of 1977.

The second month of 1978 was the beginning of another development. Major data gathering began to determine the feasibility of Computer Aided Dispatch.

During February, ten members of the Division were selected to attend an Advanced Accident Investigation Course conducted by the Virginia Commonwealth University. From this class four officers were selected to initiate the Crash Investigation Team; they were: S.B. Chewning, E.R. Hodge, W.H. Trice and C.P. Wade.

Four officers were selected to participate in a fourteen-week officer-canine training program. Graduating in April and initiating the Canine Patrol were Officers D.M. Fauver, D.A. Goodman, R.A. Loving and S.B. Shaw. Although this was the first formal Canine Unit, S.R. Slaughter and E.M. Williams had trained personally owned dogs in the early 1960 era.

Mr. Frank A. Faison was named County Manager in March 1978, and Mr. Dewhirst became Associate County Manager.

April 1978 also saw another important development. Colonel Sheppard, working in close concert with the new County Manager and the Board of Supervisors, gained approval for the Career Development Program. Aimed at rewarding conscientious career officers; encouraging improved job performance and higher education; enhancing police-community involvement; and reducing a high attrition rate, the program was welcomed by most officers.

Lieutenant Vernon D. Greer retired from police service due to physical disability on May 1, 1978.

The Inspectional Services Unit was officially incorporated into the organization July 1, 1978. Sergeant L.P. Rotelli was the first commander of that function.

During the mid-morning of August 8, 1978, Officer Barry Wayne Maham was dispatched to a domestic dispute. While standing on the front porch talking to the female participant, Officer Maham was fatally wounded at point-blank range by a shotgun blast from the front door. The woman's husband, who was responsible for this killing, secreted himself in the home. His actions triggered a large-scale tactical operation before he was arrested at the site of the shooting. This tragedy certainly ranks as one of the most traumatic events in the Division's modern history. A memorial service for Officer Maham, held at Saint John's Roman Catholic Church in Highland Springs, was attended by hundreds of law enforcement officers from this and other states.

1978 was the occasion for seven promotions: H.D. Patterson to Lieutenant, March 17; and the following were promoted to Sergeant: R.K. Ainsley, January 4; D.G. Bise, February 22; W.B. England, October 11; J.D. Fox, June 21; E.J. Sordelett, March 29; O.T. White, March 1.

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On February 15, 1979, Sergeant Robert T. Harris retired. He was followed on April 1 by Captain George J. Doepppe and on April 16 by Captain Reuben A. Wiltshire. Due to these retirements and a decision to initiate the Watch Commander position on the evening shift, another group was promoted on April 11, 1979. New Captains were R.L. Foster, C.W. Kitchen and A.L. Winter. Newly promoted to Lieutenant were S.C. Garner and C.S. McCray; with N.A. Bero and M.J. Cushnie, Sergeants.

The Special Action Force and the Crime Prevention Unit were consolidated under the Crime Prevention Section commanded by Captain Kitchen. Captain Engels became the first Watch Commander.

Lieutenant Mathews graduated from the 61st Administrative Officers Course, Southern Police Institute, May 11, 1979.

During August 1979 the Western Precinct began operations from temporary quarters located in the Motor Pool area at the County Government Center. This division of forces served several purposes. It enabled evaluation of this type of operation in preparation for the opening of the Public Safety Building; it would save time in manning beats in the western half of the County; it would result in significant motor fuel conservation, since travel to and from the Dabbs House for each shift change was curtailed. Assignment of officers to precincts based on the proximity of their residence also saved personal travel expenses.

To effectuate the two precinct operation it was necessary to have additional supervision. A new, appointive rank was created. The position of Command Sergeant, an assistant to the Platoon Commander, would also serve as a Career Development step for those on the management path. On August 1, 1979, the first five Command Sergeants were C.R. Brooks, T.A. Clark, R.W. Justice, A.D. Salter and G.J. Smith. New Sergeants promoted on the same date were J.J. Bishop, M.W. Dale, A.H. Harper, A.T. Leary, R.A. Loving, and K.E. Mercer. Command Sergeant Salter was the first man of that rank to serve as the Administrative Sergeant in Uniform Operations.

Sergeant L.R. Baker was assigned as the Investigative Section's first Administrative Sergeant in September 1979.

On November 12, 1979, at 1759 hours, Officers D.P. McClain and J.F. McCormick went to 2010 Redman Road to execute an arrest warrant. After an initial contact with the wanted subject, he closed the front door. At that time Officer McCormick went to the rear of the apartment, with Officer McClain remaining in the front. The occupant again partially opened the door and fired a .38 caliber revolver, striking Officer McClain in the chest. Shortly after Officer McClain's wounding a fire was observed in the apartment, and within thirty minutes the subject was forced to jump from a rear second-floor window. He was immediately apprehended. After a recuperative period, Officer McClain returned to full duty.

One of the most significant events of this decade was the formalization of the Division's relationship with the Henrico Mental Health Service. An informal rapport had been struck with that agency through Dough Hough in 1975. By 1979 the need for this professional assistance to members and their families became so evident that a formal agreement was made. Reese Harris, Dr. Bob Glenn, along with Jim Stewart and his entire staff, played a major role in the Division's progress.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

1980's

The "Exciting-Eighties" is a term that is certainly appropriate. This decade opened with some truly, long-awaited events.

Planning for the Division's first headquarters facility designed solely for police was about to become a reality. While the latter part of the prior decade had been devoted to planning, a major part of the Division was about to have a new "home."

There was so much interest in the new Public Safety Building it became necessary to declare it "off-limits." Construction workers were unable to work with all the police personnel trying to see what was going on. Due to the great interest the Executive Officer and the Inspector made arrangements with the builder to conduct hourly tours on a Saturday in March. On the appointed day there was a significant snow storm, but in spite of the inclement weather most of the "tourists" came.

The interest of those to be affected had been magnified by the planning attendant to moving to this new facility. The Inspectional Services Unit had the responsibility for coordinating the relocation of services without a disruption in services. This was no minor responsibility, since the Division had been at one location for nearly forty years.

Senior Animal Protection Officer Curtis P. Stinson left the Division on disability retirement January 23, 1980. He had initially been employed as a Dispatcher.

On March 26, 1980, R.W. Justice and A.D. Salter were promoted to Lieutenant. L.E. Shaw and W.H. Wilkinson were promoted to Command Sergeant. C.S. Alberta, G.S. Collings, V.T. Dyer, S.L. Greer, T.J. Higgins, J.W. Hughson, J.I. Medlin and R.C. Wells were promoted to Sergeant. All of the realignment was attendant to the need for additional supervision, as well as filling needs attendant to the move to a true, two-precinct operation.

On Friday, March 28, 1980, the Chief of Police, Executive Officer, Inspector, and the Chief's Secretary made their move. On Friday, April 4, the remaining administrative functions joined them at the Government Center. Minor work was accomplished over that weekend. On Easter Monday morning, Uniform Operation's Western Precinct moved from their temporary quarters across Prince Henry Road, and the new facility was in operation. Acclamation to the new facilities was very swift; there was no discernible disruption in services.

The Communications Section and Training Unit remained in the Emergency Operations Center. Uniform Operation's Eastern Precinct occupied the first floor of the Dabbs House and the Special Action Force soon moved from leased facilities at the airport to the second floor. The Dabbs House was subjected to interior renovations to brighten its appearance, tighten security and provide greater efficiency.

In the Public Safety Building the County had provided for Polygraph Examinations, a fully equipped Forensics Laboratory, adequate prisoner handling facilities, a physical training room, male and female locker rooms. None of these attributes had been available before. As the renovation of Dabbs House progressed, physical training equipment and locker rooms were provided there too.

Immediately after the two previously mentioned projects, the Animal Shelter was also expanded. Additional office space and space for animal housing was provided. On July 7, 1980, R.B. Schaff, Animal Shelter Custodian, retired from active service.

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The opening of the Public Safety Building necessitated a number of new job classifications. Ten positions were created for Identification and Booking Technicians to operate that new unit around-the-clock; the first incumbents were Rodney Atland, Valerie Baytop, Alphonzo Christian, E.W. Cook, Bonnie Gregory, Mildred Gunn, Troy Lindsey, Karen Luzier, Debra Rabuck Price and Wayne Rustin.

Because the new building was designed for controlled ingress, five new positions for Police Aide-Receptionist were allocated. The original receptionists were Pat Brady, Cindy Farrar, Marge Friend, Susan Jenkins and Cathy Mills.

The construction of a property handling area for the first time created the opportunity to provide a vastly improved method of safeguarding evidence and other property. The first Property Technicians were G.W. Aliff and W.L. Penny.

The year 1980 also marked the beginning of a procedure that had long been sought after. On May 1 the use of parking citations was implemented. Prior to this innovation, the issue of a summons for a parking violation was a time-consuming and cumbersome process.

On May 9, 1980, Lieutenant Davis graduated from the 63rd Administrative Officers Course, Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville.

On July 2, 1980, Uniform Operations platoon members began a four-day, ten-hour schedule. This proposal was developed, refined and recommended to the Chief of Police by an in-house study group composed of Lieutenant Davis, Command/Sergeant Brooks and Sergeants Batten and Bise. The proposal provided a means of providing greater coverage during periods of peak activity without increasing the number of police officers. It also provided longer periods of time away from duty, a major failing of the former schedule.

Creation of a fifth platoon was necessary to implement the new schedule, thus "E" Platoon was born. It was necessary to provide supervision for the unit and T.A. Clark was promoted to Lieutenant; W.C. Crittenden and A.S. Powell to Command Sergeant; W.M. Carter, S.W. Englehart, W.H. Trice and H.K. Wilson were promoted to Sergeant.

Also on July 2, 1980, H.W. Stanley was promoted to Captain and assigned as the first Shift One Watch Commander, and C.R. Brooks was promoted to Lieutenant as Stanley's platoon replacement. D.M. Fitzgerald was promoted to Command Sergeant and assigned as the Investigative Section's first Command Sergeant serving as Administrative Sergeant.

The Division's second, fixed-wing aircraft was delivered and placed in service in 1980. The new aircraft, a Maule, designed for short take-off and landing, required all pilots to be retrained.

A trailer was acquired for use by the Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team. This new apparatus is designed to safely transport explosive devices and was the only one of its type available to a local law enforcement agency in the metropolitan area.

Uniform Operations instituted a program whereby officers parked their vehicles for one hour. The officer either walked a high incident area or observed traffic problem location during this period of time. This strategy not only proved to be an effective deterrent, but resulted in the conservation of approximately 50,000 gallons of gasoline during the year.

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During 1980 the Division's data-processing capability was increased from entering traffic crash and arrest data to include calls for service information as a forerunner of Computer Aided Dispatch.

A new class of supervisors was established in the Communications Section. A Senior Communications Officer was appointed on each platoon to assist the sergeant and supervise in his absence. The original persons promoted to this position were Brenda Davis, Karen Davis, Lee Gilbert and Fred Winfrey.

On December 12, 1980, Captain Stanley graduated from the FBI National Academy with the other members of the 123rd Session.

On January 7, 1981, Steven Guthrie joined the Planning Section for the specific purpose of aiding in the creation and maintenance of location files being developed for the Computer Aided Dispatch System. The following week Captain Stanley and Lieutenant Justice were transferred to Communications. Communications had been a part of Administrative Services since 1966, but on January 14, 1981, was given sectional status because of its important role in the Division.

On May 8, 1981, Lieutenant Patterson graduated with the 65th Session of the Administrative Officers Course, Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville.

On May 12, 1981, the years of planning a new communications center bore fruit. A carefully planned relocation permitted the new system to be activated as the old system was closed down with no discernible interruption of services to the citizens or police officers. The telephone company had its technicians transfer 911 trunk lines during the very early hours of the morning when activity was anticipated to be at a low point. By 7:00 a.m. the transfers were complete and the center was operational.

Field personnel were enabled to utilize seven UHF channels in lieu of the two VHF channels which had been in service previously. Police officers were all equipped with personal portables instead of mobile radios, which was quite a change.

During this same period of time the Board of Supervisors enacted an ordinance regulating taxi cabs. The issuance of licenses, the required inspections and related enforcement dictated assignment of an officer on a full-time basis. Sergeant J.A. Price was the Division's first "taxi inspector."

The Division conducted its first in-service training designed specifically for investigators. "White collar" crimes and organized crime served as a catalyst for this specialized training.

The Crime Prevention Section introduced a unit specifically for Crime Analysis; the Special Action Force participated in its first "sting" operation and the purchase of stolen property resulted in numerous felony arrests.

On June 10, 1981, the Public Safety Building was formally dedicated. With County and State officials present, the Divisions of Fire and Police conducted tours, set up equipment, displays, and generally provided those attending the opportunity to see the new facilities. It was during this ceremony that members of the Division formally presented portraits of Colonel Hedrick, Retired Chief of Police; Colonel Sheppard, Chief of Police; and Major Lindsey, the first Executive Officer.

In September 1981 twelve men and women joined the Aerial Unit's Citizen Volunteer Observer Program. These citizens were trained as aerial observers, and each one contributed two evenings per month. The reduction in pilot fatigue and the ability to better utilize paid flight personnel demonstrated the real value of this program. The original group was composed of Charles S. Blake, Raymond L. Brooks, Ronald L.

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Edds, Charles E. Koestner, James E. McLane, John W. Thornton, Jr., Maurice R. Rice, John D. Jeter, Donald W. Lipe, Allen H. Rogers, Richard D. McClure and Margaret A. Nichols.

The First Annual Virginia Criminal Justice Police Chase was held at Fort Harrison September 19, 1981. One hundred and sixty-five runners from various criminal justice agencies across the State participated in this 6.2-mile foot chase, which is sponsored by the Division. Twenty-four of the participants were Division of Police personnel.

December 1981 saw the retirement of Identification and Booking Technician E.W. Cook. He had originally been employed as a Dispatcher.

Gladys Hildebrand, Secretary, Special Action Force, retired in April 1982. On September 24, 1982, Lieutenant T.A. Clark, Jr., graduated with the 130th Session of the FBI National Academy.

The Second Annual Virginia Criminal Justice Police Chase became an "international" event when Tan Ngo Chew from the Singapore Police Department participated. He was one of over forty members of the 130th Session of the FBI National Academy who traveled to the County to "chase." In all, 195 criminal justice practitioners from Virginia and across the country competed on September 18, 1982.

Shortly after midnight, Sunday, October 24, 1982, Command/Sergeant G.J. Smith was given information that there was an armed man in a restaurant on Washington Highway near Parham Road. As he drove into the parking area to investigate, he was confronted by a gunman who shot him three times before he could exit his vehicle. The suspect was captured by other members of this Division after a pursuit into Hanover County. Command/Sergeant Smith was confined for a long period of time and returned to the hospital on two occasions after his original release. Despite the magnitude of his injuries, he returned to full duty.

Although the Division was one of the first in the State to train its officers in the techniques of Emergency Vehicle Operation, it was necessary to do so on borrowed facilities until November 9, 1982. On that day the Emergency Vehicle Operation Course at Richard E. Byrd International Airport was dedicated. This facility includes skill driving and skid-pan capabilities.

During the Division's 1982 Christmas Buffet a collection was initiated by Communications personnel to purchase a VU Phone. This device permits the hearing-impaired community to communicate directly with Communications via teletypes in their homes. The Fraternal Order of Police recognized the merits of this undertaking and donated the equipment. The new VU Phone was placed in service during January 1983. It replaced a severely obsolete teletype which had been used for this purpose.

In early 1983 the Division's original Crime Scene Search Unit, a van, was removed from service. The Communications Section requested it be reassigned to them for purposes of building a Mobile Communications Command Post. Captain Stanley, Lieutenant Justice and Sergeant Greer completely renovated the vehicle and it was repainted. Captain Stanley, Lieutenant Justice and Carlton Walker then outfitted the van with a mobile telephone and radios. The vehicle has equipment which permits it to operate independently in remote areas, or it may be "plugged-in" to a regular power source. This Command Post, dubbed "Commo-One," is an example of the cost-consciousness growing out of the eighties. Many agencies have expended over a hundred thousand dollars to purchase units with the capability contained in this vehicle when it was placed in service in June 1983.

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February 1983 saw a reorganization which created the Organized Crime and Intelligence Section. The Special Action Force, formerly in Crime Prevention; the Vice Unit, formerly part of the Investigative Section; and the Intelligence Section, prior to that time reporting directly to the Chief of Police, all were combined under the leadership of Captain R.G. Engels.

The Crime Prevention Unit was moved under the supervision of Uniform Operations and made a part of Special Operations along with the Aerial, Canine, Crash Team, Traffic Safety Units, Scuba, and Explosive Ordinance Disposal Teams.

Joyce M. Farmer died July 6, 1983. With her death the Division lost one of its most enthusiastic and dedicated members. Joyce joined the Division as a School Crossing Guard and was stationed at Howard Road and Laburnum Avenue for more than seven years. Later she served as the relief guard on a countywide basis, in addition to serving as an instructor at Safety Town. Her last assignment was at Austin and Laburnum Avenues, where she provided protection for the students of Glen Lea Elementary School.

Two long-term employees made the decision to retire in late 1983. Lieutenant E.T. Montgomery retired November 1, 1983, after thirty-four years of service. On December 31, 1983, Captain A.L. Winter, Sr., left after twenty-nine years with the Division. On January 1, 1984, H.D. Patterson was promoted to Captain and assigned as Commanding Officer of the Investigative Section.

On January 25, 1984, Colonel Sheppard presented a proposal to the Board of Supervisors to reinstitute a take-home car plan for the members of the Division. The majority of the Board approved and allocated thirty cars immediately. On February 13 a meeting was held with the first thirty officers to benefit from this program. At the conclusion of the meeting the first four vehicles were placed in service. This completed the cycle which began in November 1965, when a then-massive increase in complement served as the catalyst to discontinue individual vehicle assignments. The take-home program not only provided high police visibility, but also resulted in a substantial cost savings in vehicle expenses, according to preliminary reports.

On February 13, 1984, Investigator M.D. Nicholas and Officer N.T. Muncy initiated the Report Review Office under the Planning and Analysis Section. Working with "D" Platoon on this demonstration project were Bruce Gould, Steve Guthrie, Lieutenant Salter and all members of the Investigative Section.

On March 23, 1984, Lieutenant R.W. Justice became the twelfth member to graduate from the FBI National Academy, when the Session completed its studies.

In Fiscal Year 1983-84 a computerized records system related to property storage was implemented, and the Property Unit became responsible for entering stolen and recovered items into the computer.

Operation "Clean Street," a one-year sting operation, was completed during 1984. It resulted in the return of 80 grand jury indictments and the recovery of \$100,000 in stolen property. That same year the Enforcement Unit seized illegal drugs with a street value of \$17.2 million and seized \$324,208 in cash.

The Division commemorated its fiftieth anniversary in 1984.

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National Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15, 1984, was the occasion for two ceremonies. Following breakfast at the Fraternal Order of Police, members of the Division assembled at Dabbs House to pay homage to those who had died in the line of duty. In the evening a ceremony was held in front of the Public Safety Building which included the awarding of Medals of Valor for the first time. The recipients were Sergeant V.T. Dyer and Officers J.G. Bateman, S.D. Jones, D.P. McClain, L.T. Parker and S.L. Wilson. Following the awards, families and friends were invited to tour the Headquarters.

On November 8, 1984, another member made the supreme sacrifice. Police Officer First Class D.A. Stillman parked on a new subdivision street. Unknowingly he had arrived upon the scene of a criminal sexual assault. A male subject had committed a robbery at a nearby service station and abducted the female attendant. As Stillman exited his patrol vehicle, the abductor ran into a wooded area. Stillman pursued him, caught him and was subsequently killed with his own service revolver. The alleged killer was apprehended the next morning.

On May 15, 1985, the Medal of Valor was awarded to Sergeant N.A. Bero, Officer C.M. Harpster and Officer L.J. Panebianco. The first posthumous Medal of Valor was presented to Officer Stillman's widow, Madeline, accompanied by their infant daughter, Jennifer Lauren, on this occasion. She was also presented his badges encased in lucite, as number 153 was retired from service.

The Division's first Executive Office, Major J. Robert Lindsey, retired August 2, 1985, after more than 34 years of service. On August 7 R.G. Engels was promoted to Major; T.A. Clark, Jr., was promoted to Captain; J.D. Fox to Lieutenant; and W.M. Bullock to Sergeant.

On August 20, 1985, Lieutenant L.E. Browning retired after more than 39 years as a member. His departure occasioned the promotion of D.G. Bise to Lieutenant and G.H. Hutchison to Sergeant. Sergeant E.M. Williams retired on September 2, 1985. S.F. Alloway was promoted to Sergeant as his replacement.

