A Proud Tradition

November 2005
2nd Edition August 2014
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Acknowledgements

The following is a brief history written in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Chesterfield County Police Department. Events that had an impact on the formation of the Department or made tremendous demands on the Department have been incorporated into this account.

The Chesterfield County Police Department History project unofficially began in 1989, when I had the opportunity to interview several former department members regarding some cold cases. The information they revealed about the cases was truly vital, but their insight into how the department operated in the 1950s-1970s sparked an interest to learn more about police work in Chesterfield County throughout its history.

That research culminated in a small history booklet that was produced and published in 2005, titled "Chesterfield County Police Department's History: A Proud Tradition." What follows is a revised and updated edition of that booklet.

Unless otherwise noted, all information contained within this document was researched using resources and assistance from the Chesterfield County Library System (Local History reference section), the Chesterfield County Historical Society, the Richmond Times-Dispatch (Archival Services), and the Library of the Commonwealth of Virginia (Virginia Heritage Resource Center, Archives Research Services, Chesterfield County Section). Much of the information was gathered through interviews of current and retired Chesterfield County Police Officers, and then cross-referenced with newspaper articles, reports or court documents.

Chesterfield County Police Officers and county employees that were used as a source of reference include:

- Retired Major C. E. Richter, whose father was a Chesterfield County Police Officer during the 1930s and who was himself hired in 1948, ultimately rising to the rank of Deputy Chief.
- Lieutenant Colonel Dennis McDonald who was hired in 1976 and retired as a Deputy Chief of Police in 2004.
• Retired Major Mason T. Chalkley (deceased) who was hired in 1956 and ultimately rose to the rank of Deputy Chief; additionally was a founding member and past president of the Chesterfield County Historical Society.
• Lieutenant Colonel Jim Bourque (deceased), who was hired in 1978 and retired as a Deputy Chief of Police in 2007.
• Retired Major A. V. “Buck” Maddra, who was hired in 1965 and was the Uniform Operations Bureau Commander at the time of his retirement.
• Retired Captain Mark Wilson (deceased), who was hired by the Department in 1951 as a Dispatcher and rose to the rank of Captain in charge of criminal investigations during the 1970s.
• Retired Lieutenant Buster Greene (deceased), who was hired in 1956 and was in charge of the Forensic Unit during the 1980s.
• Retired Lieutenant Barney Ward, who was hired in 1963 and served as Police Director of the Emergency Communications Center in the late 1980s and early 1990s.
• Lieutenant John Herndon (deceased), who was hired in 1972 and employed as a Uniform Operations Shift Commander until 2006.
• Liz Caroon, Public Information & Special Projects Coordinator for the Chesterfield County Police Department.
• Dan Weiskotten, who served as Acting Director of the County Museum before his death in May 2005.
• The members of the Centennial History Workgroup: Captains Russ Lescault & Jerry Netherland; Lieutenants Pete Cimbal, Dave Higgins, Bob Kemper and Jay Thornton; Sergeants Justin Aronson and Jack Kilcomons; Corporal David Ford; Administrative Assistant Jennifer Lee; retired Department members Duncan Beasley, Rose Jones and David Suda; and County Historical Museum personnel Patricia Roble and George Cranford.
• Numerous officers, detectives and employees, who gave suggestions and insight into the Chesterfield County Police Department’s heritage.

Captain Russ Lescault
Office of the Chief of Police
July, 2014
Introduction

This book is a history of the Chesterfield County Police Department and it is dedicated to the men and women who have served and are now serving our community. It traces Chesterfield County’s law enforcement history from its humble beginnings to our agency’s first “official” recognition as a police department in 1914 to our present-day police force.

Over the past 100 years, the Police Department’s core values have evolved into what we now adhere to day-to-day as we serve the members of our community: Integrity, Service, Professionalism, Innovation, Responsibility and Excellence. These honored values were not formed overnight, but rather through the experiences of department members and members of our community as we struggle through tragedies and celebrate successes together.

When I think of historical records, I often recall a quote by Winston Churchill, who said, “History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes and kindle the pale gleams, the passion of former days.” I hope this book will give you a glimpse of the dedication and devotion the men and women in green have had and continue to have as they serve and protect the citizens of Chesterfield County.

I hope you enjoy this history and become inspired, as I have, by our department’s struggles and accomplishments as it grew from a small, rural police force to a modern, professional organization. Our history will not stop in 2014. We are grateful to those who have inherited this great legacy and who continue to serve and protect.

Colonel Thierry G. Dupuis
Chief of Police
Chesterfield County
July 2014
Chapter One

Sheriffs and Constables

(1611-1913)
• The Citie of Henricus (near present day Dutch Gap) was established by Sir Thomas Dale and his men, the Hammours'. These veterans of the Low Country Wars were heavily armored and better trained than the settlers of Jamestown. Of the new site, Dale wrote, “Eighty miles up our river from Jamestown, I have surveyed a convenient, strong, healthie and sweete site to plant a new towne (according as I had instructions upon my departure) there to build whence might be removed the principal site.” Known today as Farrar’s Island, Dale’s site included some 5,000 acres surrounded by about seven miles of the James River, with a 174-yard wide neck that was soon protected with a palisade and moat-like ditch. This new capital of Virginia (capital from 1611 to 1614) was named in honor of Henry Fredrick, Prince of Wales, son of King James I. When it was finished, the “Henricus Citie” contained three streets of well framed houses, a handsome church, store houses, a hospital, and watchtowers. This was also the beginning of Henrico County, one of the eight original shires in Virginia. By 1619, Dutch Gap was the site of the first American hospital, Mount Malady.

• In April 1622, the Good Friday Massacre took place under the command of Native American Chief Opechancanough; 70 people in Chesterfield were among those killed. Falling Creek Iron Works had 22 killed, and the college lands also had 20 dead. Only John Proctor’s plantation held out, where “Mistress Allis” stood off the attackers.

• From 1622 to 1623, the First Indian War against the Powhatan Peoples drove almost all Virginia Indians out of the Chesterfield area. Also referred to as the Anglo-Powhatan War, the conflict left most of the County in ruins, with only the Citie of Henricus, Bermuda Hundred and Coxendale surviving.
• In 1679, the first suspicious death investigation was recorded in Chesterfield County. On October 8, 1679, “Lieutenant Colonel John Farras warrant to Robert Hancock and others to investigate the death of Thomas Adkins, found dead in path betwixt Mrs. Skimmers and Abraham Workacks (in Citie of Henricus).”

• In 1701, coal was discovered in the Midlothian region by a young French Huguenot settler hunting for game in the northwestern portion of present-day Chesterfield County. Thomas Jefferson, in his writings stated that the quality of Chesterfield’s coal was excellent and second to none. Coal would be very important to the economy of the County for the next 200 years, and would also influence its population growth. Miners immigrated to Chesterfield from Wales, England and Scotland and opened coal pits in the county.

• In 1735, the Virginia General Assembly split the Henrico Parish and created the Dale Parish; this was done due to the fact that the James River divided the two communities. In colonial Virginia, a parish was a unit of both civil and religious authority that covered a set geographical territory. The Dale Parish was the area north of the Appomattox River and South of the James River, roughly present day Chesterfield County.

• Chesterfield County was established on May 25, 1749 (population approximately 6,500) by proclamation of the Virginia House of Burgesses. The county was named for the Earl of Chesterfield, Philip Dormer Stanhope. Lord Chesterfield was famous for his good manners and writings. One of his most frequently used saying is about rudeness: “An injury is much
sooner forgotten than an insult.” 9 At the time, the county's budget was 8,759£ (sterling), or $130,000 in today's currency.