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PART II

In March 1985, while directing traffic near a tool-shed fire, Officer R.A. Kepple was hit by a car driven by a teenager. The officer sustained numerous severe injuries and remained in a coma for a month. After an intensive therapy program he returned to full-time desk duty in November.

The Special Operations Unit was reorganized in April 1985 with assignment of the Canine and Crash Team members to individual Platoons.

On October 7, 1985, officers responded to a domestic call in the Broad Meadows subdivision and found themselves in a four-hour standoff with an armed man, who fired several shots while in his house. For a time he refused to negotiate by telephone, but finally an officer persuaded him to surrender.

Changeover to Enhanced 911 Emergency Telephone System took place December 9, 1985, using new equipment that immediately made available on a video screen the caller's telephone number, address and, in some instances, the caller's name. The system made possible quicker dispatch of emergency personnel, provided an immediate call-back capability and allowed Communications personnel to dispatch fire, police and rescue personnel even if the caller could not provide the necessary information. During 1985 the Communications staff handled 101,217 calls for service, a significant increase over the preceding year.

On December 16, 1985, three Henrico officers returned fire and killed a male suspect after he attempted an armed robbery at the Safeway Store in Parham Plaza. The man had been under surveillance because of information that he was planning a crime.

On January 8, 1986, Susan W. Austin became the first woman to hold the rank of Sergeant in the Henrico Police Division. She joined the Division in 1977 as patrol officer, working first in Communications. At the time of her promotion, of the 321 sworn officers in the Division, 12 were women.

Police chiefs and sheriffs from the counties of Henrico, Hanover, New Kent, Goochland and Charles City in June 1986 signed an agreement to assist each other in investigations. Among support functions to be shared were uniform and plainclothes officers, forensic laboratory assistance, bomb units, police dogs and extra jail cells for large-scale arrests.

On January 7, 1987, Henrico County, City of Richmond and Chesterfield County signed a joint agreement to form the Metro Aviation Unit. The primary purpose was to maintain aerial services for each jurisdiction while sharing operational costs.

Colonel Leslie T. Sheppard, 56, Chief of the Henrico Division of Police since June 1977, retired in early 1987, completing his tenure by serving from mid-January until retirement April 3 as Henrico County's Director of Public Safety. He had served with Henrico police since 1950 except for active duty with the Virginia National Guard in the 1950s; he had been a uniformed officer since June 1952. He became Chief when Wilmer J. Hedrick retired in 1977.

On January 20, 1987, Colonel Richard G. Engels, 52, became Chief of Police, the third person to hold the position since 1940, when the Division was separated from the Sheriff's Office. A native of Petersburg, Colonel Engels joined the Division in 1964 at age 30. Five feet, nine inches tall, he did not meet height requirements to become a police officer when he graduated from high school, so he joined the U.S. Army, where he became an M.P. He later served in the U.S. Air Force. In 1964 he joined the Henrico Division of Police after seeing a newspaper advertisement seeking new officers and learning he could meet

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Henrico's height requirement. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1969, to Lieutenant in 1973, to Captain in 1977, and to Major in 1985. He then became Executive Officer under Chief Sheppard.

Under the guidance of Colonel Engels the Division was soon reorganized to include two components, each under command of a Major. Field Operations included the Division's law enforcement and crime prevention functions. Support Operations included Fiscal Operations, Training, Communications and Records-keeping. Captain R.L. Foster was promoted to Major in charge of Support Operations, and Captain H.W. Stanley was promoted to Major in charge of Field Operations.

On April 26, 1987, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies notified Colonel Engels and the Division's accreditation team that the Division had joined the ranks of only 47 law-enforcement organizations across the country to be nationally accredited. The effort to achieve accreditation involved two years of intense organizational self-examination and resulted in the Division's complying with 845 national standards for police management, procedures and techniques. Public hearings conducted by four visiting chiefs of police in March received comments from citizens described as "overwhelmingly complimentary." In the process of working toward accreditation the Division hired a full-time recruiter, designated an officer to handle media relations and established a policy for providing health care before arrested persons are jailed. At the time of accreditation the Division was only the eighth agency in Virginia to achieve the standard. (Other Virginia units were Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Herndon, Newport News, Staunton and the Virginia State Police.)

The first double homicide in Henrico County since August 1984 occurred April 6, 1987, when a hotel night clerk and a guest were shot to death at Residence Inn on Dickens Road. Driving by the hotel on routine patrol, Officer R.E. Rigney noted a car parked suspiciously and was questioning the driver when three people ran from the building. Rigney held the driver until other officers arrived. Police surrounded the area, conducted a search and within about an hour had arrested the other three suspects. All four men were later convicted.

In April 1987 three persons were arrested and charged with delivering \$46,500 to two Henrico Investigators in a bribery attempt to influence testimony in a drug-related trial of a suspect who had been arrested earlier and charged with possession of heroin with intent to distribute. Estimated value of the confiscated heroin was \$150,000 to \$200,000. One of the Investigators learned about two weeks after the arrest that the suspect planned to attempt bribery or, failing that, to take out "contracts" on the lives of the two Henrico Investigators and a Richmond police detective.

In May 1987 the Division installed a Micro-Computer Traffic Recorder System (MTRS) to help identify high-accident sites in the county and assemble data on the reason for wrecks at those locations. The system allowed officers to monitor the specific sites. Selective enforcement of traffic laws at the locations led to reducing the number of accidents at more than half of the 20 sites. Henrico became the largest county in Virginia to use the system, obtained by a federal grant through the Division of Motor Vehicles. In 1986 there were 30 fatal accidents resulting in 32 deaths in the county. For 1987 Henrico recorded 18 fatal accidents resulting in 20 deaths.

In June 1987 three Henrico officers were tested for AIDS after giving first aid to an infected man who had tried to commit suicide. The Division began drawing up a policy for dealing with persons with the HIV virus.

In 1987 a court liaison officer was established to enhance communications between the judiciary and the Division. One issue addressed was resolving budget and manpower problems associated with officers attending court.

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The Division's Organized Crime, Covert Unit in October 1987 began coordinating a new drug interdiction team at Richmond International Airport to monitor incoming flights from known "source" cities for drugs. Although manpower allowed monitoring only about 15 percent of incoming passengers, in the first six months officers arrested 25 suspects found to be carrying drugs. The multi-jurisdictional effort included personnel from City of Richmond, Virginia State Police and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, assisted by airport police. The Division already was carrying out investigation into drug trafficking at the Amtrak depot on Staples Mill Road.

At the close of 1987 a Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List went into operation to enlist community involvement in locating persons wanted on charges in Henrico County. Posters of fugitives were distributed to area law enforcement agencies and to the community. The program resulted in 17 apprehensions during the first year. Each time a fugitive was arrested, another wanted person was added to the list. Occasional articles about the lists in local newspapers prompted a number of arrests through tips or by suspects turning themselves in to authorities.

On January 3, 1988, Henrico police responded to the 500 block of N. Laburnum Avenue to investigate a report of three people breaking into a vehicle. When officers arrived, three suspects fled on foot. Officer D.J. Johnson followed one suspect, who was carrying a sawed-off shotgun. When the suspect turned to face Officer Johnson and raised the gun, the officer shot him. Commonwealth's Attorney James S. Gilmore III later termed the shooting proper.

In January 1988 Henrico officers took part in the first Safety Expo sponsored by the Shops at Willow Lawn and a local radio station (WRXL). Among other activities, officers offered fingerprinting for children.

On January 26, 1988, Richmond Police Bureau Detective Michael J. Arrighi shot and killed an armed suspect on the fifth floor of St. Mary's Hospital in Henrico County. Detective Arrighi was accompanied by Henrico Investigator Kenneth W. Brooks. Both officers had warrants for the suspect, whose estranged wife had been hospitalized after he had assaulted her.

On January 29, 1988, members of the Division's Organized Crime and Intelligence Tactical Unit responded to Happy Stores, a convenience mart at 7101 Brook Road, in response to an alarm that had been installed in the store identified as a possible crime target. After officers set up a perimeter, they saw a car leave a nearby housing development. When police began following the vehicle, it sped away, launching a high-speed pursuit that covered 70 miles over major highways at speeds exceeding 100 m.p.h. and involving Virginia State Police and officers in Maryland. After Henrico officers lost track of the car a King George County deputy sheriff spotted it in response to radio advisories and pursued it into Maryland, where he forced the car to stop. He arrested the woman passenger as she fled on foot; her male companion was captured a short time later. Both suspects were later convicted of armed robbery.

In 1988 Animal Protection Services instituted a plan to increase the number of dog licenses sold to ensure inoculation of a greater number of domestic pets to guard against growth of a rabies epidemic. The program included house-to-house surveys to determine compliance with the County ordinance. As a result, 5,651 dog licenses were sold in February 1988, compared to 1,316 sold in February of the previous year.

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A random-sample telephone survey of 1,220 adults in Henrico County conducted between December 1987 and February 1988 measured residents' perceptions about crime and safety in the County and their experiences with Henrico's Division of Police. The study, costing the County \$17,000 and carried out by VCU's Survey Research Laboratory, was the first independent study conducted outside the Division. A large majority of those responding said they felt Henrico generally to be a safe place. Henrico police were rated either as "excellent" or "good" by 85 percent of respondents (26 percent "excellent," 59 percent "good"), although fewer than 5 percent could name the Chief of Police.

The National Association of Counties in 1988 recognized the Division for its Occupant Restraint Program using a police robot purchased through a Federal Grant in September 1987. The robot, dressed in Division colors and named SAM (Safety Always Matters), was used as a visual aid to demonstrate seatbelt safety, school safety and crime prevention.

The Chief of Police in 1988 formed a Citizens Advisory Committee to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss problems and issues within the magisterial districts the members represented. Committee members also provided suggestions for improvement of services, communications and the enhancement of the public's perception of the Division.

On March 28, 1988, a man barricaded himself in his parents' home in the 100 block E. Beal Street after officers arrived to serve warrants. The Incident Management Team responded, and roads in the immediate area were blocked off. After holding officers at bay for more than six hours, the man shot and killed himself.

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) was expanded in 1988 to include two private schools.

In 1988 the Communications Section cooperated with other agencies in the public safety sector in the study, evaluation and implementation of an Emergency Medical Support System (EMS) to supplement emergency medical responses by local rescue squads. EMS Phase I became operational July 1, 1988. Phase II, to provide a centralized dispatch system for all rescue squads in the County, was planned for the spring of 1989.

In early 1988 the Henrico Division of Police and Division of Recreation and Parks sponsored a workshop on self-defense at Holladay Recreation Center. This was the Division's first class in defense tactics for the general public, although similar workshops had been provided for a number of community groups.

In March 1988, as a pilot project by the Crime Prevention Unit, officers set up a special hot line for school children to call and hear a recorded message by McGruff, the crime dog, and to leave a message of their own. Calls averaged 100 a day the first month, most from children who had met a life-size McGruff on a visit to classrooms. Officer John W. Friend coordinated the project, and Lieutenant C.R. Schesventer provided the crime dog's recorded voice. Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 4, donated the tape machine. More than 6,000 calls were received on the hotline April through June.

In April 1988 the Division requested for the 1988-89 fiscal year 10 new officers for the Organized Crime, Covert Unit, the largest number of Investigators the Division had sought at one time. The increase was intended primarily to deal with Henrico's growing problem with drugs and drug-related crime.

On May 30, 1988, a bomb said to have the force of two sticks of dynamite destroyed a metal sculpture of the Warrior mascot at Henrico High School on Azalea Avenue. The Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit defused a second, unexploded bomb found at the site.

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Community Support Services Unit became the new designation of what had been the Crime Prevention Unit on July 1, 1988. The new name reflected the changed role for the unit, such as providing specialized programs on crime prevention, self defense and security for homes and businesses.

On September 1, 1988, an estimated 60,000 fans, at that time the largest crowd in history for a sporting event in Virginia, attended the Miller 400 NASCAR race at Richmond International Raceway's new three-fourth-mile track just off of Laburnum Avenue. Traffic tie-ups occurred both before and after the race. Traffic backed up for almost three hours after the event.

Community Support Services introduced the County Employee Crime Watch program in 1988. More than 2,000 Henrico County employees were trained to recognize and report suspicious activities and crime to the police.

At 0915 hours on September 14, 1988, a 20-year-old Henrico resident, a U.S. citizen of Lebanese descent, armed with an AK-47 assault rifle and a .25 caliber pistol, took hostage nine military personnel and two civilians at the U.S. Armed Forces Recruiting Center in Tuckernuck Square Shopping Center on West Broad Street. Officers evacuated customers and employees from all stores in the shopping center, cleared the parking lot and set up a command center behind the stores. After several hours of telephone negotiations by a team led by Sergeant Neil Bero, the suspect released hostages one by one and then surrendered a little before 1400 hours. The suspect said his aim was to call for peace in Lebanon, and at his insistence a statement to that effect was read over a local radio station (WRXL-FM). About 30 Henrico officers were involved in the incident, as well as FBI and Virginia State Police personnel.

A Vietnamese teen-ager on September 18, 1988, became Henrico County's thirty-fifth homicide victim in less than 33 months, the largest number for any Virginia county other than Fairfax during the period. Since 1978 Henrico had recorded 125 homicides, an average of 11.4 per year, while during the same period City of Richmond recorded 748 homicides, an average of 68 per year.

In the fall of 1988 the Metro Law Enforcement Aviation Unit (formed in January 1987), made up of the counties of Henrico and Chesterfield and the City of Richmond, purchased its third airplane, a \$121,000, single-engine, four-passenger Cessna 182 RG. One expected use of the new aircraft was to transport prisoners for court appearances. At the time the unit's other two planes were Cessna 172s.

The Division scheduled a rabies clinic November 5, 1988, at the State Fairgrounds after the county recorded its fifteenth case of rabies for the year.

On November 21, 1988, Officer B.W. Eckert shot a man wanted on criminal charges after the suspect pointed a .357 Magnum gun at him in the 5600 block of Eunice Drive. The suspect, who was on the County's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list in connection with armed robbery of three Henrico women in September, was being pursued on suspicion of breaking into an apartment. The suspect had refused to surrender after he was found hiding in a trash receptacle between buildings of the London Towne Apartments.

In November 1988 the 125-member Crime Prevention Coalition, made up of national, federal and state agencies and groups, named Henrico County recipient of its "Community Award" for outstanding crime prevention programs and activities in the United States, the most prestigious award in the crime prevention field. The coalition in a news release said Henrico's "new emphasis on proactive policing has placed crime prevention in the forefront." The coalition cited Colonel Richard G. Engels, appointed Division Chief in January 1987, as instrumental in boosting crime prevention efforts. The news release stated, "Innovative programming combined with aggressive marketing has reached out to engage diverse groups – from children and teens to businesses, senior citizens and the handicapped." The coalition said

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Chief Engels had increased the number of officers in the Crime Prevention Unit and introduced 21 crime-prevention programs between January 1987 and June 1988, “while revitalizing the old standbys, such as Neighborhood Watch.” It cited several efforts, such as the Henrico County Employee Crime Watch program, which trained more than 2,000 government employees to identify and report crime, and the Business Watch project to assist businesses in high-crime areas. The Division also was recognized for having an outstanding crime prevention operation in the state and received the coveted Governor’s Award.

On December 23, 1988, when Officer G.R. Minor attempted to stop a car near Hermitage High School, the car sped away, prompting a 20-mile pursuit through northern Henrico. At one point the suspect’s car crashed through a roadblock set up by four police units at Parham Road and Staples Mill Road. Major H.W. Stanley was injured when he rammed his police unit into the fleeing vehicle at Parham Road and West Broad Street. The pursuit continued until the 22-year-old driver left the vehicle on West Broad Street and fled into a wooded area; he was arrested after a police dog bit him as he tried to climb a tree. Damage to police cruisers was estimated at several thousand dollars. Major Stanley was hospitalized for four days.

In a major reorganization of the Division, effective January 4, 1989, Uniform Patrol Operations were divided into two districts, east and west, with an additional Captain’s position created for the eastern division. District I (east) was located in the newly remodeled Dabbs House and District II (west) in the Public Safety Building at Parham Road and Hungary Springs Road. The “zone” concept allowed patrol managers more flexibility in distributing manpower resources to address targeted crime areas and better handle daily operational requirements. In addition, the Division was changed from two major operational units (Field Operations and Support Operations) to three. Uniform Operations, led by Major Roger L. Foster; Investigative Operations, led by Major Henry W. Stanley; and Support Services Operations, led by Major Herbert D. Patterson, Sr., promoted from Captain.

On January 1, 1989, Officer T.A. Wilmoth was hospitalized after suffering a concussion when assaulted by a suspect he was arresting in the 1800 block of Oak Hill Lane in eastern Henrico. Wilmoth and another officer had been called to investigate a group of disorderly persons early New Year’s Day. Police later that day arrested three brothers for taking part in the assault. Officer Wilmoth was hospitalized for more than a month after the attack and had not been able to return to duty by the time of the trial of the first of the accused in mid-June.

At Richmond’s port on January 12, 1989, a cow, later given the name Suzie, jumped into the James River while waiting to be loaded onto a freighter for Venezuela. Captured five days later in the Varina area by two New Kent County men, the animal was kept on their farm for a quarantine period. Jeanne L. Roush, director of investigations for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), offered to donate 50 cases of dog food to the Henrico Animal Shelter if Suzie were given to the group for safekeeping. Chief Engels rejected the offer, explaining such a trade was not policy. After legal maneuvering PETA bought the cow and her calf from the men who had captured it and took the animals to a farm in Loudon County.

A Career Counseling position was assigned to the Personnel Unit in January 1989 to provide each officer with information and regular counseling to enhance individual professional advancement within a chosen career path. The Counselor also administered the Career Development Program in addition to coordinating training and technical opportunities for each rank structure with the Training Unit.

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On February 9, 1989, Henrico police launched "Operation Clean Streets," an effort to rid county streets of unwanted vehicles. During 1988 Henrico officers ticketed more than 1,000 such vehicles; of these, only 10 percent were towed after a 10-day waiting period, because most residents complied with the law once they had been warned, it was reported. The presence of unusable, junky vehicles was felt to lower property values and contribute to criminal activity by signaling that residents did not care about the neighborhood. "Abandoned" was defined as any vehicle found on the street that was inoperable or lacked license plates, inspection sticker, or county or city tag.

Henrico police in mid-February 1989 began a policy of mandatory arrests in domestic violence calls if there were signs of injury and the attacker could be identified. The first policy of its kind in the metro Richmond area, the new policy, based on a change in Virginia law, allowed officers to make arrests without a warrant for domestic assaults not witnessed by the officers. Earlier, an officer could make an arrest in a domestic situation only if a felony might be involved or if the victim agreed to file charges. The new policy required arrests "when probable cause exists showing that this crime [domestic assault] has occurred." During 1988 Henrico police had responded to 6,366 calls involving domestic situations, but only 175 arrests were made.

When members of the Organized Crime, Covert Unit, assisted by an Incident Management Team, attempted to serve a search warrant at a residence in the 600 block Edgefield Court on February 16, 1989, an 18-year-old male fired two shotgun blasts through a window. Three officers returned fire, but no one was hit. The teen-ager and another occupant were arrested, and officers seized drugs and drug paraphernalia. The youth later was sentenced to 12 years.

On Easter Sunday 1989 a crowd estimated from 50,000 to 70,000 persons attended the Pontiac Excitement 400 at Richmond International Raceway, delayed from an earlier date because of inclement weather. In light of traffic snarls at a similar race event the previous fall, Henrico's Division of Police and Traffic Engineering Department had worked on ways to improve traffic flow. About 120 officers directed traffic, more than 1,000 traffic cones were used to change traffic patterns before and after the race, and other measures were employed to facilitate traffic.

A Task Force was created in 1989 to develop strategic and operational plans for both scheduled and unannounced events, such as major automobile races, dignitary visits, floods and other natural or man-made disasters.

In March 1989 the Division's rock band, The Force, made its public debut at Tuckahoe Elementary School. Made up of four Henrico police officers (a drummer and three guitarists), the band mixed rock music with an anti-drug message and promoting seat belt and traffic safety awareness. Grade-school audiences enthusiastically greeted the band's performances and messages. Personnel included Officers E.R. Senghas, R.A. Kepple, T.C. Blunt, R.F. Trickett and Sergeant Mike Cushnie as band manager. During the year The Force performed for 33 audiences.

The Division created an Operational Research Unit in 1989 to provide direct liaison with the Virginia General Assembly during its sessions and to return input to the Division for several operational and support components. The unit also was to conduct miscellaneous research projects and to serve as a liaison with other county agencies.

The Police Personnel Unit during 1989 completed automation of all applicant files, background investigation logs and employee records.

The Senior Citizen Contact Program evolved in 1989 from a Division concern on how to address needs of the elderly. Division members were encouraged to establish positive relationships with senior citizens.

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Also that year the Merchant Contact Program encouraged patrol officers to meet business owners and employees working in their service areas.

On May, 27, 1989, Officer B.K. Cook attempted to stop a car whose driver seemed to be having trouble maintaining control near the State Fairgrounds. When the driver sped away, a two-and-a-half-mile pursuit began that ended when the car struck a deer, hit a tree and rebounded onto the road, striking the police cruiser. A passenger in the fleeing vehicle died in the crash.

In June 1989 a Henrico police unit, a Hanover deputy sheriff's car and a Virginia State Police cruiser were damaged in a high-speed chase that ended when the suspect's car overturned while trying to force a police cruiser off the road. The man was convicted in October 1989 in Henrico County of unlawful wounding and later pleaded guilty to attempted murder in the second degree in Hanover County.

On July 1, 1989, Mary Ellen Fahed was promoted to Sergeant, becoming the second woman to achieve that rank in the Division. At the time there were 26 female officers in the Division.

On August 20, 1989, a task force led by Division officers arrested three people involved in a large fencing operation headed by a Henrico resident. Police recovered a large amount of stolen property, including many antiques. The two-month investigation involved seven law-enforcement agencies. Officials reported the suspects may have been involved in as many as 200 cases of breaking and entering and more than 300 additional larcenies.

In August 1989 the Organized Crime, Covert Section launched "Operation Cook 'em Up," directed at street-level drug dealing in an effort to combat drug activity in a number of county locations. The raid of a suspected "crack house" in the spring in Essex Village had signaled increased drug activity.

On September 2, 1989, the Division's 21-foot boat struck old pilings while the boat was headed toward Osborne Turnpike Landing and sank in the James River. Four officers aboard were thrown into the water. All wore life jackets and were able to swim the 100 yards to shore. The boat was raised the next day.

In the fall of 1989 Gary S. Smith became the first bicycle patrolman in eastern Henrico. Riding a mountain bike provided access to places unreachable by car. The effort was described as getting back to basics, "being in close contact with the community."

In late 1989 the Division announced plans to begin phasing out the .38-caliber revolver used as its standard firearm and replacing it with the Sig Sauer P220, a .45-caliber semi-automatic pistol. The Division planned to buy 225 of the guns over an 18-month period. Henrico officers would carry three magazines of eight rounds each for the new weapon.

On December 7, 1989, a suspect said to be a member of a drug group led by the Flax brothers, was fatally wounded as he tried to drive away from Richmond International Airport, where DEA officers had set up a cocaine sale. The suspects fled when DEA, Richmond and Henrico officers, including Henrico's Incident Management Team, started to make arrests. Henrico police cordoned off all roads in an effort to capture the suspects before they could leave the airport vicinity. In what later was determined by authorities to be an accidental death, a suspect, Gregory Staples, 24, was shot and killed by an IMT member in an effort to stop his car. The suspect's family later filed a \$4 million wrongful death suit against Officer G.S. Russell, and in July 1990 the County reached a financial settlement on the suit. In February 1990 a grand jury decided not to indict the officer for involuntary manslaughter.

In 1989 Henrico County set a 10-year low in homicides in the county for the year with only six.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

1990's

The concluding decade of the twentieth century continued to see not only population growth but also increasing ethnic diversity in Henrico County. Businesses expanded rapidly, including the opening of the Virginia Center Commons shopping area in northern Henrico, development of a major area of stores and other businesses in the Short Pump area of western Henrico, and opening of the White Oak Technical Park in eastern Henrico. The Division responded with further growth of personnel and advances in equipment, techniques and facilities.

In early 1990 Uniform Operations, committed to the community policing concept, initiated a program of establishing field offices in selected neighborhoods. Purposes included providing a police presence in areas with traditionally high demands for police services and offering facilities for officers to conduct administrative tasks. Four such locations were established in Huntington Village, Essex Village, Oakland Valley Apartments and Colonial Court Apartments.

In 1990 the Division established an Assets Forfeiture Program after Virginia laws were approved allowing local law enforcement agencies to benefit from the seizure of monies, property (vehicles, computers, cell phones, etc.) and goods connected with the illegal manufacture, sale or distribution of narcotics. Forfeiture also applies to profits derived from the investments of such drug-related monies or properties. An Assets Forfeiture Coordinator staffs the program, tracking all assets seized and forfeited in accordance with federal and state law. In the first 11 years of the program a total of \$2,419,933 in U.S. currency was forfeited to the Henrico Police Division. This money may be used only for law enforcement purposes and does not supplant existing funds from any source.

On March 26, 1990, a couple and a teen-age son were found shot to death in a home at 6100 Club Road in the Lakeside area, next to Belmont Golf Course. Three teen-age suspects were arrested March 31, 1990, in Goochland County. It was the first triple homicide in Henrico since March 1978, when three employees of Shoney's at 7101 Staples Mill Road were murdered.

In April and May 1990 Officer Jim Phillips parachuted onto ball fields at elementary schools to promote the Division's "Buckle up for Safety" campaign, in conjunction with the Virginia Auto Safety Alliance. In March a signature campaign had been initiated in all county elementary schools for students to enlist drivers to sign a petition promising they would use seat belts.

On April 23, 1990, Chief Richard Engels, taking an evening shift on patrol, responded to a disturbance call at Gaskins Avenue and Patterson Avenue, where a man with a gun was reported to be planning suicide. However, when Chief Engels and Officer Thomas Slayton arrived at the location, the man fired at them. The area was cordoned off, and the man was arrested about 90 minutes later when he tried to drive away.

During National Police Week in May 1990 the Division held its first open house at the Public Safety Building on Hungary Spring Road, including a tour of the facility. During visits by officers to elementary schools during the school year, students had been invited to encourage their parents to come to the event. About 1,500 persons attended.

During the first half of 1990 the Division began a community policing effort using officers on bicycle patrol. In Division II some of the bicycle officers wore plain clothes. The program grew out of an experiment in 1989 with Officer G.S. Smith using a bicycle in the Montrose area. Bicycles the Division used during summer and fall of 1990 were leased from Best Products for \$1. Best later donated them to the Christmas Mother program.

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On August 7, 1990, Henrico joined Richmond and Chesterfield County for the first time to observe National Night Out. The program was intended to increase crime-prevention awareness and encourage neighborhood unity.

On September 4, 1990, Henrico County recorded another triple homicide when a woman was stabbed to death and her two young children died as a result of a fire set to cover up the murder in a house at 5971 Grammarcy Circle. A suspect was arrested and charged with three counts of capital murder.

In September 1990 a Citizen Perception Survey was mailed to about 17 percent of homes in the county. The survey posed questions about how citizens felt about Henrico County and their local neighborhoods. It also asked respondents to rate police officers on their performance.

During early 1990 the Training Unit undertook two intensive programs to prepare officers. All uniform patrol officers received 30 hours of training in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing. To meet the threat of increased firepower on the street, members of the Uniform Patrol, the Incident Management Team and the Tactical Unit began receiving 40 hours of training in preparation for issuance of the Sig Sauer P220 pistol.

To enhance Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), personal computers were added to each radio position in Communications in 1990, and all recording equipment was replaced.

Animal Protection in 1990 moved into its new headquarters, providing much needed additional room.

Established during the year was the Information, Intelligence and Analysis Unit to “develop strategic and tactical intelligence designed to describe major crime programs.”

Another tool added to the Division’s arsenal was initiation of the Inter-Jurisdictional Warrant Inquiry system.

On December 29, 1990, Officer O.R. Catron removed three police aircraft and other equipment from a burning hangar at Richmond International Airport, saving them from destruction. He later was awarded a bronze medal for the action.

There were 19 homicides in Henrico County in 1990 (including two triple homicides), matching the all-time record for the county set in 1981.

Criminal Investigations began the Re-Examination of Victim Information by Volunteer Effort (REVIVE) program, staffed by a retired member of the community who volunteered time and provided systematic telephone follow-up to the victims/complainants of prior unresolved crimes involving burglaries, runaways and stolen vehicles. The program reassured the complainants they had not been forgotten and provided a way for any new information to be relayed to an investigator. In March 1991 Division volunteer Alpheus F. Holmes, 63, a retired college professor and Army artillery commander, was assigned to REVIVE to conduct follow-up calls and suggest files for possible reopening.

On February 18, 1991, a man wanted on a charge of malicious wounding barricaded himself in a house in the 9100 block of Huron Avenue in western Henrico for about six hours until members of the Incident Management Team members entered the home and arrested him.

On February 26, 1991, a man who had held up Arby’s on Nine Mile Road became the first person shot with the Division’s new .45 caliber Sig Sauer P220 pistol. He was shot after he pointed a shotgun at officers responding to the call. The suspect was wounded in the leg and was captured a few minutes later.

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The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) was installed August 1, 1990, for the Division to link with the Virginia State Police computer containing more than 600,000 fingerprints of persons arrested in Virginia. In the first six months of using the system the Division made 24 matches of fingerprints taken at crime scenes.

On April 25, 1991, off-duty Officer F.T. Baehr attempted to break up a fight among several teen-agers armed with baseball bats. The driver of a car fleeing the scene ran down the officer, causing crushing injuries to his right foot and leg and other injuries. The teen-aged driver later was arrested.

In May 1991 the Division put into use a 1988, 5.0-liter, deep-blue Ford Mustang coupe as an unmarked patrol car. The vehicle had been confiscated from a gang of itinerant thieves. In the first five and a half months of its use, the five officers using it logged about 12,000 miles and wrote an estimated 850 traffic tickets.

At a news conference June 6, 1991, at FBI offices in Henrico, officials made public the Federal Fugitive Task Force, a three-person group of investigators from Henrico Police, the Virginia State Police and the local FBI office. In the three years since the operation began in 1988, the task force, the only one of its kind in the state, had arrested or helped arrest 375 fugitives.

Major James D. Fox, commander of Support Operations for the Division, graduated from the 11-week training program at the FBI National Academy at Quantico, Va., June 21, 1991. He became the sixteenth member of the Division to graduate from the Academy.

In July 1991 the Division reported it had apprehended 85 suspects it had placed on its 10 Most Wanted Fugitives List since it was begun in December 1987. At the time of the report only two of those who had appeared on the original list had not been apprehended.

In August 1991 the Division announced plans to distribute hundreds of copies of a brochure, "Compliment and Procedure," providing details on how to make a complaint, or offer a compliment, about any officer in the Division. The publication also outlined procedures Division officials use in investigating complaints. The brochure was made available at all Henrico government buildings.

On October 17, 1991, a single-engine Cessna 172 of the Metro Aviation Unit piloted by Officer O.R. Catron crash-landed in a field in Chesterfield County after the engine lost power while a search was underway for an armed robbery suspect. Catron suffered only minor injuries.

Criminal Investigations in 1991 initiated a pilot program to train a selected group of officers in latent fingerprint recovery techniques.

In October 1991 District I established its first community officer position to help curtail criminal activities by developing a strong working relationship between the police and the community. The first officer was assigned to provide support to residents in high call-for-service communities adjacent to the State Fairgrounds on Strawberry Hill.

On December 26, 1991, Officer E.A. (Ted) Glaude was recognized by President George Bush as a "Point of Light" for helping look after an 83-year-old woman who lived alone, as part of the Division's Senior Citizens Contact program. Officer Glaude was the 651st person in the nation to be so honored and was invited to the White House in June 1992.

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On the afternoon of December 31, 1991, two officers responding to a call about a man brandishing a gun in the 1900 block of Mechanicsville Turnpike saw the man speed away in a car as they arrived. Officers D.J. Johnson and C.C. Patterson forced the man to stop. When the suspect jumped out holding a shotgun, Officer Johnson shot him in the arm, and the suspect was arrested.

In January 1992 District II established the Apartment Task Force to provide a safe environment for selected apartment communities. Efforts of this task force resulted in 33 felony arrests, 89 misdemeanor arrests and the serving of 49 outstanding warrants, in addition to traffic infraction arrests.

Also in January, Police Training relocated from Dabbs House, where it had been housed for 26 years, to the newly constructed Adult Education Center in Highland Springs.

In the early hours of January 12, 1992, Investigators G.T. Hubbard and A.Z. Szalay of the Organized Crime, Covert Unit noticed a pickup truck loaded with furniture and began following it. When a radio report confirmed a burglary had taken place in the area, the two attempted to stop the truck, which rammed into both of the investigators' vehicles before crashing into a tree. Both suspects were arrested.

An investigation into distribution of LSD began in January 1992 after three Brookland Middle School students ingested a form of the drug. In April the investigation resulted in the arrest of six adults and four minors and seizure of 2,601 doses of LSD, thus shutting down what was believed to be the largest LSD distribution network in the area in two decades.

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement agencies in March 1992 notified the Henrico Division of Police that it again had received national accreditation, effective April 26, one of only about 200 local police or sheriff's departments in the U.S. to be so recognized. The Division first received accreditation in April 1987, but accredited agencies must submit annual reports and reapply every five years. To achieve accreditation, the Division had to meet 924 standards relating to such areas as law enforcement operations, personnel administration, prisoner and court-related services, relationship with other agencies and auxiliary and technical services.

On April 21, 1992, Officer J.P. Slater, Jr., stopped a car on Cool Lane on a traffic violation. With a backup officer on the scene, as Slater handed the driver the form to sign, the driver suddenly began to drive away, dragging Officer Slater for about 130 yards over a curb and into a side yard at Fairfield Court Elementary School in Richmond. Officer Slater managed to draw his pistol and shot into the vehicle, killing the driver and seriously wounding the passenger, who later recovered. Both suspects were later determined to have felony records, and two pistols were found in the suspects' car. Officer Slater suffered injuries from being dragged by the car. He was cleared of any wrongdoing in the shooting.

During the 1991-92 Fiscal Year a full-time Neighborhood Watch Coordinator was employed to strengthen Neighborhood Watch programs and to establish groups in new areas. As of June 10, 1992, there were 96 active Neighborhood Watch groups in the County.

During one week in early November 1992 seven people, six of them women, were robbed or accosted outside of three Henrico County shopping centers. In one incident an 81-year-old woman was raped and robbed after being abducted from The Shops at Willow Lawn. The Division instituted a number of steps to increase security at the malls.

In early December 1992 about 80 fur coats with a retail value reported to be more than \$1 million were stolen from Alan Furs, 1515 N. Parham Road.

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In January 1993 Police Chief Richard Engels installed the first slate of elected officers of the newly organized Neighborhood Watch Council for Henrico County. Making up the council were representatives from all Neighborhood Watch programs active in the county. The Division had assigned an officer to each of the neighborhood programs.

In mid-January 1993 two Henrico officers tried to stop a car traveling at a high rate of speed in eastern Henrico County. The driver of the pursued vehicle rammed into both units, and in the second crash, both the suspect's vehicle and the police car crashed into a wall. The man was arrested and charged with a dozen offenses, including three counts of attempted capital murder.

In March 1993 Henrico Police arrested two men charged with breaking into houses of at least 20 recently deceased area residents in Henrico County and other jurisdictions after reading obituary notices in the newspaper. The break-ins occurred over a period of several months. Officers recovered stolen property worth more than \$70,000.

Following a sharp increase in the number of vehicle thefts in January and February 1993, officers arrested 44 persons, 29 of them juveniles, and charged them with car theft. Almost all of the vehicles were recovered.

In the summer of 1993 a 10-member Organized Crime/Uniform Operations Strike Force was formed to focus on street-level drug dealing and guns. In an area near Creighton Road and Beck Drive, identified as a high-crime area, during eight-hour checkpoints conducted on four days in July and August officers made 67 arrests on a variety of charges.

An addition to the successful DARE program of discouraging drug use among youths was begun in 1993 – the DARE-to-go-fishing program. This annual one-day event afforded opportunity for students to learn about how to fish and to enjoy fishing at the lake in Dorey Park.

In August 1993 the Division opened a community office in Highland Springs, a 26-foot camper trailer, costing about \$16,000, bought with money confiscated from drug investigations, and Officer Mark Domnick began using it. Mobile and equipped with its own generator, the trailer was also used as a command post for special events. It was officially dedicated in December.

In January 1994 the Division changed hat style for its uniform, leaving the eight-point hat used since 1934 and moving to a wide-brimmed, Stetson-style hat similar to that used by Virginia State Police.

In Fiscal Year 1993-94 District II established the At Risk Apartment Coalition, made up of 17 apartment complexes felt to be at risk of being adversely affected by drug and criminal activity. Apartment managers were to meet monthly with the Division to discuss mutual problems, exchange information, foster communications and develop strategies to deal with areas of concern.

Also in Fiscal Year 1993-94 the DARE Program expanded to eight officers to try to meet the growing need of the elementary school community. The officers provided visitation and DARE lessons at each of the County's 37 public elementary schools as well as at two private schools and two parochial schools.

In early 1994 Community Support Services and Special Operations were consolidated into a new Community Operations Section to place additional emphasis on community-oriented policing. Community Support Services previously had coordinated Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch programs and handled inquiries from the public and the news media. Special Operations had included the traffic crash team, the Incident Management Teams, the James River boat patrol and other functions.

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In March 1994 Chief Richard G. Engels, 59, underwent successful triple-bypass heart surgery at St. Mary's Hospital.

In late afternoon on March 21, 1994, a man grabbed three furs at Alan Furs in the Ridge Shopping Center at 1515 Parham Road and ran to a car driven by another man. A salesman provided police with the license plate, and less than a minute after the theft Officer J.C. Coover spotted the car near the intersection of I-64 and Parham Road. Several other police units joined in the pursuit, during which two of the furs were thrown out of the suspect vehicle. About 15 minutes into the pursuit the car was stopped on I-95 near Chippenham Parkway, and three men were arrested. Two of the men were convicted of grand larceny in November.

In March 1994 Henrico police began using an on-line fingerprinting system with prints taken on a glass "optical deck," rather than with an ink pad. The system, called LiveScan, allows computer prints to be sent on line to Virginia State Police headquarters for storage, comparison and immediate identification. The system reduced by half the time necessary to process a suspect in the booking and identification section at the Sheriff's office. The Identification and Booking Unit worked closely in 1995 with the Virginia State Police to work out "bugs" in the system. Henrico was the first equipment test site.

Officer John Patrick Harris died August 19, 1994, when his police cruiser crashed into a truck at Parham Road and Fargo Road. A native of Hampton Bay, N.Y., Harris graduated from Henrico's twentieth Basic Training Academy in December 1993. He was the first officer to be killed while on duty in almost ten years.

In September 1992 three high schools in the county – Mills Godwin, Hermitage and Varina – began using a High School CrimeStoppers program after a successful pilot program was carried out at Henrico High School. The program offered a way for students to report crimes anonymously for follow-up by school or police officials.

In September 1994 Henrico County purchased the 63,000-square-foot, three-story Hartford Fire Insurance Co. building at Parham Road and Shrader Road for \$4.5 million to be renovated for use by the Division of Police and the Division of Fire. The building had last been occupied by Signet Bank. The additional space was needed because the police and fire divisions had outgrown the 40,000-square-foot Public Safety Building in the western government complex at Parham Road and Hungary Spring Road.

Officers responding to a call from a motel clerk at 5221 Brook Road at 0600 hours on November 9, 1994, found reason to believe three men wanted in Newport News for "terrorizing individuals on the street" and described as extremely dangerous were registered in the motel. The Henrico Incident Management Team was mobilized, and officers closed a section of Brook Road. Police negotiators persuaded the occupants, a man and a woman, to surrender. Learning that two of the other suspects were believed to be at another motel across the street, officers regrouped at a command center in the parking lot of Azalea Mall. Officers arrested the two men when they left their room at check-out time. The two apparently had slept through the IMT operation. The three men were returned to authorities in Newport News.

Five men broke out of the medium-security prison in Rockingham County early on November 26, 1994, the state's largest prison escape in a decade. At 2010 hours that day Henrico officers arrested three of the escapees at Willow Lawn Drive and Monument Avenue after authorities received a tip on a CrimeStoppers line describing the truck the three were driving. Sergeant J.I. Medlin spotted and followed the truck for about five minutes as officers in seven police cruisers joined in the pursuit. Richmond police earlier had arrested the other two escapees.

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On November 25, 1994, two armed men attempting to rob a jewelry store in the 8100 block of Staples Mill Road were shot and killed in a gun battle with the store owner and two employees. Among the store employees, only the owner received a scratch from a shotgun pellet. The two men, ages 56 and 71, later were identified as career criminals with extensive records throughout the Southeast. One of them was found to have been a suspect in robberies of three banks and a jewelry store in Nashville, Tenn.

In January 1995 Sergeant Mary Ellen Fahed was promoted to Lieutenant, the highest rank any woman had reached in the Division.

A police "mountain bicycle" patrol was implemented in March 1995 with the certification of thirty police bicycle patrol officers. It was reported that the bicycle patrol, an enforcement tool, had proven to be a great benefit to Uniform Operations' overall performance.