- A “duking stool”, used to punish lawbreakers, was ordered to be erected at the “Hundred” in June of 1751.10 A second stool was erected at the Chesterfield County Courthouse in 1757. This form of punishment was used for minor offenses. More serious offenses entailed the pillory (stocks) and/or death. For example, in 1763, John Sims was found guilty of manslaughter and his punishment was to have his “hand burnt.”11 In another case, a poor soul was found guilty of forgery and was sentenced to “…stand in the pillory one hour, his right ear to cut off the second Tuesday in December next and to be imprisoned one whole year.”12

- Martha Sharp was examined on a charge of murder of a child in Chesterfield County Court on February 20, 1767, with official witnesses consisting of Edward Osborne, Archibald Cary, Abraham Salters and Thomas Worsham.13 A few months later, the Virginia Gazette in Williamsburg reported that “Yesterday the following criminals received sentence of death, viz. ... Martha Sharp, from Chesterfield, for child murder.” The paper reported on June 11, 1767, “On Friday last [June 4] was executed, pursuant to her sentence, Martha Sharp, from Chesterfield, for child murder. She denied the crime for which she suffered, and laid it upon the father of the child.” 14

- On Saturday, September 15, 1770, by order of the Chesterfield County Court, the County, with volunteer assistance, began construction on a brick jail near the “Court house” grounds.15 Eleven years later, in April 1781, during the American Revolution, British troops led by General Benedict Arnold raid Chesterfield County and torch the Courthouse.

- On December 17, 1774 the County donated some 1426 ½ bushels of Chesterfield grain to the City of Boston, Mass., which was sorely in need of food. The Port of Boston was closed by the British government in retaliation for the Boston Tea Party. 16 A year later, the American Revolutionary War began for Chesterfield
On December 8, 1775, Colonel Archibald Cary led the Chesterfield Militia Battalion at the Battle of Great Bridge under Colonel William Woodford against Royal Governor, Lord Dunmore. British and Virginia Loyalists were forced to flee Virginia to British ships protected by the Royal Navy. On June 19, 1781, the last British troops left Chesterfield County. In July, American Revolutionary General “Mad” Anthony Wayne’s Pennsylvania Line Troops marched into Chesterfield on the way to Yorktown. On July 21, one of his men was hung at Ware Bottom Church in Chesterfield County for theft. The war ended at Yorktown, Va., in October 1781.

- In late 1786, Chesterfield County Sheriff Benjamin Branch died after a fall from his horse. An appeal had to be made to the governor to delay the collection of taxes.

- In 1788, the United States Constitution was adopted. The first census, taken in 1790, showed that Chesterfield County had a population of 14,217 people; unfortunately, over half (7,856) were slaves.

- The first recorded “law enforcement” patrolling activities in Chesterfield County occurred in 1802. In February of that year, the County Judge ordered the Sheriff to pay out County money “onto the hands of Jonah Blankenship, Ramsey West, John Mood and William Mood, each sum of 499¢ for patrolling.”

- From 1803 to 1807, the Manchester Turnpike (present day Route 60 or Midlothian Turnpike) became the first paved road in Virginia. Not less than 30 feet wide, it ran from the ferry landing at Manchester to the Falling Creek Bridge in Midlothian. This modern turnpike had two toll gates, marking the beginning of another central Virginia tradition. The road continued through the County and west to the town of Lynchburg.

- A controversial murder case was tried in the County on April 14, 1806. A slave named Miss Sall was convicted of the murder of her “owner” Martha Morrisett. During the testimony, it was revealed that Sall became angry with the victim.
because of her harshness and cruelty, so Sall struck Morrisett with an axe five or six times. Later, she dismembered the body and threw the pieces in the James River. She was convicted of the offense and executed three weeks later.21