In May 1995 a 36-year-old man shot his girl friend, 36, to death on the parking lot of a restaurant at 3710 Mechanicsville Turnpike. A similar incident had occurred January 4, 1995, on Azalea Avenue and another March 14 on the parking lot of a business on Northside Avenue.

On June 26, 1995, the Animal Protection Unit, along with Uniform Operations, became involved in a search for a 12-foot-long African Rock Python, reported missing from its owner's home in the Highland Springs area. The snake was located several days later some 30 miles away floating dead in Lake Chesden in Chesterfield County.

Also in June 1995 a black bear wandered into Henrico County and was captured and removed by the combined efforts of the Animal Protection Unit and the State Game Commission.

Colonel Wilmer John Hedrick, 85, Henrico Police Chief for 37 years, died June 5, 1995, after a long illness. He had resided in Varina. He joined the Division in 1934 as a dispatcher and was later a patrolman. He was named Chief in 1940 when the police department was separated from the Sheriff's office. The Henrico County Public Safety Center was named for him.

A failed attempt to rob a travel agency in the 3700 block of Mechanicsville Turnpike June 28, 1995, turned into a hostage situation when the owner resisted. Negotiators responded, Mechanicsville Turnpike between Byron Street and Laburnum Avenue was closed and businesses in the area were evacuated. The suspect was taken into custody about four hours later.

With a grant awarded through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, effective July 1, 1995, the Division added a Narcotics Analyst, George Alica-Ruiz, who joined the staff in January 1996 and was assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Unit. When the grant ended in mid-1999, the Division continued the position, concentrating on narcotics intelligence, including tracking narcotics law violations and use in the county.

Officer J.B. Hill on July 7, 1995, arrested two bounty hunters who had forced their way into a woman's apartment wearing police SWAT gear and brandishing guns. The two had been hired by a bail bond service to pick up a man awaiting trial on drug charges.

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Colonel Richard G. Engels, 61, retired on August 1, 1995, after eight and a half years as Chief of the Division. He retired at the advice of his physician after having triple-bypass heart surgery in 1994. He joined the Division in 1964 at age 30 and became Chief in 1987. He developed numerous programs aimed at improving police interaction with the community. He established police field offices in high crime areas, put officers on bicycles and horses to patrol parks and neighborhoods, initiated an apartment task force to help residents with problems and set up a Citizens Police Academy. Henrico County, which had a population of 199,830 in 1987, by the end of 1994 had grown to 229,500.

Major Henry W. Stanley, Jr., 53, who had been acting Police Chief since Colonel Engels announced his retirement, was named Chief by County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett July 12, 1995. Chief Stanley became the fourth person to hold the office since 1940, when the police department was separated from the Sheriff's office; he was promoted to Colonel and began his new duties August 1, following Chief Engels' retirement. Chief Stanley joined the Division in December 1962, when there were 58 officers. When he became Chief, the Division had a staff of 637, including 450 sworn officers.

Henrico County and Richmond Neighborhood Watch organizations joined for the first time to take part in a Saturday "Walk Against Drugs" as part of the kick-off to the annual National Night Out against crime on August 1, 1995. The previous year Henrico Neighborhood Watch held a similar walk at The Fairgrounds on Strawberry Hill with several hundred people taking part.

On August 4, 1995, K-9 Officer Mike Lewis and his dog, Dutch, a German shepherd, responded to a house in the 5200 block of Randall Avenue after a neighbor called to report seeing a man climb through a window. As officers searched the residence, Dutch called attention to a clothes dryer in the kitchen. Investigating, Lewis found the 6-foot, 170-pound suspect curled up inside the dryer.

Officers in August 1995 arrested four men and charged them with breaking into 16 churches in Henrico, Hanover and New Kent counties.

In August 1995, Captain D.A. Middleton, formerly commander of Communications and Records, was promoted to Major to head the Division's Support Operations, filling the position vacated by Colonel H.W. Stanley, Jr., upon becoming Chief. The Chief also named Major R.L. Foster, commander of Investigative Operations, as the Division's second in command. Other promotions announced at the same time: W.M. Bullock to Captain; S.M. Meredith, Jr., to Lieutenant; M.J. Cushnie, to Command Sergeant; Detective M.L. Wade to Sergeant.

In early August 1995 residents in the vicinity of Lincoln Avenue in the Lakeside area expressed concern for their safety after the body of a 79-year-old woman was found in her kitchen wrapped in a sleeping bag. The Division instituted high-visibility patrols in the area to allay fears and scheduled a community meeting at Lakeside Presbyterian Church on August 16. At that meeting Chief Stanley and other Division personnel announced that a suspect (the woman's son) had been arrested and charged with the crime.

The first Citizens Police Academy graduated 17 people August 29, 1995. This unique program allowed Henrico County citizens to gain exposure to police training and provided them insight to issues faced by law enforcement personnel. The program totaled 36 hours over 10 days during July and August. Another 16 persons graduated from the second academy later in the year.

During July and August 1995 Jim Dillon's Kids Kamp, developed by the Metro Richmond Coalition Against Drugs in collaboration with St. Joseph's Villa on Brook Road, Henrico and Richmond public schools and Henrico and Richmond police, was held at the Villa. Thirty-eight children attended the first camp.

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The Division's Marine Team received a commendation September 14, 1995, from the Coast Guard Marine Safety Officer at Hampton Roads for assistance provided in preparing for the arrival of Hurricane Felix in August. The Marine Team also helped Coast Guard personnel secure the James River area during the emergency.

Henrico County officers on September 19, 1995, arrested Chuck Richardson, a member of the Richmond City Council, on Nine Mile Road in Highland Springs and charged him with three felonies, including possession of heroin with intent to distribute. The arrests culminated a months-long investigation conducted by a local multi-jurisdictional grand jury task force composed of officers from the City of Richmond, Virginia State Police and the counties of Henrico, Hanover and Chesterfield. When Henrico Commonwealth's Attorney Toby Vick was asked about using an informant who had been convicted on drug charges, Vick said, "You sometimes have to make a deal with the devil to understand what's going on in hell."

On October 5, 1995, a black couple returned to their newly purchased home in the 1700 block of Lakeside Avenue and found a 13-foot-tall wooden cross leaning against their back porch with the words "Ku Klux Klan" painted on it. Henrico Investigators began looking into it as a possible hate crime. The incident was similar to one September 29 in the 400 block of Dakar Drive in Sandston, where a black family had recently moved into a mostly white neighborhood. In that instance, racial epithets and the letters KKK had been spray-painted on the house. Earlier, on August 16, a black family living in the 4600 block of Chipox Avenue reported that racial epithets spelled with a label gun were taped on the windows of their car.

On October 30, 1995, four students at John F. Kennedy High School were wounded by gunfire across the street from the school not long after classes had ended for the day. The high school, although a Richmond public school, is located at 2300 Cool Lane in Henrico County so Henrico officers investigated. The suspect was identified as a male in his late teens using a handgun. Officers quickly cordoned off the area for several blocks to gather evidence, and Richmond and Henrico officers maintained a presence at the school in the days following the shooting. Two juvenile suspects were later arrested.

A paroled convict, reportedly under the influence of crack cocaine, engaged in a 20-hour crime spree involving burglary in Campbell County, robbery and a shootout with a Campbell County Sheriff's deputy, robbery of a store in Lynchburg and abduction of the clerk shortly after 0100 hours on November 1, 1995. The clerk, released unharmed on Staples Mill Road in Henrico County about 0520, called police and described the car the suspect was driving. Officer A.M. Margiotta spotted the vehicle on West Broad Street, pursued it and forced the vehicle to stop near Short Pump. The suspect began firing with a .357 Magnum revolver and in the ensuing exchange of gunfire, the suspect was killed. Officer Margiotta was shot in the arm and abdomen, and his protective vest deflected a third bullet to the chest area that might otherwise have been fatal. He was taken to the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, where he was successfully treated. It was the first shooting of a Division officer in 11 years. The event brought into play the Division's "peer crisis team" to counsel the wounded officer and his family.

Two new Camaros with 280-horsepower Corvette engines were put into use by the Division in November 1995. The unmarked vehicles, intended to help apprehend speeders and drug offenders, were designed for concentration in high-crime and high-traffic areas.

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On November 17, 1995, off-duty Officer P.J. Williams apprehended a man suspected of robbing a Signet Branch bank in the 4900 block of West Broad Street after he found him sitting in a car behind a motel in the 2000 block of Staples Mill Road not long after the robbery. The suspect had forced a bank teller to give him a bag of money, but before the suspect had gone far the dye pack exploded, prompting him to take off his clothing and shoes as he ran.

The Division's presence within the Henrico County school system was enhanced in 1995 through the School Resource Officer Program. Six uniformed officers were assigned full-time within each middle and high school to serve as mentors and to provide police-related instruction. These officers also were available to address any problems or issues brought to their attention by students or faculty. The program was planned for expansion in 1996 to have an individual School Resource Officer assigned to each middle and high school.

In 1995 the Division purchased a speed monitoring trailer to alert motorists to their speed. The trailer featured a standard traffic radar and a giant readout screen visible to approaching motorists. A speed limit sign mounted on top of the trailer let motorists know the posted limit.

The Communications Section in 1995 initiated AWARE (Abused Women's Active Response Emergency) program, enabling high-risk women to activate an alarm by triggering a button on an emergency pendant. The Communications Section monitored these alarms through ADT. Six AWARE alarms were installed during 1995, with three remaining active at year's end.

Statistics for 1995 showed Henrico recording fewer than 10,000 major offenses for the first time since 1989. The overall decline in 1995 was 8.6 percent from 1994.

Officer Kenneth Makela in January 1996 received the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award, given to individuals who have made significant contributions in combating illegal drugs. He served as coordinator for the Division's community partnership program and had focused on expansion of the Henrico Police Apartment Coalition, which enabled police and management companies for apartment complexes to exchange information about possible illegal activities. The FBI citation also noted Makela's work in coordinating the Help Eliminate Auto Theft (HEAT) program administered by Virginia State Police.

The Division underwent a major reorganization beginning February 7, 1996, creating the position of Deputy Chief to oversee community-oriented or problem-oriented policing efforts. Major R.L. Foster was promoted from Major to Lieutenant Colonel to fill the position. The restructuring increased the Division's command staff to five. Uniformed Patrol Operations was renamed Community Operations in a move to expand the program of community officers to include other than uniformed officers. Command Sergeant W.L. Smith, Jr., was promoted to Lieutenant, making him the highest-ranking African-American officer in the Division.

To study and combat the growing problem of graffiti in the County, the Division in February 1996 formed an eight-member task force, led by Major J.D. Fox, to study the problem and seek solutions. The effort included tracking types of graffiti and seeking quicker cleanup.

On February 13, 1996, Officer Nancy Tate Muncy alerted Officer Tom O'Keefe about a car traveling at excessive speed on Parham Road. O'Keefe stopped the vehicle on the Edward E. Willey Bridge for exceeding the 45 mph speed limit by nearly 25 mph. He discovered that a passenger was about to give birth. Officers O'Keefe and Muncy and the car's driver, a registered nurse, helped deliver a baby boy a few minutes later, at 0045 hours.

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When Officer Steve Jeffrey, community officer assigned to the Lakeside area, learned about the Kidney Foundation's program that accepts donated cars, he began handing out flyers explaining the program to people who were in violation of a County ordinance limiting the number of unlicensed cars on residential property. Between 1994 and early 1996 some 700 cars from the Lakeside area were donated to the program.

Officer Jim Stanley received media attention in March 1996 for his appearance in schools for eight years as his alter ego, "Kopper J" the clown. He found that a costume and magic tricks kept children's attention while he talked about safety issues. As a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officer for 10 years, he also had delivered anti-drug use messages as Officer Stanley.

Officers responding to a 911 call from 1738 Oakland Road in eastern Henrico April 23, 1996, found a man armed with a knife who already had stabbed himself several times in an apparent suicide attempt. After a pepper mixture spray failed to subdue the man, he ran outside and, wielding the knife, moved toward officers. Officer J.D. Sanford shot the man once in the right arm, and the suspect was arrested.

Two prisoners being driven from the Henrico County Jail to Louisa County Circuit Court escaped from the Louisa Deputy Sheriff who was escorting them on May 16, 1996. One of the prisoners took the deputy's gun and forced him out of the car on I-64 in Louisa County. The two fugitives later stole another vehicle at gunpoint. They were later captured in Ohio after a two-day, four-state manhunt.

A prisoner escaped from two Hanover County corrections officers June 6, 1996, at a dentist's office at 5500 Monument Avenue in Henrico County, where the prisoner had been taken to have stitches removed after a tooth extraction. An armed accomplice accosted the officers as they were returning the prisoner to their van for return to the Hanover jail.

Vandals used spray paint and marking pens to deface park benches, signs, playground equipment and a picnic shelter building with racial slurs and satanic markings at Duncroft/Castle Point Park on Francistown Road August 11, 1996. A Nazi swastika also was painted on a sign at Mount Vernon Baptist Church nearby. Police classified the offenses as hate crimes.

Refusing officers' appeals to surrender, a 59-year-old man on August 29, 1996, shot and killed himself after admitting he had killed his wife. Division officers had the home on Nine Mile Road surrounded, and the man spoke briefly with a Sergeant by phone before shooting himself.

In October 1996 the Division, in an effort to slow speeders, began parking a police cruiser outfitted with a half-mannequin (designated "Officer Manny") dressed in an officer's uniform, complete with hat, in locations where there had been complaints of speeding. The idea was attributed to Captain Tom Clark. The police vehicle used had engine problems and had been scheduled for auction. "Officer Manny" served for six months until, on April 17, 1997, someone stole the mannequin and uniform from the vehicle while it was parked on Williamsburg Road. On July 18, 1997, "Manny" was replaced by a new partial mannequin of a woman's head and torso. Named "Officer Minnie," she also was outfitted with uniform and hat.

In the fall of 1996 Sampson, a three-year-old Labrador retriever, became the Division's first passive drug dog, one that upon finding drugs simply sits, rather than biting or scratching. Among other duties Sampson assisted in drug searches at all Henrico middle and high schools.

A Henrico Police Community Room was opened in November 1996 at Fairfield Commons mall. Community merchants supplied materials and services for the room, to be used for safety and crime prevention courses and for meetings of Neighborhood Watch groups.

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On the evening of February 3, 1997, when Officer J.O. Alley stopped a suspicious vehicle on Monument Avenue, the vehicle carrying two men sped away. An occupant tossed a gun out of the vehicle during the pursuit, which ended when the suspects' car crashed into parked vehicles near the Robert E. Lee Monument in Richmond. The two were arrested and later were linked to the murder of a manager-trainee at a Friendly Family Restaurant at 10601 Patterson Avenue during a robbery earlier that evening.

On April 15, 1997, a man robbed a bank at 4180 Dominion Boulevard at about 1400 hours. Some 10 minutes later a Henrico officer near West Broad Street and Dickens Road saw a car matching the description of the suspect's vehicle provided by witnesses. When the officer attempted to stop the vehicle, the driver sped onto I-64 and drove west into Goochland County. At the Rockville exit, he doubled back toward Henrico. During the pursuit the suspect several times brandished a 9 mm Uzi at officers. One pursuing officer fired eight rounds at the vehicle. At 1425 hours a Henrico officer driving an unmarked unit forced the fleeing car to the side of the road near the Pouncey Tract Road overpass, where the suspect was taken into custody. It was determined that the man was suspected of robbing 14 banks in the metropolitan area dating back to March 6, 1996. Before the April 15 robbery the Crime Analysis Unit had predicted the robber would strike soon in the West End.

Artist Mariah Juliana Kirby-Smith was contracted in the spring of 1997 to create a memorial statue honoring the six Henrico officers killed while on duty. In May a Henrico Police Memorial Foundation began a 12-month campaign to raise \$150,000 for the memorial to be placed in a small wooded park near the Henrico Government Center on Parham Road.

In June 1997 the Henrico Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance allowing the Division of Police to turn over abandoned property items to the County's General Services Unit for public sale on a monthly basis. Previously sales were held only on an annual or semiannual basis.

Late in the evening of August 12, 1997, a 16-year-old restaurant employee was shot to death in a robbery at Bullets Restaurant at 7717 West Broad Street. Using a description of a car provided by witnesses, three officers stopped a vehicle a few blocks away on Cardinal Road and arrested three suspects.

In early September 1997 the Henrico Division of Police and Division of Fire moved into its new 65,000-square-foot Public Safety Building at 7721 E. Parham Road. Henrico County purchased the building for \$4.5 million in 1994 and spent an additional \$3.6 million for renovation and equipment. The Division of Police occupied all of the first and second floors and about half of the third floor of the new facility, which provided nearly 40 percent more working space than in the former Public Safety Center at Henrico's government complex, less than a mile away. The Division of Fire occupied half of the third floor in the new quarters. The old headquarters was to be renovated for other County agencies. Since the 1970s, when the building being vacated was erected, the Division of Police had grown from 250 to 680 sworn and civilian personnel. Adjacent to the new headquarters, construction was in progress on a \$9.3 million, 80,000-square-foot building to house the county's emergency communications center and training facilities.

During a football game between Henrico and Highland Springs high schools on October 24, 1997, at Henrico High School on Azalea Avenue several shots were fired in a parking area, wounding one man and leading to the game being called with about five minutes remaining. The shooting grew out of a disagreement between two groups of males during the game. The person firing the shots later pleaded guilty to related charges.

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In late 1997 ACT NOW (Awareness of Crime Today, Neighbors on Watch) patrols in parking lots of four large shopping malls in Henrico County were carried out between Thanksgiving and Christmas, in cooperation with the Division of Police and under auspices of Neighborhood Watch. The program, begun in 1996, gained recognition from the National Association of Counties.

Officer S.F. Diasparra suffered a broken right arm, fractured ribs and a lacerated kidney on December 18, 1997, when he was hit by a car while chasing a suspect on foot on Laburnum Avenue near the State Fairgrounds on Strawberry Hill. Two civilians and an off-duty corrections officer apprehended the suspect.

In a move toward making the Division tobacco free, a no-smoking policy went into effect January 1, 1998, requiring all recruits to sign a form agreeing not to use any tobacco products on or off duty.

On February 2, 1998, Motorcycle Officer William H. "Bill" Edwards III, 50, was killed when his motorcycle collided with a wrecker on U.S. 1 as he was helping escort a funeral procession south of Ashland. Edwards was one of four Henrico officers assisting with the funeral of Gary Bryant, a reserve officer with the Hanover Sheriff's Office. As Edwards was catching up with the procession, the wrecker turned across the highway, cutting through the funeral line. About 400 motorcycles and 700 cars made up the funeral procession for Edwards on February 6.

Officers responded to a call at 2330 hours April 12, 1998, that a man with a gun was holding several people hostage in the 2500 block of Carlisle Avenue in eastern Henrico. Officers attempted to make telephone contact, but the armed man would not cooperate. The man emerged from the home, pointed a .22 caliber pistol at officers and refused repeated commands to drop the weapon. Officer R.C. Mitchell fired, striking the man in the abdomen.

A disturbance at the Henrico County Regional Jail East on April 25, 1998, prompted a response by dozens of officers from Henrico, the Virginia State Police and New Kent County Sheriff's Office and by a police helicopter and airplane. The disturbance, growing out of an earlier bedtime as punishment in one cell block, was quickly brought under control.

Dozens of police officers from several Virginia cities and counties, including Henrico, took part in a 10-hour, 110-mile ride from the Virginia Capitol to Washington, D.C., May 15, 1998. The annual "Bike for the Blue" event was to raise money for a police memorial in Washington and was part of National Police Week honoring the memory of law officers who have died in the line of duty. The cyclists stopped at three places along the route where officers have died, including the site where W.H. Edwards III was killed in an accident February 2, 1998.

Major Douglas A. Middleton, commander of the Division's Support Operations, was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and became Deputy Chief June 10, 1998. He filled the position vacated by Lieutenant Colonel Roger L. Foster, who retired June 30 and was the first person to hold the position of Deputy Chief.

Sergeant R.E. Loving, a member of the Division since July 1963, retired July 17, 1998. For the last three years of his service he handled liaison between the Division and area news organizations.

In June 1997 the Division formed a Juvenile Narcotics Task Force in an effort to target juvenile drug offenders and their suppliers. From June 22 to August 28, 1998, the Task Force, along with 15 officers from school resource programs in Henrico and Hanover counties, carried out an extensive effort, including investigation of illegal sale of alcohol to juveniles at retail stores in the two counties. The officers made 55 arrests and conducted more than 260 hours of surveillance on suspected drug houses.

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During the 1998-99 Fiscal Year the Division initiated a Motorist Assistance Program, using volunteers to patrol the County and summon help for motorists in distress. This program grew by 2001 to have four vehicles devoted to this use.

On October 14, 1998, at about 0230 hours Officer S.E. Johnson attempted to stop the driver of a pickup truck being driven erratically on I-95. The driver left the interstate and drove onto the parking lot at Brookhill-Azalea Shopping Center, where he began driving in circles and shot once at Johnson before fleeing onto Chamberlayne Avenue and into Richmond. Richmond Police joined in the pursuit, and Richmond Officer T.F. McMahon was shot and killed as he stopped the suspect's vehicle. The driver was later surrounded at Mosby and Cedar streets, where negotiations with police continued for two and a half hours until the suspect pointed a handgun at officers and was fatally shot by Richmond SWAT team members.

A man robbed a bank at 1131 Gaskins Road shortly before noon on October 29, 1998, and ran into a wooded area south of Patterson Avenue. Henrico officers and Virginia State Police cordoned off the area and set up a command post on a grocery store parking lot at 9600 Patterson Avenue. The grocery store was evacuated, and a nearby elementary school was locked down. The suspect was captured at about 1530 hours after being flushed out of the woods near Gaskins Road and Derbyshire Road.

In November 1998 the Division's Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer (SMART) was vandalized and looted where it was parked in the 600 block of Horsepen Road. The device had been used for four years to alert motorists to the posted speed limit and their actual speed as they drove by the trailer. The trailer's radar equipment, traffic analysis computer and other items were stolen.

In December 1998 the first Mobile Data Computers for use in Henrico police cars were issued. By December 1999 all police units were so equipped. By the fall of 2001 approximately 500 mobile data units were in use.

On January 1, 1999, the Division began using a new format for reporting crimes to the FBI, the National Incident Based Reporting System, which replaced the Uniform Crime Reports. The new system, mandated by federal regulations, expanded the number of reported crime categories from eight to 22 and also began collecting detailed information about victims, offenders, persons arrested and circumstances of the crimes.

On January 24, 1999, at about 2030 hours officers were summoned to a home in the 7400 block of Landsworth Avenue to investigate a report of a man threatening to commit suicide. Upon arriving, officers found the man outside, armed with a shotgun. The suspect ignored repeated commands to put the weapon down, and when he pointed the gun at Officer R.C. Crowder, the officer fired one shot, wounding the man, who was then arrested.

On February 11, 1999, the Juvenile Narcotics Task Force culminated a two-year investigation of a violent drug organization led by two brothers operating in the Three Chopt and Tuckahoe Districts. The brothers, along with 60 other criminal associates, were responsible for distributing as much as 2,400 pounds of marijuana to adults and juveniles in Henrico County and the City of Richmond. During the course of the investigation, search warrants were served in Henrico County, City of Richmond and Bluefield, WV. Among items seized were marijuana, LSD and drug paraphernalia, Nazi "SS" flags and anti-Semitic and separatist literature, assault rifles and sawed-off shotguns.

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Officers responded to a domestic dispute on February 15, 1999, at a home in the 1200 block of Lakeside Avenue, where an armed convict was holding his estranged wife hostage. Officers cordoned off the area, closing several businesses and evacuating two nearby homes. Negotiations with the man continued for 38 hours until, at 0935 hours on February 16, he shoved his wife's head out a front window and threatened her with a handgun. The incident ended when a member of the Incident Management Team terminated the subject's aggressive actions with a single shot. Officers found that the man had taped his and his wife's legs together and had taped the pistol to his hand. The wife was rescued unharmed.

On March 1, 1999, officers responded to the area of Wistar Road and Broad Street to investigate a report of a stolen vehicle. Officers observed the vehicle and engaged in a pursuit that proceeded onto the interstate to the area of I-95 near I-295. The suspect's vehicle intentionally rammed a State Trooper's vehicle in the rear, pushing the trooper's vehicle down the interstate and causing the vehicle to burst into flames. Henrico officers forced the suspect vehicle to stop and saved the trooper from further injury. The officers assisted the trooper in getting out of his vehicle and removed the suspect from his burning vehicle. Officers R.C. Crowder and R.K. Brooks were recognized for their acts of heroism and awarded the Division's Medal of Honor.

On April 12, 1999, a canine officer and his K-9 partner, Sampson, responded to the Amtrak Station on Staples Mill Road on a possible Drug Enforcement Agency drug seizure. Sampson alerted on a suitcase, verifying the odor of narcotics. Henrico Police seized \$294,360 in U.S. currency.

In 1999 Henrico became the first locality in Virginia to adopt Crime Free Multi-Housing, an international program designed to keep illegal activity out of rental property. The program offered education for apartment managers on how to keep properties safe.

In the early morning hours of May 7, 1999, narcotics officers attempted to serve a search warrant at the home of a convicted drug offender in the 2100 block of Dumbarton Road. After getting no response, they forced their way into a rear door. As three officers searched the home, a suspect holding a machete confronted them and declared they would have to kill him. Ignoring orders to put down the weapon, the man charged toward the officers brandishing the machete, and the three shot and killed the suspect.

At a ceremony May 10, 1999, a monument to Henrico County police officers was unveiled in Hening Park at the Henrico Government Complex on Parham Road. The bronze sculpture shows a young girl with a teddy bear sitting on a rock and looking up at a 14-foot-tall figure of a police officer that has an arm extended toward her in greeting. A sculpture of a dog sits on a nearby rock. Plaques mounted on stones around the base of the memorial bear the names of the seven Henrico officers killed on duty since 1946: Lewis R. Beddow, Welford E. Green, Jerry E. Trimmer, Barry W. Maham, Donald A. Stillman, John P. Harris and William H. "Bill" Edwards. Of the seven, three died in shooting incidents and four in traffic wrecks. The \$150,000 memorial was designed to honor not only officers killed on duty but all officers serving with the Division. The Henrico Police Memorial Foundation carried out the fund-raising effort for the memorial. Another \$100,000 in services and materials were donated.

In July 1999 the Department of Housing and Urban Development recognized the Division's Apartment Coalition Program as a Top 100 Best Practices Program.

Officer Nancy Tate Muncy became the first female patrol officer to retire from the Division on August 3, 1999. She joined the Division in April 1974. Among incidents in which she was involved was helping deliver a baby in a car on the Willey Bridge. She had earned recognition from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), of which she was a member, for outstanding performance in deterring drunken driving in 1987-88.

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Henrico County's first Senior Citizens Police Academy graduated 18 men and women in May 1999. The 10-week class, open to county residents age 55 and older, provided information on numerous areas of Division operations and included special emphases on educating seniors about maintaining personal safety. Officer Don Fowler, who led the academy, explained that because the county has a growing population of elderly residents the Division was seeking to assist them. Idea for the academy grew out of the Henrico Senior Citizens Triad, an organization combining representatives from the Division, the Sheriff's Office and local chapters of AARP in seeking a better quality of life for seniors.

Henrico County's new 800 MHz, digital communications system went into operation September 16, 1999, four days ahead of schedule, because flooding caused by Hurricane Floyd put the existing radio communications system out of action. The early changeover went smoothly. The official change took place at 2400 hours on September 19, when all remaining dispatchers moved into the new communications center on the top floor of the Public Safety Training Center. The new digital microwave system, built by Motorola and costing Henrico \$22 million, replaced an aging system that had extended five years beyond its original 10-year life expectancy. In 2000 the City of Richmond and Chesterfield County both converted to similar systems, allowing officers from each locality more easily to cooperate and exchange information during emergencies transcending jurisdictional boundaries. The new technology also enabled public safety agencies throughout the metro region to communicate instantaneously during a crisis or natural disaster.

On October 23, 1999, about 400 persons attended the first Public Safety Fair presented by the Henrico Division of Police and Division of Fire at the Public Safety Building at Parham Road and Shrader Road. The event, coordinated by Crystal R. Martin, was designed to raise awareness of a number of public safety programs and events. Citizens were given tours of the Communications Command Center and the County Training Facility. About 50 autos were etched with VIN numbers through the HEAT (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) program, and 144 pets were immunized against rabies.

The Division received the 1999 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties for its Narcotics Community Task Force within the Organized Crime Section. The new task force provided a quick response team of narcotics investigators to address drug complaints that posed an immediate threat in the community. Results of the task force's efforts included seizing more than \$163,436 in assets and \$124,775 in drugs (street value), arresting 39 persons on 12 felony and misdemeanor charges and obtaining 66 multi-jurisdictional grand jury indictments.

When officers responded to investigate a possible suicide attempt in the 100 block of South Oak Avenue about 0635 hours November 30, 1999, they encountered a man in the kitchen stabbing himself with a knife. When officers told the man to put down the knife, he threatened them and continued to harm himself. As the man stabbed himself in the neck an officer shot him once in the leg in order to subdue him and allow rescuers to tend his wounds.

Recruitment of personnel took priority in late 1999 when the Division was short 41 officers and also needed to fill 23 emergency communications officers positions. The shortage resulted partially from the retirement of 24 officers over a two-year period and from competition with other jurisdictions also seeking police recruits.

During 1999 the Warrant Services Unit processed 8,074 persons on 12,537 charges. Criminal arrests by the Division in 1999 totaled 19,820, a 26.7 percent increase over 1995.

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The 2000's

Entering a new century the Division was positioned to serve the growing needs of Henrico County and continued to update facilities and procedures to meet increased demands. Unusual events were soon to bring new and totally unexpected challenges.

The Division's Safe Work Program, managed by Officer Don Fowler, was recognized as one of the top 25 "non-traditional law enforcement applications" in the nation, qualifying for the 2000 Webber Seavy Award for Quality in Law Enforcement. This award, jointly created by the International Associations of Chiefs of Police and Motorola, is presented to a law enforcement agency that has helped redefine the concept of law enforcement and how it should be performed.

The Division instituted the Safe Work Program during fiscal year 1999-2000, allowing the Division to address the community's crime prevention demands and help businesses develop a program involving executive-level direction and employee-level action to reduce workplace violence. Any county business or organization could request this free, four-step program that began with a Site Security and Employee Safety Survey. After the survey results determined which efforts the organization already employed (such as zero-drug tolerance policy), the program continued with implementation of an anti-violence policy, a workplace safety team and training. Fifty-five Henrico businesses participated in the program during 2000.

On the afternoon of March 7, 2000, officers responded to the Southern States Building in the Brookfield office park near West Broad Street upon report that an armed male was holding his estranged wife hostage. When officers confronted the suspect in the basement mailroom, the suspect pointed a gun at the hostage and threatened to kill her. The suspect fired two gunshots during the incident. The Incident Management Team responded, and the building was evacuated. Negotiators were able to end the situation successfully. The man released his wife unharmed; the suspect surrendered about 35 minutes later and was arrested.

In early 2000 the Division's Marine Unit secured a 41-foot retired Coast Guard utility boat to refit for service on the approximately 19 miles of the James River in Henrico County below the falls. The boat with aluminum hull and deck came equipped with twin 318-horsepower diesel engines.

On April 20, 2000, officers observed a suspicious passenger at the Amtrak Station on Staples Mill Road on board a train bound for Miami, Fla. The passenger consented to a search of his luggage, resulting in seizure of \$290,440 in suspected drug proceeds. On May 27 at the Amtrak Station officers questioned a suspicious passenger traveling from New York to Miami. Officers were given permission to search the passenger's luggage and discovered four kilos of "Ecstasy." Estimated street value of the recovered drug was \$245,000. The arrested passenger was identified as a Netherlands national.

In June 2000 the Division began using a new kind of radar equipment, LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging). Using infrared laser beams to pinpoint the speed of individual vehicles, even on busy, multi-lane roads, the system was able to calculate speeds accurately to within one mile per hour. The radar guns, costing nearly \$4,000 each, were purchased with aid of a grant from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

Between May 1 and July 31 of 1999, officers in the Division recorded data about each traffic stop they made, including the driver's age, gender and race, in order to determine conditions in Henrico County in relation to racial profiling, which had become a national issue. Chief Stanley formed a committee of 12 officers with diverse backgrounds to study the local situation and to collect information from police agencies and other groups. Leading the study was Captain Gerard Dabney, the Division's highest ranking African-American officer. Careful review of survey results led Division leaders to conclude that racial

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profiling did not appear to be an issue in Henrico. In an effort to eliminate any perception that a stop was related to race, in the fall of 2000 the Division instituted a policy for officers to offer an apology to the motorist stopped if it was determined that the individual was not the suspect being sought. Officers also were instructed to offer the driver a detailed explanation for the stop.

On June 15, 2000, the Division placed in service its new Mobile Command Center, developed after much research to include both a conference/strategy room and a working communications center, designed either to function independently or as a combined unit. The vehicle was equipped to house video capabilities, a remote camera and telescoping arm, a weather station, cellular and satellite phones, fax machines, copiers, four fully functional computers and six active radio positions. The Mobile Command Center can operate as a self-contained unit with its own power source or can be connected to an electricity source on site. In its first year and a half of use, the center was activated more than 20 times in response to incidents. It also was used for more than a dozen checkpoints and for numerous static displays and parades.

At the State Fair of Virginia in September 2000, for the first time the Division of Police combined with the Division of Fire and the Henrico County Sheriff's Office in a display. Previously each entity had prepared its own display. The combined display won the Director's Choice Award; it won the award again in 2001.

During 2000 the Communications Section successfully implemented enhanced wireless 911 service for three wireless telephone companies in the jurisdiction. From June to the end of the year Communications received 13,743 wireless 911 calls.

Officer Bill Stratton was seriously injured September 25, 2000, when a BFI Waste Management truck hit the Henrico County Police pickup truck he was driving. At trial in March 2002, after physicians testified that the injuries he sustained would prevent him from serving as an officer, a Richmond Circuit Court jury awarded him more than \$2.6 million. As part of the Division's Marine Unit, Officer Stratton for several years patrolled the James River.

On October 14, 2000, some 1,500 persons participated in the second Public Safety Fair arranged by the Divisions of Police and Fire. The event opened with a mini-parade and birthday cake recognizing McGruff the Crime Dog's twentieth year in crime prevention.

During Fiscal Year 2000-01 the Division's Media Relations Unit expanded its public information role in the community by posting "Crime of the Week" on the Division's Internet web page. The unit also produced regular segments of "Police Beat" on cable channel 7. These efforts allowed residents and media representatives to have more immediate access to crime statistics and other information. The unit also produced a public service announcement in Spanish aimed at reassuring members of the Hispanic community that local police departments are committed to providing public safety services to all citizens.

In 2000 the Division conducted a countywide School Safety Training program in response to concerns following shooting deaths of several students at Columbine High School on Colorado.

In the fall of 2000 the Division conducted its first Business Administrators' Police Academy, designed to prepare business administrators to serve as ambassadors for the Division and to assist their communities by serving as crime prevention practitioners. The eight-week curriculum included 16 classes and involved 24 hours of training.

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The Division in 2000 created the position of Technology Crimes Investigator. This investigator was assigned to identify, investigate and prosecute individuals and organizations that use computers and other emerging technologies to support their illicit operations.

Total of homicides in Henrico County for the year 2000 was 11, lowest figure in several years and the fourth consecutive year the total had dropped. The highest number of homicides recorded in the county in a year was 23 in 1997.

In December 2000 Laurie Crawford assumed the newly created position of director of Domestic Violence Services as part of the Division's comprehensive approach to the problem of domestic violence. In 1999 eight homicides in the County were the result of domestic violence; there were three such homicides in 2000. A team of about 50 government and private sector service providers, headed by Major J.D. Fox, had been working since 1997 to coordinate the County's services in the area of domestic violence.

A total of \$3,208,164 (street value) of drugs were seized during 2000 as a result of work by the Metro Interdiction Task Force, made up of investigators from Henrico County, City of Richmond, County of Chesterfield, Virginia State Police, Drug Enforcement Agency, Airport Police, the City of Petersburg and Hanover County. The task force was formed as a result of Colonel Stanley's Regional Drug Summit in 1996. During 2000 the efforts of the task force also included seizing \$780,977 in cash, four vehicles and 14 firearms and arrest of 71 persons on 104 felonies and 13 misdemeanor charges.

Richard Cheney, 52, became apparently the oldest recruit to enter the Division when he finished his training in January 2001 in Henrico's twenty-ninth Police Basic Training Academy. Cheney, a grandfather, spent 26 years in the U.S. Navy and several years with Virginia State Police as a commercial vehicle enforcement officer. A daughter, Jessica, became the youngest trooper ever to graduate from the Virginia State Police Academy; but was killed in the line of duty while directing traffic at an accident scene in January 1998 at the age of 23.

At the beginning of 2001 the Division had a total of 508 sworn officers. Among patrolling officers there were 124 in District I (East End) and 103 in District II (West End).

On January 15, 2001, a new vehicle for the SWAT/Incident Management team was put into use.

At about 2340 hours on January 23, 2001, Officer P.F. Johnakin stopped a motorist for speeding on I-64 on the Shockoe Valley Bridge. After securing information from the driver, the officer attempted to verify it on his laptop computer, but when the data did not check out, the officer approached the vehicle again. The driver reached out of the car and fired several shots at point blank range, striking the officer in a finger and once in the chest. The bullet-resistant vest Officer Johnakin was wearing stopped the bullet, but caused a severe bruise. The officer returned fire, wounding the driver twice, then took cover and called for backup. After several other officers arrived, they arrested the suspect without further incident.

Steven S. Caudle, a 21-year veteran of the Division, was killed January 26, 2001, when the antique 1934 Chevy coupe in which he was riding overturned several times on Darbytown Road. Officer Caudle, 43, was off duty at the time.

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On March 23, 2001, a convict being driven to court from Buckingham Correctional Center in Dillwyn wrestled with the Charles City County Deputy Sheriff transporting him and caused the vehicle to overturn. Armed with the deputy's handgun, the convict commandeered another vehicle and forced the driver at gunpoint to drive him into eastern Henrico County. There the convict made his way to an apartment complex where he smashed in the roof and hid in attic insulation. Authorities searched for hours before locating the escapee. After nine hours of negotiations, the escapee emerged through the hole he had made and was taken into custody March 24 by officers of Henrico's Incident Management Team.

Henrico County's James River Juvenile Detention Center began operation in April 2001, several months behind schedule after the original builder defaulted on the contract. The 60-bed center, surrounded by the Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center, is operated by Henrico, Goochland and Powhatan counties.

The Division was recipient of two Certificates of Achievement at the 2001 Herman Goldstein Awards for Excellence in Problem-Oriented Policing. The first award recognized the Division's innovative Public Safety Response Team program, which provided a unified rapid response team from a diverse cadre of police services to address community problems requiring an immediate law enforcement response due to their threat to public safety. The second award was in recognition of the Crime Watch Partnership program, which involved residents and the local power company in a plan to reduce the individual cost of residential street lights. Under the plan neighbors shared the cost of a single light between four properties.

In May 2001 the Division won top honors in two categories for the Governor's Transportation Safety Award -- the Motorist Assistance Volunteer program in the General Traffic Safety category and the Marine component in the Water Safety category.

Henrico Detective Edward Kopacki, Jr., was one of three law enforcement officers receiving national awards May 23, 2001, for work in an Internet sting operation. Kopacki and Richmond FBI Special Agent Zachary Lowe, Jr., and U.S. Postal Inspector Stephan Lear each received the 2001 National Exploited Children's Award, presented each year to the country's top law enforcement officers by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Their work was one of five cases selected from across the country to be honored. The sting operation led to the arrests and convictions of two Glen Allen men for sexually abusing a 12-year-old boy and trying to sell him over the Internet for the purpose of making pornography. Information derived from the Henrico case also led to investigation of six other men in six states.

On June 21, 2001, the FBI opened its new \$11 million headquarters building at 1970 E. Parham Road, less than three miles from Henrico's Public Safety Building. The new facility with three times the space of the FBI's former building, contained improved forensics areas and high-tech equipment.

In the summer of 2001 the Division received an Outstanding Achievement Award as one of the best-dressed law enforcement agencies in the nation from the National Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors. It was the second time in 13 years the Division had received recognition for its professional appearance. The Division's standard uniform, which has undergone minor changes over the years, features a blue-gray shirt with black epaulettes, a silver badge, a black tie, gold-trimmed arm patches and black trousers with blue-gray stripes.

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Henrico County Board of Supervisors on August 14, 2001, adopted an ordinance to clean up property identified as a blight nuisance “detrimental to safety, health, morals or welfare of the community.” Under the ordinance such property was to be declared unfit for occupancy or vacant for one year and meet other criteria, such as rat infestation or danger to children. The ordinance requires a long process to carry out, since 80 to 90 percent of blight cases were reported to be resolved through voluntary compliance by property owners.

The Division’s report for 2001 highlighted “Project Quick-50” as “one of the newest initiatives” coordinated with Henrico County schools. The program afforded students opportunity to be involved in reducing the threat of gun violence in their school facilities.

On August 31, 2001, a man rode in a taxi to First Market Bank at Ukrop’s Super Market in the Brook Run shopping center, asked the driver to wait and went inside. The man robbed the bank, returned to the taxi and had the driver, who was unaware of what had occurred, drive him away. On September 12 a man used the same means of transportation to escape after robbing the SunTrust Bank branch inside Kroger supermarket at The Shops at Willow Lawn. In February 2002 the suspect pleaded guilty in Henrico Circuit Court to the two robberies. Earlier he had pleaded guilty in Richmond Circuit Court to robbing two banks in Richmond.

The United States suffered its most deadly attack on its homeland September 11, 2001, when 19 persons, later identified as part of an Afghanistan-based terrorist network, hijacked four commercial airliners to use as kamikaze weapons. Two of the planes were flown into the World Trade Center twin towers in New York City, resulting in the collapse of those buildings and nearby structures. Another airliner was deliberately crashed into the Pentagon, severely damaging the structure and killing many in the building. The fourth plane crashed in rural Pennsylvania apparently after passengers attacked the hijackers. Some 3,054 people died or were missing and presumed dead as the result of the attacks (not including the hijackers).

In response to the terrorism attacks the Division created the Tactical Services Unit in the fall of 2001. The unit includes explosive ordinance device (EOD) officers whose function is to render a suspected device safe, transport it and conduct preliminary examinations of it prior to disposal or submission for evaluation. The Canine component continued to maintain tracking dogs to apprehend suspects as well as locate missing persons, and drug detection dogs, used to screen persons, vehicles and property. The drug detection dogs perform numerous screenings of parking lots and lockers at County schools during the year. The EOD officers and canine officers handle calls for service involving biohazard threats and coordination of the collection of evidence with the Division of Fire.

On September 16 a man used a cell phone to call Henrico 911 and falsely reported that his wife, a flight attendant, was aboard an American Airlines flight that had been hijacked. Because of cell phone records, a suspect was later arrested. In April 2002 he pleaded guilty to making a false report of an aircraft hijacking.

Nancy Tate Muncy, who became the first female officer to retire from the Henrico Division of Police in August 1999, died October 8, 2001, after a long battle with cancer. She served as a school crossing guard five years before becoming an officer in 1974, among the first female officers in the Division.

On Sunday afternoon, October 14, 2001, a small duffel bag was found on an Amtrak train that had ended its run at the station on Staples Mill Road Saturday night. Examining the bag by X-ray, Henrico police technicians found a suspicious object. The station was evacuated and passenger train service was halted for about three hours until it could be determined that the bag held an electric razor which had been rewired but was harmless.

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In October and November 2001 several deaths in Florida, the District of Columbia and New York attributed to anthrax powder mailed in letters produced nationwide concern. The appearance of any suspicious powder in mail sorting or distribution areas prompted immediate precautions. Among incidents in Henrico County, on October 23 Internal Revenue Service employees were evacuated from the agency's Eastern Area Distribution Center on Carolina Avenue after a white powder was found in an incoming letter, though officials suspected the letter to be a hoax. For similar reasons on October 23, the Richmond Post Office's processing and distribution annex near Richmond International Airport was shut down for a time, and on October 29 the University of Richmond's Robbins School of Business building was sealed until the site could be checked. None of the substances were found to be anthrax.

In late October 2001 the Division took part in launching a new awareness campaign about the Metro Richmond Crime Stoppers program, including several hundred permanent street signs displaying the Crime Stoppers logo and phone number. The same information was to appear on 15 donated billboards and by other means. Since the Crime Stoppers program began in 1984, the program had played a part in helping police solve more than 2,800 criminal cases.

The Division's Auto Theft component received the 2001 NACo (National Association of Counties) Achievement Award for "Auto Theft Enforcement and Prevention Initiative" and the 2001 First and Second Place Awards for "Operation Heatwave," sponsored by the Virginia State Police.

On November 20, 2001, two men were shot to death inside a rented house at 10 N. Cedar Avenue in Highland Springs. A third gunshot victim was critically wounded. Henrico investigators arrested a 28-year-old suspect the same day and charged him with the murders.

Federal and state authorities on November 28, 2001, announced indictment of 12 defendants, most of whom called themselves the Fulton Hill Hustlers. The federal charges involved six murders and distribution of crack cocaine in and around the Fulton Hill neighborhood in East Richmond. U.S. Attorney Paul J. McNulty praised cooperation by Richmond and Henrico County police, Virginia State Police and federal law enforcement officials. He said the investigation offered a model for an effective attack on street crime.

The Division's mounted unit during 2001 acquired two new horses, Danny Boy and Rocky, from New York. During the year the unit spent 278 hours patrolling County parks and 358 hours patrolling shopping centers. The unit also worked in conjunction with Community Officers identifying and resolving trespassing issues and locating trespassers who had set up campsites around the County.

In only its second full year of formation the Division's Violent Crimes Review Team in 2001 cleared an unsolved homicide that occurred in 1966, as well as six other violent crimes. Members of the team also were able to develop additional information to prosecute a suspect through the Federal Courts System regarding a 1995 homicide for which the suspect received a life sentence. The unit is responsible for the review and continued investigation of unsolved homicides, missing persons and fugitives.

A record number of 67 bank robberies occurred during 2001 in the Metropolitan Richmond area, including Petersburg, about half of them taking place after the September 11 terrorist attacks. According to the FBI, the previous record total was 58 in 1998. Some authorities suggested the increase may have come because robbers felt officials were already fully occupied with concerns about terrorists. However, a Henrico investigator suggested the rise largely resulted from serial robbers, persons robbing several banks each. By March of 2002, police in the Richmond-Petersburg area, assisted by the FBI, had solved 57 of these robberies. This 85 percent clearance rate was well above the national average of 50 percent.

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During 2001 approximately 80 volunteers contributed 9,924.5 hours of their time to the Division. The Virginia Office of Volunteerism calculated the dollar value of this service at \$187,870.79.

The Division's Accreditation Manager in 2001 successfully arranged an on-site assessment for the Division to become reaccredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The overall purpose of the accreditation is to improve delivery of law enforcement service by complying with a body of standards, developed by law enforcement practitioners, covering a wide range of up-to-date law enforcement topics.

Calls for service handled by the Division totaled 292,265 for 2001, an increase of 25,101 over the previous year, due in part to the increase of wireless 911 calls received. The Communications Unit received 541,396 telephone calls and entered 158,083 E-911 calls, which included 43,782 calls from wireless telephones. Since April of 2001 wireless 911 calls made in Henrico County have gone directly to the Henrico Emergency Communications Center rather than to the Virginia State Police.

One of two armed robbers trying to hold up the Q-Deli Market on Nine Mile Road January 22, 2002, was shot to death by the owner, who took a gun hidden behind the counter and fired after the robber pointed a gun at him and demanded money. After review by the Henrico Commonwealth's Attorney, no charges were filed against the store owner.

Command Sergeant Raleigh de Shazo retired February 12, 2002, at age 65. With 40 years of service, he was the Division's most senior member. When he joined the Division at age 25 in February 1962, there were only 56 officers; when he retired there was a force of 508. He was once quoted in a Richmond Times-Dispatch article by Mark Bowes as saying, "I didn't want to rise any higher [in rank] because I didn't want to get behind a desk." The article noted that de Shazo once declined a promotion "so he could keep his trademark mustache." In 1975 de Shazo led the Division's new BEAT program that became the forerunner of crime prevention efforts in the County. In 1980 he headed a new Crime Analysis Unit, later to become the Criminal Intelligence Section. There, according to the Bowes article, "he introduced what are known as 'field interview reports,' which help officers identify criminal suspects."

Carolyn Deal, a school crossing guard at Pinchbeck Elementary School, on February 14, 2002, called in information about a car she had seen after hearing on her police radio the description of a vehicle carrying suspects in two robberies. The vehicle was stopped later that afternoon on I-64, and three teen-age suspects were arrested.

After learning from a police source that an Ashland man was planning a bank robbery, Henrico investigators placed him under surveillance and saw him casing the First Union branch bank on Pouncey Tract Road. An undercover Henrico detective met the man on the parking lot of Lowe's store on Brook Road and sold him a sawed-off shotgun and a 9mm pistol. After the sale officers from Henrico and Hanover hidden in the area converged on the man and arrested him.

In March 2002 six Varina High School students were charged with making, passing or possessing counterfeit \$10 bills used to buy lunch at the school cafeteria. The bills were made on a home computer.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

The U.S. Justice Department's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) in March awarded \$2.25 million to Henrico County to hire 30 additional officers. It was the largest grant the County had received for increasing its police force. The grant was to become available as soon as the County hired and trained the officers. The grant provides that the County is to pay 25 percent of each officer's salary and benefits, with the federal government paying the rest. When the grant expires in three years, the County would pay the entire cost. Two years earlier the County received a \$1.125 million grant from COPS to hire 15 new officers.

On April 15, 2002, Richmond Circuit Judge Learned D. Barry was charged with the misdemeanor offense of shoplifting a \$12.95 book from Tower Books at The Shops at Willow Lawn in Henrico County. He had been sworn in as a judge in February 2001. In June of 2002 the judge pleaded guilty and resigned his position on the bench.

On April 18, 2002, Henrico County Magistrate Jerilyn Smith-Lundy was charged with stealing more than \$500 worth of clothing from a Hecht's store in a scheme police said involved the woman's niece, a store employee.

On May 9, 2002, six officers from Henrico and Richmond went to a house on Blue Ridge Avenue, located in Richmond but near the Henrico County line, to serve robbery warrants on a suspect. Approaching the house, the officers heard a shot from inside. Two officers from Richmond and one from Henrico returned fire. The suspect continued to shoot at the officers from the front door, firing nine rounds from a .40 caliber semiautomatic pistol, and was wounded by the officers.

On June 20, 2002, Chief H.W. Stanley, Jr., accepted a check for more than \$218,000 from U.S. Attorney Paul J. McNulty as Henrico County's share of \$450,000 seized from an arrested drug dealer based in Henrico. The dealer pleaded guilty to a drug conspiracy charge and is serving more than 11 years in federal prison. The payment reflected the time Henrico investigators put into the case in cooperation with the FBI.

In 2002 the Division implemented a revised Career Development Program for its sworn officers. This enabled officers to advance within the career development program in eight years instead of 12 years by participating in attaining levels in educational, training and on-the-job work experiences.

In July 2002 the Division received two NACo (National Association of Counties) Achievement Awards. One was for the Police Reading and Education Program, developed to allow police recruits opportunity to read and interact with students in kindergarten through second grade at County elementary schools. The recruits were used to enhance and reinforce the importance of education to the students. The recruits also were able to experience the cultural diversity of the community they would be serving. The second award was for the Senior Citizens Police Academy, which combines education about the role and function of the Police Division with training in crime prevention strategies for members of the community over 55 years of age. After graduation from the academy, alumni receive information about a variety of volunteer opportunities.

The Division in 2002 developed its Early Warning System, a multi-faceted program establishing guidelines to identify law enforcement employees exhibiting signs or symptoms of job-related stress or personal problems affecting their work performance. The system provided a means for taking appropriate corrective steps before a need for formal disciplinary action developed. The program was designed to increase the overall effectiveness of the agency by reaching higher levels of achievement, productivity and professionalism.

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In late summer of 2002 the Division implemented a Police Public Data Access Information internet site, designed to be of use to officers, citizens, media and Neighborhood Watch coordinators. This search engine provided means to query Incident Crime Reports, search Calls for Service and Search Arrest Report pages for the most recent 13 months of publicly available Division data.

The Division in 2002 held its first "Race Against Violence" 5K run to benefit the Henrico County Coalition Against Domestic Violence. There were more than 100 participants from the Metro Richmond area.

During the summer of 2002 Officer Chris Corcoran, who had provided volunteer services for the Boy Scouts of America for several years, gave instruction in how safely to shoot a pellet rifle for nearly 1,000 Cub Scouts in the area. Corcoran conducted the training at a shooting range he had helped create at the Cub and Webelos Adventure Camp in Goochland County.

On August 20, 2002, a gunman fleeing Laburnum Elementary School, where he had broken into the building, fired several shots at a Henrico police officer responding to a burglar-alarm call. The officer was not hit and did not return fire; the gunman eluded capture.

In September 2002 the Division became part of the Richmond Regional Amber Alert Plan, developed as a tool to aid in recovery of abducted children. This provided means to quickly notify the public, through use of commercial broadcast stations, in the event of a "confirmed" child abduction.

In September 2002 a Henrico officer began pursuing a vehicle traveling at high speed on I-295. When the vehicle exited onto state Route 5, the officer terminated pursuit because of the speed. As he continued to look for the vehicle, he saw it overturned in a field and found the body of a woman who had been thrown from the car. The man later determined to have been the driver fled, but was taken into custody a short time later.

A remote control robot was added to the Division's Tactical Services Unit in 2002 to deal with operations involving explosives and other hazardous materials. Nicknamed Merv-100, the robot was joined by two new explosive detector dogs, Bruno and Wolk.

During 2002 each County library established an area for a Division officer to work and provided a reserved parking space. This partnership enabled officers to establish a dialogue with library patrons and staff and provided a place on the premises for officers to return telephone calls, eat lunch or complete paperwork.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit in 2002 created a new database to streamline the search for information. The database made it possible to enter one inquiry and search several databases within the Division as well as in the Department of Probation and Parole.

In the fall of 2002 Division Investigators completed a major methamphetamine investigation involving a group of individuals working to bring about eight pounds of methamphetamine into Henrico County, Richmond and northern Virginia. The source of the drug was eventually arrested in San Diego, California.

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The Division in 2002 established the Sex Offender Support Initiative with the intent of mutually benefiting the community, the sex offenders and the Division. Established in partnership with the Virginia Department of Corrections, Division of Community Corrections, Adult Probation and Parole (District 32), the program concentrated on convicted sex offenders on active probation and/or parole residing in the County. The initiative offered services to the convicted offenders in an effort to improve their adjustment in the community.

In October 2002 a series of attacks by snipers that began in Maryland and moved into northern Virginia directly affected the Metro Richmond area when a man was shot and critically wounded outside an eating establishment in Ashland on October 19. A note apparently left by the shooter contained language threatening children, and an earlier victim of the attacks had been a middle school student in northern Virginia. As a result, Henrico area schools were closed for two days while the search for the snipers continued. On October 21 the case directly involved Henrico officers when they converged on a white van at a pay phone on West Broad Street and arrested two men thought to be involved in the attacks. The incident received intense news attention, but it was later determined the two were workers illegally in the U.S. who happened to use the same phone from which the serial snipers had called a short time earlier. After the two persons said to be responsible for the shootings were arrested October 26 in Maryland, it was found that the search for a white van or truck involved in the attacks had been a false lead. It was also learned that the two suspects had been in Henrico County after the Ashland shooting. The sniper attacks claimed 10 lives with three other victims seriously wounded. In January 2003 the Federal government granted Henrico County more than \$16,700 as the County's share of reimbursement to localities for costs incurred in the hunt for the snipers.

A new program in 2002 was Public Safety Awareness Month in October, an educational initiative to observe Crime Prevention Month, Domestic Violence Prevention and Awareness Month, Fire Safety Week and several other special emphases. The Divisions of Police and Fire and the Sheriff's Office offered more than 50 free educational programs throughout the County to raise awareness of special safety observances and to enhance public safety.

When Henrico County Fire Station 18 at Darbytown and Yahley Mill Roads was dedicated in October 2002, it included a police field office to accommodate Division officers patrolling the area and other police personnel as needed. It was the first time the County had designed such a facility to serve both fire and police.

On November 26, 2002, one man was shot to death and another seriously wounded on the parking lot outside Gold City Showgirls, a strip-tease club in the Lakeside area that had been involved in a series of legal encounters with Henrico County, which had attempted to curtail activities at the club. Several dancers were charged with public nudity in July, and some residents in the area had protested the club's location and business to County officials.

In December 2002 Computer Operations began installing the County's GIS application in mobile data computers. The application helps officers locate addresses more quickly when responding to calls for service or when involved in tactical situations.

The Metro Richmond region in 2002 reported a total of 81 bank robberies, a new record high; 20 of the robberies were in Henrico County.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

On January 12, 2003, Officer André Gerard Booker, 26, drowned when he accidentally drove his police car through an aluminum fence and into an 18-foot retention pond as he tried to block the escape route of a suspect who had fired a gun near the entrance to a restaurant at The Creeks at Virginia Center in the 9900 block of Brook Road. Despite rescue efforts of other officers at the scene, Officer Booker was trapped for more than an hour inside his submerged vehicle in frigid water. An August 2001 graduate of the Division of Police Training Academy, he was the eighth Henrico officer to die in the line of duty. More than 1,500 people attended his memorial service.

In January 2003 the Henrico Board of Supervisors repealed the ordinance prohibiting permit holders from carrying their concealed weapons in County parks. The regulation had been in effect for decades.

On January 29, 2003, State Trooper M.T. Blanton was killed in Henrico County after the motorist he had stopped sped away with the trooper partly in the car, and the vehicle wrecked on North Gaskins Road just north of I-64. Henrico officers soon arrested the suspect, who had fled the vehicle on foot; when authorities searched his apartment, large amounts of heroin and cocaine were found. Trooper Blanton was the fifty-first trooper killed in the line of duty.

After a series of four robberies at convenience stores in the County in less than an hour the night of April 23, 2003, Officer Kenneth Burnett on a hunch staked out a pizza parlor on Lakeside Avenue. As he watched from across the street, a man wearing a ski mask tried the door of the shop, which was closed. Officer Burnett radioed dispatch, drove to where the two suspects were parked, surprised them by turning on his spot light and held the men at gunpoint until backup arrived. They were charged with four counts of robbery and four counts of using a firearm in a felony.

The Division's Narcotics Investigations Unit in late 2002 and early 2003 began looking into activities of a group of individuals engaged in distributing large amounts of cocaine and heroin in the metropolitan area. With assistance of the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency and police in Richmond and in Chesterfield County, search warrants were executed at seven locations resulting in seizure of heroin with a street value of \$1.6 million, as well as firearms, cash and cocaine. Eight persons were indicted on 57 state and federal drug-related charges.

As a result of many complaints from citizens in the area of the fairgrounds in late 2002 and early 2003, investigators were able to identify an organization distributing drugs from residences in the area. The investigation led to the indictment of five persons. It was determined that the organization in a two-year period had distributed cocaine with a street value of \$302.4 million.

In May 2003 Sergeant Rich Brown, primary physical-fitness instructor for the Division's Police Academy, proved his own physical stamina when he chased down and apprehended two burglary suspects after a quarter-mile foot pursuit through a wooded area. The suspects had fled their vehicle on foot after wrecking as police pursued them.

On May 28, 2003, Chesterfield County police officer R.E. Cappelletty became the first police officer ever to be fatally shot while on duty in the 79-year history of the Chesterfield Police Department. The 23-year-old officer was a January graduate of Chesterfield's police academy.

Investigation of a series of home invasions was assigned to the Robbery Taskforce in 2003. Twelve incidents were linked to a group responsible for targeting Hispanics for robbery. Despite the difficulties of working with cultural differences, investigators were able to identify suspects and after surveillance were able to obtain and execute search warrants. Evidence recovered led to four individuals being charged collectively with 20 felonies.

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In July 2003 County supervisors approved setting up the Henrico Family Violence and Fatality Review Team designed to develop new techniques in prevention and education. Under the program officials every two months would choose a closed case of domestic violence that had ended in homicide or suicide. The plan called for representatives of 18 County agencies that may have dealt with the situation to discuss what might have been done to achieve a different outcome. With the object to seek preventive measures, only cases with no further involvement in court proceedings were to be considered, so no participant would be open to legal sanctions

During 2003 the Civil Disturbance Team (CDT) became fully operational, involving 50 specially trained officers. CDT is designed to approach civil disorder management not from traditional response and reaction methods but by proactively gathering intelligence about events with potential for spontaneous civil disturbances. The team would be prepared to mobilize whenever a situation might pose a threat. As part of Mutual Aid Agreements between law enforcement agencies in adjacent areas, the team could be available to other localities upon request and approval of the Henrico Chief of Police.

The Division reorganized its Recognition Program in 2003 to include new medals, including a Life-Saving Award, a Meritorious Service Award, and a Purple Heart Medal. Officer Andre Booker, who died in the line of duty in January 2003, became the first recipient of the Purple Heart Medal, awarded posthumously.

Hurricane Isabel struck Virginia on September 18, 2003, its strong winds and drenching rain inflicting widespread power outages and downing thousands of large trees. According to Dominion Virginia Power, more than 1.4 million customers lost electric power, over 365,000 of them in the Richmond area. A National Weather Service official described Isabel as a "storm of historic proportions." Officials later estimated that the toll in Virginia reached at least \$1.6 billion, with 1,100 homes destroyed and 33 people dead. A few days later a tornado did damage in the County. The disasters gave the Division opportunity to implement its Unusual Occurrence Plan. Officers worked extended hours under difficult conditions to direct traffic, respond to hazards and assist citizens affected by the severe weather.

A response by officers to a call about a suspicious situation in October 2003 led to apprehension of three suspects found to be connected to a rash of larcenies and vandalisms involving vehicles. The investigation cleared 50 such cases in the Highland Springs area.

In early 2003 the Division purchased 43 Colt M-4 patrol rifles with tactical lights and slings. In the fall of 2003 uniformed officers serving in various assignments were issued the rifle after an intense 40-hour training course. The weapons provide better target acquisition beyond 25 yards and have sufficient firepower to counter a heavily armed suspect. They provide the ability to handle terrorist events as the first line of defense until reinforcements arrive.

In 2003 an Athletic Task Force was formed with members of the Division's School Services Unit and principals, administrators and athletic directors from Henrico County schools. The task force sought to identify scheduled football and basketball games that might pose a higher than normal threat level and to form operational plans to provide sufficient police and school personnel to forestall any disruptive behavior.

In December 2003 Henrico police arrested four people said to have been connected with 11 robberies involving home-invasion tactics at several apartment complexes in the western part of the County in October and November. In one instance one person was shot. Two of those arrested were teen-agers. As many as 50 officers, investigators and forensic personnel took part in the investigation.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

Bank robberies in the Richmond region in 2003 totaled 68, second only to the 81 bank holdups reported in 2002. It was the third straight year that bank robberies in the area exceeded 65. In Henrico County the bank robbery total reached 21, a record. Sergeant J.J. Riani, supervising bank-robbery cases in Henrico, said serial criminals inflated the total, with one person responsible for five robberies and another individual suspected for four. In a new trend noted in Henrico, one person was thought responsible for four bank robberies by delivering a note demanding cash to tellers through the vacuum-tube canister at drive-through windows.

Homicides in Henrico County totaled 23 during 2003, surpassing the previous high total of 22 in 1997. It was the third time in the past seven years that the County's homicide total reached 20 or more. It was reported that 10 of the slayings were domestic-related, and seven involved robberies.

In a ceremony January 20, 2004, the Virginia Secretary of Public Safety officially recognized Henrico County as a Certified Crime Prevention Community (CCPC). The County was recognized as the locality with the most crime prevention specialists in Virginia. The County met 12 primary community safety elements or strategies and seven optional elements to be certified. The state Department of Criminal Justice Services operates the CCPC program.

In February 2004 the arrest of a man from El Salvador for the May 2003 murder of two Hispanic men in Henrico County and two in Richmond led to discovery of widespread prostitution rings catering largely to Hispanics in the area of Henrico and Chesterfield counties and in Richmond. One location of the illegal activity was at an apartment complex just across Parham Road from the Henrico Public Safety Building. The investigation, which involved personnel from several jurisdictions, concluded that rivalry between several prostitution rings led to the homicides.

Project ChildSafe in early 2004 provided gun locks free to law enforcement agencies in the Richmond area to distribute to gun owners, including 1,600 locks to the Henrico Division of Police. The organization, managed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Investigation in late 2003 focused on a rash of vandalism and arson at churches in Henrico County and nearby areas. Overbrook Presbyterian Church on Dumbarton Road was vandalized in late September, the fourth time in 15 months intruders had damaged the building. By February 2004 there had been four church fires in Henrico County and one each in Hanover and Charles City counties, at least four of them classified as arson. Total loss in the six fires was estimated to exceed \$3.5 million.

With her promotion to Major in March 2004, M.E. Fahed became the first woman on the Division's executive command staff. Assuming command of Uniform Patrol Operations, Major Fahed became one of the top five officers in the Division. She joined the Division in 1976, was promoted to Sergeant in 1989, to Command Sergeant in 1994, to Lieutenant in 1995 and to Captain in 1998.

Seven individuals who had prior law enforcement experience graduated from the Division's first Modified Police Officer Academy on March 22, 2004. The officers took part in a concentrated six-week academy to prepare them to join uniformed officers. The Division's Personnel Unit had developed the "Modified Selection Process" in order to attract persons from throughout Virginia already certified as Law Enforcement Officers by the Commonwealth's Department of Criminal Justice Service.

When Officer Brian Anderson saw smoke coming from a town house in western Henrico County at midday April 5, 2004, he knocked on the door to warn occupants. He then helped two people escape through a first-floor window, since fire blocked their leaving by the door the officer had entered.

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A Memorial Room at Henrico Police Division headquarters was opened May 11, 2004, during national Law Enforcement Officers Week. Located on the second floor of the Public Safety Building on Parham Road, the room features a portrait of each Henrico County police officer who died in line of duty, as well as displays and photos of police history and equipment.

During an armed confrontation on Mountain Road in the Glen Allen area on May 24, 2004, a 30-year-old Henrico resident armed with what appeared to be two handguns confronted 4-year veteran officer John Matsumoto. The officer was initially responding to a suspicious person call from a woman who said the man had come to her home looking for her daughter. When the officer eventually located a man fitting the suspect's description and tried to speak to him, the man advanced toward the officer and fired the weapons at the officer. The officer after being struck, then returned fire, killing the suspect. The weapons were later determined to be CO2 pellet guns.

Henrico's Auto Theft Team in October 2005 concluded an investigation into multiple thefts of motorcycles and mini-vans in Henrico County occurring since 2003. Five persons were arrested for operating a vehicle-theft ring between the Richmond area and New Jersey. The group was responsible for the theft of more than 100 vehicles, often taken from apartment complexes.

The Division during the 2005-06 school year implemented as part of the School Services Unit the new position of School Resource Gang Prevention Officer. The officer's assigned responsibilities: to identify gang activities in the schools and to try to prevent young people from entering into or continuing participation in criminal street gangs.

Suzannah Bay Dirickson, who had worked as a Henrico police receptionist, in November 2005 was sentenced to two years in prison for obtaining money under false pretenses and was ordered to pay back more than \$14,000 she had taken by deceiving co-workers, most of them Henrico police officers. Those she duped for five years believed that Dirickson was dying of multiple cancers. Division co-workers collected money and held fund-raisers to help the receptionist pay medical costs she said she was incurring. One officer's wife even allowed Dirickson to live with her and her husband for two years and helped pay for medication.

On February 23, 2006, Benjamin R. Johnson was arraigned in Henrico County Circuit Court for the murder of a Shakey's Pizza Parlor assistant manager during a robbery on January 19, 1977. The charge brought 29 years after the slaying was described by Dr. Paul Ferrara, director of the Virginia Department of Forensic Science, as the "oldest, coldest hit" since the state DNA databank was begun in 1989. Henrico Investigators of the crime in 1977, Buddy Albert and Garland Priddy, preserved blood found at the scene that apparently had come from the attacker during a struggle with his victim. Before he retired, cold-case detective Jim Dorton submitted the blood sample to the DNA databank in 1996. In December 2004 Johnson, arrested on a felony gun charge in Richmond, was required by state law to submit a DNA sample after his conviction. State lab technicians discovered the match six months later, and Henrico Investigators Doug Sullivan and Robert Hewlett followed up the case by resubmitting evidence for testing. The chain of custody had been maintained because the blood sample remained in the property evidence room until it was submitted to the state laboratory. On August 29, 2006, Johnson, then 61, was sentenced to life in prison for the murder.

James Crouch, a security officer at Henrico's Eastern Government Center on Nine Mile Road, was attacked and seriously injured by a teen-ager wielding a baseball bat on the night of April 20, 2006, in an attempt to take the officer's handgun. During the struggle Crouch was able to fire three rounds at his attackers, wounding one of them. That youth, 17, was arrested after he sought treatment at a hospital. Another boy, 14, who ran after the shots were fired, was arrested later. The officer suffered fractures to his face and head and other injuries.

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Henrico County Board of Supervisors in November 2006 awarded a contract for a reverse-911 system to allow officials to contact all county residents or those in a particular affected area in the case of an emergency, such as a hurricane. Residents would be given the choice of providing a cell-phone or fax number or e-mail address as a preferred means of contact. The system, scheduled for use by March 2007, would also allow communication between Henrico departments and agencies and with other jurisdictions and media outlets. Almost three-fourths of the projected \$405,000 cost was to be provided by an Urban Area Security Initiative grant.

In early December 2006 Henrico narcotics investigators and Drug Enforcement Administration agents, acting on information following arrests in North Carolina, discovered chemicals and a methamphetamine lab at a unit in the Hunt Club Apartments. Although Henrico officers had arrested a man with materials for such a lab in his auto in early 1999, the apartment location was the first fully functional methamphetamine lab to be uncovered in the County since 1992.

Charles M. Harpster, who had been an officer in the Division for 30 years before retiring in February 2006, pleaded guilty in December 2006 to a misdemeanor charge of distributing marijuana he had taken from the police evidence room. Chief Henry Stanley explained that Harpster as a narcotics investigator had checked out the marijuana from a completed narcotics case and removed some of the drug before returning the remainder to the evidence room. The theft was revealed during an internal audit, and “the evidence room was not compromised,” said Stanley. Harpster and his wife received one-year suspended jail terms.

At the height of the 2006 winter holiday shopping season the Division carried out Holiday Patrol, concentrating officers around major shopping malls and business districts. High visibility patrols by teams of officers on foot, on bicycle and in police vehicles provided quick response to calls for service and aggressively enforced traffic violations. The special patrol resulted in numerous felony and misdemeanor arrests and more than 1,300 traffic citations. The Division received a National Association of Counties Achievement Award for the program.

In a comprehensive strategy to reduce acquisition and consumption of alcohol by minors, the Division in late 2006 coordinated ongoing enforcement programs through the Underage Alcohol Use Work Group. This involved not only police, but also the Alcohol Beverage Control Board, Henrico County courts, schools and businesses. The strategy included school education programs and public information campaigns. Almost 100 hotels and limousine services were contacted concerning the legality of renting rooms or vehicles to underage persons consuming alcohol. A part of the effort involved Operation Party Crashers in which officers focused attention on residential parties and underage drinking associated with them. A team of officers responded to phone tips concerning noisy parties and followed other leads about party sites. Special attention was given the program during the spring of 2007, and by May 2007 Division officers had made more than 200 arrests. The effort received significant attention by local and national news media, and continuing reports on ensuing court cases kept the program in public consciousness. One mark of the program’s effectiveness was the fact that during the period of prom season, spring break and graduation, no young people in Henrico County died of alcohol-related causes.

“Operation Stay Safe” was carried out during a six-month period in 2007 by personnel of the Division’s South Station in an effort to reduce calls for service and related crimes in hotels and motels in the area. Strategies included high-visibility patrols by motor units and on foot, contact with guests and liaison with management of the hotels and motels.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

The Division's Special Victims Unit Domestic Violence Coordinator Beth Bonniwell in 2007 assembled a group of professionals in the area of domestic and sexual violence to develop an educational pamphlet on the subject. More than 45,000 copies were distributed in the Richmond Metro area, and the pamphlet was duplicated and distributed by other jurisdictions in Virginia.

In early 2007 the Division tested a prototype of a new device that could use technology to track a fleeing suspects' vehicle without a high-speed police pursuit. The StarChase system employed a compressed-air launcher to fire a small projectile designed to adhere to the vehicle being pursued. A transmitter in the projectile provided a signal to allow the car to be tracked at a safe distance. Henrico's Deputy Chief Doug Middleton reported that initial tests were encouraging. Law-enforcement groups in California and Florida later were to field-test the device to determine continuing effectiveness.

Colonel Leslie T. Sheppard Sr., Chief of the Henrico Division of Police from 1977 to his retirement in 1987, died May 19, 2007, at the age of 73, following a heart attack. He worked in the Division for 37 years, beginning in 1950 as a dispatcher and, after duty in the Virginia National Guard, returning to the Division as a uniformed officer. He worked his way up through the ranks, becoming Lieutenant in 1962 and Captain in 1966. While Chief, he instituted a career development program in which officers were able to earn college credits and degrees and including pay increases for meeting various requirements. Colonel Sheppard introduced the use of ballistic vests to the Division and changed the uniforms to be more comfortable. He also worked to secure funds to provide officers with additional training. During Colonel Sheppard's tenure as Chief, Division headquarters were moved from Dabbs House in eastern Henrico County to the Henrico Government Center at Parham and Hungary Springs roads. An ardent supporter of the Division, even in retirement he attended every academy graduation and Division-related funerals. Colonel Sheppard was a second-generation officer in the Division, his father, Bryant Sheppard, also having been an officer.

During the official visit of Queen Elizabeth to sites in Virginia in May 2007, personnel from the Traffic Safety Unit escorted the Queen as she toured Jamestown and Williamsburg and met with the Virginia Governor at the State Capitol. The Queen's visit coincided with the 400th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of Jamestown. Also in May the Marine Patrol escorted the ship "Godspeed" up the James River to the Richmond terminal as part of Jamestown anniversary events.

Henrico police in June 2007 were able to arrest a man charged with stealing diamonds from the jewelry store where he was employed because the thief gave authentic references when selling the jewels on eBay. In offering the gems for sale, he used the diamonds' certificate numbers to prove authenticity. Police tracked the suspect's on-line name by using a search engine designed for security purposes. At the time of the man's arrest, police found loose diamonds valued at about \$125,000 in his home.

New procedures for issuing marked patrol vehicles were instituted during 2007 by the Division's Fleet Operations Unit. This allowed for vehicles to be issued to officers residing in Henrico County immediately upon graduation from the Basic Police Academy and successful completion of field training. The changed procedure allowed the Division to issue vehicles more than nine months sooner than formerly, thereby helping to increase recruitment and retention among new officers.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

In the summer of 2007 Henrico County launched an Emergency Notification System (ENS) for notifying County residents on immediate safety issues, such as tornado or flash-flood warnings through reverse-911 technology on home and work phones. The system also was designed to initiate text-messaging alerts by e-mail, cell phones, pagers and other wireless devices for persons who signed up for the service. Emergency management personnel in the Division of Fire, which administers the system, were to work with Division of Police and other Henrico County officials in determining when to activate ENS to issue warnings. A \$300,000 federal grant from Urban Area Security Initiative provided most of the \$405,000 cost.

The Division in 2007 formed an Anniversary Steering Committee to plan for observance of the Division's seventy-fifth anniversary in 2009. Among materials to be developed for the celebration were a series of posters focusing on the Division's core values, a commemorative album and a history video. Plans were made for a traveling exhibit featuring the history of the Division, special in-house displays, an anniversary open house with widespread publicity and an anniversary ball in October 2009.

On July 19, 2007, Officer E.J. Kubicki heard a broadcast describing a vehicle used in two robberies and, although off duty at the time, positioned his police unit at an interstate entry ramp until he saw a vehicle matching the broadcast description. A 30-minute pursuit followed through rush-hour traffic, with units from other area police joining in, and ended with the arrest of two suspects, sometimes dubbed the "sunglass bandits" because of the dark glasses they wore. Officials later said that one of the men, M.L. Copes, and a companion had committed more than 30 robberies in the Richmond Metro area, many at fast-food restaurants and clothing stores. Copes was sentenced in Henrico in March 2008 to 26 years in prison, after already having been sentenced to 44 years by a Richmond court.

Jenny Boswell, who retired in July 2007 after a career of more than 30 years in Henrico County emergency communications, was named Virginia's 2006 Telecommunicator of the Year by the Virginia Association of Public Safety Communications Officials. When she was hired as a police and fire dispatcher in 1977, information taken in phone calls was written on cards to be conveyed to the next room to dispatchers who operated radio contact with police and fire units. About the time she was promoted to supervisor three years later, the first computer system was put into use for emergency communications. In the ensuing years she saw numerous upgrades in the system.

A suspect wanted for a bank robbery on Willow Lawn Drive the afternoon of September 18, 2007, must have been surprised to see perhaps a dozen Henrico police cars stationed along Interstate 64 as he made his escape headed home to Newport News. Most of the police units in eastern Henrico had responded to an alert describing the suspect's vehicle, and the man soon was stopped and arrested. He was suspected of robbing at least four other banks in Henrico County, as well as several in the Williamsburg and York County area.

The Division's Organized Crime Section's investigation of two escort agencies in Henrico County from April to November 2007 resulted in indictments for money laundering, distribution of heroin, and conspiracy to defraud the government, along with other charges.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY (VA) DIVISION OF POLICE

Colonel Richard G. Engels, Chief of the Henrico Division of Police from January 1987 until retirement in 1995, died December 1, 2007, at age 73; he had suffered from lung cancer. He became an officer in the Division in 1964, after having served four years in the U.S. Air Force and another three years in the U.S. Army as a military policeman. While he was Chief, he established field offices in high-crime areas and had officers patrol neighborhoods and parks on bicycles and horses. He also initiated a Citizens Police Academy in which Henrico County citizens could take part in a program similar to the training academy for new officers. At his retirement, the Division created a leadership award to be given each year in his honor. After retirement, Colonel Engels worked part time to help the Division meet standards to maintain accreditation.

On-site inspection of the Henrico Division of Police in late 2007 was conducted by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and determined the Division's compliance with the hundreds of standards outlined by the international accrediting agency. The Division thus continued its outstanding program of maintaining official accreditation. In May, an on-site assessment by the VLEPSC State Accreditation program found the Division in total compliance with standards.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony February 20, 2008, marked the opening of the first administrative office of the Henrico Police Athletic League (PAL), Inc., on Byron Street. The new office was to enable the Henrico PAL program to effectively carry out its mission of providing educational, athletic and recreational programs for Henrico County youth. The program was scheduled to become fully functional with the start of the First Annual Henrico PAL Summer Camp in June 2008 for youth ages 7 to 15.

In the early morning hours of February 28, 2008, Officer J.J. Cooper was the first on the scene responding to a call about a house fire. No one was stirring in the dwelling until the officer pounded on the front door to alert residents. While the householder and a young granddaughter escaped from a downstairs bedroom, Officer Cooper ran upstairs to awaken two young grandsons and help them leave the house as fire engines arrived.

Built-in technology to computers issued by Henrico County schools helped Henrico police in March 2008 to identify and arrest a high school student for stealing several computers from an elementary school. The technology allowed workers to determine the stolen laptop computers were being used shortly after the break-in at the school and to learn from an Internet address the user name. In addition, an integrated camera took a picture of the user, and a School Resource Officer identified the suspect.

The Central Virginia Most Wanted project, involving nine law enforcement agencies and organizations in the Richmond Metro area, including the Henrico Division of Police, in cooperation with Comcast cable television service in April 2008 launched "Police Blotter on Demand." The program was designed to provide subscribers to Comcast's digital TV service updated video profiles of persons on the "Most Wanted" list at any time at no extra cost. The profiles also were to provide information on how viewers could contact police anonymously with information on any of the wanted individuals.

Updated through March, 2008

"Special Thanks" to Volunteer Leland F. Webb
for his time and skills contributed to this project.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY DIVISION OF POLICE HENRICO, VA

The 2000's

In June 2008, Henrico County administrators approved purchase of an ANDROS F6A, one of a new generation of robots designed to disarm explosive devices. Paid for by grant money, this \$165,000 device replaced the MURV 100 that had been used by the Division for ten years. The new ANDROS F6A robot is faster, more maneuverable, and better equipped.

The new shelter for the Animal Protection Unit was dedicated July 17, 2008. This new facility is 10,095 square-feet and includes 80 dog runs, 65 cat cages, and a livestock shelter. Field operations for the unit moved from Dabbs House Road to the new location at the Central Automotive Maintenance Depot on Woodman Road in May.

Major James Robert "Bobby" Lindsey, who served with the Division for 35 years and achieved the rank of Executive Officer before retiring in 1985, passed away in August 2008 at his home in Chesapeake. Major Lindsey joined the Division in 1950 and was the first person from the Division to attend the FBI National Academy. He was credited with designing the current shoulder patch for the Division's uniforms and helping to move the Division toward the all-white color for police units. He was involved in strategic planning concerning equipment and technology.

In August 2008, Henrico County Board of Supervisors approved Ordinance 22-181, making it illegal for anyone to solicit funds, distribute fliers, and sell anything on any Henrico County public roadway. Henrico County Chief of Police H. W. Stanley, Jr. reported numerous complaints had been received about such activities of people standing at intersections or on road medians.

After two phone retail stores lost \$80,000 worth of telephones in burglaries in the fall of 2008, investigators developed suspects who were extradited to Henrico County. The suspects admitted to the Henrico crimes, as well as burglaries in jurisdictions from Virginia to South Carolina.

Beginning in September 2008, every officer in the Division was issued a Canon digital camera to enable them to take photos for the necessary calls for service. The ADAMS (Authenticated Digital Asset Management System) software was purchased, allowing officers to download photos at the end of their tours on specified computers. The system allowed photos to be viewed at any time on officers' laptops or other Division computers. A Digital Asset Administrator was hired to maintain the system and assist in its use.

In December 2008, police officers from Henrico County and the City of Richmond, supported by federal authorities, arrested 18 persons on drugs and weapons charges along a border area between the county and the city. This area was plagued by drug activity and violence, to include five homicides in four months. Targeted was an area bounded by Laburnum Avenue, Brookland Park Boulevard, North Avenue, and Meadowbridge Road.

A cold case that began in 1980 with the abduction of a six-year-old boy from his Highland Springs home concluded in December 2008 when a man was found guilty in Hanover County of first degree murder and abduction with intent to defile. Throughout the 28 years, many investigators from Henrico and Hanover Counties were involved in the case from crime scene to conviction.

In January 2009, the Division consolidated intelligence assets from Criminal Investigations, Organized Crime, and Community Policing to create a new Crime Analysis and Strategic Evaluation (CASE) Unit. The new unit was formed to generate quality intelligence products from collecting, analyzing, and evaluating information. These intelligence products were to be provided as needed to both internal and external users.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY DIVISION OF POLICE HENRICO, VA

In 2009, the first Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) in the Richmond metro area began in Henrico County to provide mentally unstable individuals appropriate assistance during a crisis and to help prevent future dangerous situations from arising. Henrico's CIT consists of members from Henrico Police, Communications, Henrico Sheriff's Office, Henrico Fire Division, and Henrico Mental Health. Multiple CIT training courses were implemented during 2010 by the Division's Training Unit.

During 2009, School Resource Officers completed emergency response training for staff at every public school in Henrico County. A "Hide and Lock" drill, conducted in April by Officer E.C. Krevonick and administrative staff at Elko Middle School, became the model for similar training at other schools. Training for every Division officer on how to respond to an active shooter situation began in March. Additional training was provided for School Resource Officers, as they are the most likely initial responders in a school setting.

The former animal shelter on Dabbs House Road was converted during 2009 into a Tactical Services Building to house all canine and bomb squad operations. Further uses planned for the facility include serving as a canine training base for the three canine disciplines (patrol, narcotics, and explosive detection), as well as to house all tactical services components.

As part of the year-long celebration of its 75th anniversary, the Division held its open house at the Public Safety Building on April 25, 2009. Activities included demonstrations from various units and tours of the building. On May 18th, the Division graduated 26 new officers from its 50th Basic Police Academy. The program included a special presentation to commemorate the past 50 academies and was held at the University of Richmond.

Sergeant Lawrence T. (Tom) Parker, who served the Henrico Division of Police more than 34 years, passed away July 5, 2009, at the age of 58, after a long battle with cancer. During his police career, Sergeant Parker received two Medals of Valor and carried out various responsibilities in the Division including 29 years as a gun-range instructor. He was one of the original members of the Division's SWAT team and was a part of that unit for 25 years. He served two years with the U.S. Marine Corps and 28 years in the Marine Corps Reserve. While employed by the Division of Police, he was called to active duty as a Marine in 1991 and took part in operations in Iraq and Kuwait.

In 2009, the Division's Organized Crime Section identified conspirators involved in bringing hundreds of kilograms of cocaine from Phoenix, Arizona to Henrico County. This investigation began in 2007 where a Mexican cartel supplied the cocaine, smuggled it across the U.S. border and hid it in cars equipped with sophisticated electronic hidden compartments. These vehicles were used to transport the drugs to Henrico. Seven conspirators were indicted on 22 charges. A Mexican national identified as the leader was charged under the Virginia Drug Kingpin law.

The Division's Technology Support Unit began sending news and information by way of the Division's social networking site, Twitter, in 2009. Throughout the year, the unit sent 240 "tweets" to the Division's more than 700 "followers."

Cold Case Investigator Judy Berger enlisted Division forensic artist Mary Bandeira to prepare reconstructive facial drawings of an unknown female homicide victim using a skull found with human remains in eastern Henrico County in January 1991. After the facial drawing was publicized in local media in September 2009, family members identified the victim as being from a missing person's case in 1989. DNA testing confirmed the victim's identification. As a result, some closure was provided to a family that had lived for 20 years under the impression that their family member had abandoned them.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY DIVISION OF POLICE HENRICO, VA

Henrico narcotics investigators, aware of several people distributing high-grade marijuana in the metro area, found that every two weeks people were bringing 100 pounds or more of marijuana from Canada, crossing the U.S. border through Indian reservations. Investigation by the Division's Organized Crime Section resulted in indictments of 12 individuals in 2009 and the seizure of more than \$890,000 in cash and gold.

In October 2009, the Evidence and Logistics Unit of the Division moved into a newly expanded area to better accommodate evidence storage. The area boasted a new security system, including remote camera monitoring.

2010's

In February 2010, a leak in an underground storage tank next to the Public Safety Building allowed several hundred gallons of diesel fuel to drain into Rocky Branch Creek along Parham Road and into Lake Hening, a pond near the Western Henrico government center. A clean-up process was necessary due to environmental concerns. The fuel had been stored for use in emergency generators.

In February 2010, Henrico County announced plans to open a Visitors Center at historic Dabbs House on Nine Mile Road, which served as headquarters for Henrico Police from 1941-2005. The building had already become a museum, housing exhibit galleries and a research library. The Visitors Center project developed as part of Henrico County's plans to celebrate its 400th Anniversary in 2011.

During 2010, the Division's Inspections Unit, working with General Services, completed renovations to the lobby of the Public Safety Building at Shrader and Parham Road. Renovation included providing a more secure entrance and installation of cameras to monitor the lobby and entrance.

Between late 2008 and August 2010, a Louisiana man carried out bank robberies in 15 states, earning the nickname the "Granddad Bandit" because of his balding and graying appearance. After one such robbery in Henrico County, the Division's Robbery Unit, along with Joyce Salmon assigned to the Division's CASE Unit, and the FBI worked together in a two-month-long investigation that determined the suspect had committed more than 25 similarly described robberies from New York to Texas. The suspect was arrested by federal agents in Louisiana in August 2010. He ultimately pled guilty in U.S. District Court in Richmond during February 2011.

In 2010, the Division took part in the Drug Enforcement Administration's first Nationwide National Drug Take-Back Program, designed to provide a safe and environmentally sound place for citizens to return unused or unwanted prescription drugs and over-the-counter pills. The Henrico Division of Police provided two different collection sites and was in the top five for collection points statewide. This program was repeated in April 2011.

In December 2010, Henrico County was recertified as a Certified Crime Prevention Community (CCPC) by the Criminal Justice Services Board of the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The recertification was the County's second since its initial certification in October 2003. Henrico is one of 13 localities in Virginia with this certification. The program recognizes localities that have carried out a defined set of strategies as part of a community safety and crime-prevention effort.

In December 2010, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (C.A.L.E.A.) conducted an on-site assessment of the Division of Police to verify the Division's compliance with the 464 C.A.L.E.A. standards. In March 2011, the C.A.L.E.A. panel voted to re-accredit the Division at the Advanced Re-Accreditation Level. This was the Division's sixth re-accreditation.

HISTORY OF THE HENRICO COUNTY DIVISION OF POLICE HENRICO, VA

Retired Major William Murray Bullock, Jr. passed away January 7, 2011 after a courageous battle with cancer. Major Bullock served with the Division of Police for 27 years and achieved the rank of Assistant Chief of Police.

Henrico Division of Police Chief Henry W. Stanley, Jr., who led the Division since becoming Chief on August 1, 1995, announced his retirement in December 2010, to be effective April 8, 2011. Colonel Stanley was named Chief in July 1995 at age 53. He was the sixth person to hold the position since Henrico changed to a County Manager form of government in 1934. He served in the Division more than 48 years, having become an officer in December 1962, when there were only 58 officers. A dinner in Colonel Stanley's honor was held March 28, 2011, with proceeds going to the Chief Henry W. Stanley, Jr. Scholarship Fund. The Henrico Police Foundation established the scholarship in recognition of Colonel Stanley's years of service to Henrico County and its citizens. The scholarship is to assist children of employees of the Division of Police planning to further their education.

In March 2011, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas A. Middleton was named by Henrico County Manager/Administrator Virgil R. Hazelett as Chief of Police. Chief Middleton had served in the Division 38 years, having become an officer in 1972. He became Captain in 1994 and was promoted to Major in 1995. Three years later, in June 1998, Chief Middleton was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was promoted to the rank of Colonel to be effective on April 9, 2011, having been sworn in for this position on April 1st. Chief Middleton, 60, a decorated veteran of combat in Vietnam, grew up in Glen Allen and graduated from Hermitage High School and Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia. He underwent professional studies at the Senior Management Institute for Police at Harvard University, the Police Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond, and the Administrative Officers Course at the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville.

Updated through April 2011

Special thanks to volunteer Leland F. Webb for his time and skills contributed to this project.

Henrico County Police Division History Addendum - 2011- 2014
Compiled by Sgt. Michael Stanton from Division Annual Reports
Revised by Captain Michael Palkovics

In May 2011, the Office of Public Information and the Publication and Media Specialist merged under the umbrella of the Public Information Office. Due to the ever growing increase in media inquiries, this merger helped the Division to disseminate information in a more efficient manner.

During 2011 the Emergency Vehicle Operators Training (EVOT) cadre trained the entire Division on the Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT) at Richmond International Raceway. Officers utilized four PIT vehicles constructed by International Training Incorporated to practice this technique.

Construction on a new range observation tower began in 2011; the tower overlooks a new pistol deck which will be utilized by the FBI.

In July 2011, officers were instrumental in the apprehension of armed robbery suspects from James City County that had fired at officers during a high speed chase. Officers Boone, Brookman, Kennedy, Perkins and Read received the Medal of Valor; Sergeant Burnett and Officer Grimmer received the Silver Star for their involvement in the pursuit and apprehension of these violent suspects.

From August 27 until September 2, 2011, Henrico County was greatly affected by Hurricane Irene and its aftermath. With debris blocking many roadways and loss of power to many parts of the county, personnel worked extended shifts directing traffic and answering storm related calls.

During 2011 the Police Division implemented Operation 360, a crime prevention initiative based on the philosophy of Intelligence Led Policing. This philosophy incorporates not only community policing and problem solving policing, but also improved intelligence operations and quality analysis of intelligence gathered.

In 2011 the Special Enforcement Unit completed training for all uniformed personnel in the Division on the new electronic submission of crash reports to the state DMV website, Traffic Records Electronic Data System (TREDS).

On September 11, 2011 the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Virginia presented the Henrico County CIT Team steering committee with the Joshua S. Collins CIT Support Award for excellence in working with the mental health community.

On September 27, 2011 Henrico P.E.A.K. (Police, Educators, and Kids) was recognized with a 2011 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award for implementation of an innovative program which enhances county government in the United States.

During 2011 the High Impact Team (H.I.T.) was formed as part of Intelligence Led Policing. The H.I.T. team pairs together experienced narcotic and violent crimes detectives in two-man teams. These detectives focus solely on violent, repeat offenders and develop strategies to prevent them from committing more crime.

During 2012 the Police Division began transitioning its vehicles from the Ford Crown Victoria to the Ford Police Interceptor. A new graphics package also accompanied these vehicles replacing the old “bowtie” graphics which were on the Division vehicles for many years. The Police Interceptor promises a 20-25% higher fuel efficiency in a vehicle built for the needs of the law enforcement community; the Interceptor is the only police vehicle in production rated to withstand a 75 mph rear impact. Transitioning to the new Police Interceptor also marked the first time that front wheel drive vehicles are used as patrol vehicles in Henrico County.

On April 24, 2012, Chief Middleton met with the newly formed Intelligence-Led Policing Workgroup and provided them with his vision for developing the Divisions policing model. During this meeting he provided the group with his conceptual framework for conducting policing efforts:

1. directing our attention to the value of information-gathering;
2. transforming that information into intelligence by vetting it through an effective analysis system;
3. gaining from that process a better understanding of our local crime problems;
4. and addressing those crime problems through unified efforts, resource sharing and development of enforcement initiatives that are focused on future crime prevention.

During 2012 the Police Division implemented a fitness and wellness program for sworn officers in an effort to promote physical fitness as a crucial component of officer safety. Once a year all sworn officers participate in physical training to assess their capabilities. Testing consists of a timed 1.5 mile run and one minute of max push-ups and sit-ups. Officers are afforded four hours of on-duty time each week to partake in physical fitness activities.

During 2012 the Public Information Office significantly increased the use of social media as a way of disseminating information. Through Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, the Division communicates public safety concerns, advertises for police and communications positions, promotes Division sponsored events and recognized achievements made by personnel.

In 2012 the Evidence and Logistics Unit received an award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for the implementation of the Henrico Police Logistics Regional Incident Response Unit. This is a support unit for emergencies and long term calls within the region.

During 2012 the Training Unit introduced online in-service training as a way of minimally impacting manpower while still providing quality training to personnel. Officers can now complete training at a time convenient to them during their tour of duty.

The Division introduced the new X2 TASER in 2012. This new TASER is water resistant and smaller than the original version. This TASER also comes equipped with a high-definition video camera. During the first year the Division issued 100 TASER's to officers after they completed forty hours of crisis intervention. The deployment plan call s for full implementation, 400 TASER's, to be completed in 2015.

The CASE Unit developed the Targeted Offender Program (TOP) during 2012 in order to establish procedures for qualifying persons as targeted offenders/career criminals and to identify methods to successfully arrest and prosecute these individuals.

The Special Investigations Unit developed a strategy in 2012 known as Operation Innkeeper to address challenges in combating criminal activity hotel/motels throughout the county. This is a collaborative effort between Division personnel, Federal and State law enforcement agencies, and hotel/motel employees, and enhances the Divisions "See Something, Say Something" initiative. As a result of this operation the VICE Investigative Team received the FBI Directors Award for their investigation pertaining to the rescue of six female juveniles who had become involved in the criminal sex trade.

During 2012 the Police Division, the City of Richmond Police and the Virginia State Police collaborated to conduct an operation targeting the Meadowbridge Road, Chamberlayne Avenue, Azalea Avenue and Laburnum Avenue corridor. The result of this joint effort resulted in 15 prostitution related arrest, 22 drug arrests and the seizure of 4 guns, \$15,000 in cash and \$46,000 worth of drugs.

As part of Henrico's Crisis Intervention Program, the Crisis Receiving Program (CRC) was opened in 2012 at Parham Doctor's Hospital emergency room. This center, which was the first of its kind in the region, adheres to the principles of recovery, which emphasizes dignity, respect, trauma informed care, and consume and family choice.

Chief Middleton received the CIT International Chief of the Year in 2012 for his exemplary commitment to the development and enhancement of the CIT program in Henrico County.

Sergeant Don Fowler received the 2012 Youth of Virginia Speak Out Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award for his leadership in promoting traffic safety programs in Henrico County high schools.

The 2012 Virginia, specifically the Richmond Region, was a focal point of the presidential election and generated 18 dignitary visits to Henrico County throughout the year requiring assistance from Division personnel. The dignitaries ranged from presidential candidates to vice presidential candidates.

During 2012 the Metro Aviation Unit relocated to a new hanger at Richmond International Airport giving the unit approximately 4,500 square feet of space. The facility includes office space and houses the 4 smaller planes shared by all localities.

Henrico County Police Division History Addendum - 2011- 2014
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In 2012 the Police Division won first place in the nation at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Law Enforcement Challenge. Judges reviewed policies, training of officers, incentives/recognition of officers, enforcement efforts, public education and effectiveness of enforcement efforts.

In 2013 Chief Middleton announced a Division re-organization prompting the promotion of 35 individuals. The largest promotion ceremony in the history of the Police Division occurred in August and saw the promotion of 2 Lieutenant Colonels, 3 Majors, 4 Captains, 10 Lieutenants and 16 Sergeants.

During 2013 Police Personnel organized a Woman in Law Enforcement orientation to provide females interested in the law enforcement field and opportunity to interact with the women employed by the Police Division.

On January 18, 2013 Henrico County Manager and Director of Public Safety Virgil Hazelett retired after 20 years of service in that role; Mr. Hazelett was succeeded by John Vithoukias.

After several years of not receiving additional officer positions, the Division received approval to hire 50 more officers over a 5 year period. In July 2013, the first set of 10 officers were hired and assigned to the Patrol Bureau.

During 2013 the Directed Action Response Team (DART) was implemented to provide Patrol with a team of officers dedicated to addressing specific crime issues and quality of life matters in specific geographical areas.

The County's Mobile Response Team (MRT), a component of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), won a National Association of Counties (NACo) award during 2013. The team identifies individuals by conducting lethality screenings and follows up with home visits to provide additional services.

During 2013 the Specialized Training Unit began training the Division personnel on the Force Option Simulator by TI Training, a high quality interactive response to resistance simulator that utilizes CO2 gas to create recoil to simulate live fire. The training simulator allows officers to train while they are working, minimizing the impact on scheduling, and focuses on de-escalation of situations and decision making.

During 2013 the Police Division opened a new Central Police Station to focus on central Henrico, particularly the Fairfield District. The station was located in Virginia Center Commons Mall on a temporary basis until a permanent location was found.

August 2, 2014 Henrico County held its first ever Community Day for citizens of Henrico County to come out and learn about all the services offered by Henrico County. The Police Division led the effort to organize this one day event at the West End Government Center. Citizens had the opportunity to meet with Henrico County

Henrico County Police Division History Addendum - 2011- 2014
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Government leaders and learn all about the exceptional services and resources Henrico County has to offer.

March 22, 2014, the Police Division, represented by County Manager John Vithoukas, Chief Middleton, Lieutenant A. H. Mehfoud, Sergeant M. E. Stanton, and Officer T. E. Tuzzo were awarded the highest level of accreditation, the Gold Standard Accreditation with Excellence, at the CALEA Conference in Cedar Grove, CA. The onsite assessment was completed in November 2013.

As part of an evaluation of the TEMPO Brand of policing, in April 2014 the Police Division partnered with Virginia Commonwealth University for Project 43. This represented the first time the Police Division has collaborated with an accredited University to study the agencies impact on crime in a small reporting area. The goal of the study was to determine if short random patrols in high crime areas would prevent crime and improve quality of life. At the conclusion of this study Dr. William Pelfry will analyze the data and present the findings to the County Manager, Chief of Police, and the TEMPO workgroup during a meeting in early 2015.

The Henrico Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) won a National Association of Counties Achievement Award (NACo) for the Crisis Receiving Center based at Parham Doctor's Hospital.

Robbery Detectives working with the Divisions CASE (Crime Analysis and Strategic Evaluation) and FIT (Fugitive Investigative Team) developed suspects from a string of robberies involving jewelry stores. The group of individuals identified was responsible for over 15 robberies with a value in excess of \$4.6 million. The investigation spanned the states of Virginia, Tennessee, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Georgia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. A total of eight suspects were arrested and convicted for these offenses.

The Drug Enforcement Unit conducted an investigation that covered Henrico, Chesterfield, and Colorado. Suspects were distributing approximately 40 pounds of marijuana per month in Henrico County. During the course of this operation, this organization was responsible for bringing 400-900 pounds of marijuana into the Richmond area, with a street value between \$1,440,000 and \$3,240,000.

At the beginning of 2014 the Police Division the Intelligence-Led Workgroup branded Henrico's policing as TEMPO, Technology Enhanced Modern Policing Operations. TEMPO is the efficient use of intelligence in the development of resources to effectively prevent, deter, and respond to crime and quality of life concerns. This was the first time the Police Division has ever identified its specific policing brand, incorporating TEMPO in every facet of the Police Division.

Henrico County Police Division History Addendum - 2011- 2014
Compiled by Sgt. Michael Stanton from Division Annual Reports
Revised by Captain Michael Palkovics

January 2014 Chief Middleton creates a tenth Captains position and establishes the Professional Standards Section. Professional Standards was created to enhance the Divisions oversight on response to resistance with the overall goal of providing more transparency, while continuing to strengthen the relationship between police and the community.

The Police Division participated in a multi-agency training exercise over two days to improve our response to an active shooter. This was the first active shooter training scenario of its size and took place at Short Pump Town Center and the University of Richmond.

The Metro Aviation Unit was featured in the March/April edition of Air Beat Magazine. The unit, which was first established in 1974, has continually been recognized as a model for multi-jurisdictional collaboration to ensure maximum public safety effectiveness.

Henrico Police Explorer Post participation increases, reaching 32 registered Explorers.

The Personnel Unit embarked on a recruiting plan, "Making it Personal," geared towards recruiting persons interested in a career in law enforcement. Understanding the military was downsizing significant resources were geared towards military installations. The recruiters' efforts were so significant the Henrico Police was named as a Top 20 Employer for Military Veterans, as recognized by the Military Times.