- On July 16, 1830, reportedly Chesterfield County’s first mass murderer was hung at the Courthouse. A Federal soldier, Private Richard Wheeler of the garrison at Bellona Arsenal (on present-day Old Gun Road), was convicted of bayoneting his sleeping sergeant to death for putting him on report for drinking on duty. He stabbed several other soldiers during the attack, but they survived to testify against him at his trial at the Chesterfield County Courthouse. Shortly before his execution, he confessed to 12 other murders, including the unsolved murder of the arsenal’s commander, Captain McLelland, the year before.22

- After four years of construction and planning, the first commercial railroad in Virginia, the Chesterfield Railroad Company, opened for operations in 1831. This 12-mile gravity and mule-drawn rail line between the town of Manchester (present-day south Richmond) and the Midlothian coalmines, just east of the Village of Midlothian, was one of the most profitable rail lines in the world, carrying 85,000 tons of coal a year from 1831 to 1850.23 The demand for coal started an economic boom in the area around the Village of Midlothian, which had seven large mines operating at full capacity by 1835 (the Black Heath, Stone Henge, Railey, Cunliffe, Woolridge, Maiden Head and Union mines).24 However, the need for coal did not come without a price. In 1839, an explosion occurred in a 700-foot shaft at the Black Heath mine, near the present day Salisbury and Blackheath subdivisions, killing 53 miners; this was the first recorded mine disaster in the United States. A few years later, in 1844, another explosion occurred at the same mine, killing 11.25
• A duel between two rival Richmond newspaper editors resulted in murder charges in the County in 1846. The editor of the Richmond Inquirer, Thomas Richie, and editor of the News & Star, John Pleasants, came to rural Chesterfield County to duel. One combatant came armed with several pistols and a sword, but his opponent met him carrying a revolver, bowie knife, dueling pistol and sword cane. Richie killed Pleasants and was found not guilty in his subsequent trial in Chesterfield County. 26

• In 1851, a local plantation owner, John Wormley, killed his son-in-law, Anthony T. Robiou, for insulting his daughter. The murder took place near the entrance to the Bellgrade Plantation, the current location of Ruth Chris restaurant near Robious Road. According to court records, Robiou filed for divorce against his wife, claiming that she had committed adultery with a local citizen, John Reid. Wormley was convicted, but his execution was delayed when a retrial was ordered because the sheriff treated the jury to drinks before its decision. He was found guilty again by a sober jury and was executed by hanging in front of a crowd of 4,000 (¼ of Chesterfield County population), but not before he witnessed the marriage of his daughter to John Reid. 27

• The Grove mine shaft of the Midlothian Coal Mining Company exploded on March 21, 1855, killing 46 and burning many more. The explosion was so severe it caused the earth to shake and wave for miles away. 28 The Midlothian Mine Company and the community would see more disasters as time went on: an explosion killed nine miners in 1876 and just six years later, in 1882 an explosion in the 600-foot Grove shaft killed 32 miners. A county park, the Mid-Lothian Mines Park now occupies the site of these tragedies.
• The Civil War began in April 1861. The population in Chesterfield County at the time was approximately 19,000 people, with half of that number listed as slaves. Four Confederate generals were county residents: Young Moody, David Weisiger, Edward Johnson and Henry Heth. Two Congressional Medals of Honor are awarded to Union troops for their valor during hostile engagements in Chesterfield County. A naval battle on the James River resulted in the first Congressional Medal of Honor to be awarded to a marine, Corporal John Mackie, stationed on the USS Galena at the Battle of Drewry’s Bluff on May 15, 1862. In 1864 the actions of a Union soldier from Chester, Pa., Sergeant James Engle, while under fire during the Battle of Ware Bottom Church on May 20 in Chesterfield earned him the CMH in 1896. The Civil War ended in May 1865.

• In 1867, a terrible explosion occurred in the Clover Hill Mine Pits in Chesterfield County (near present-day Winterpock), killing 69 people and injuring hundreds more. Survivors, many veterans of the Civil War, described the carnage as more heart rending and dreadful than any battlefield. This was the second disaster to occur at the mine; the first occurred in 1859, when 17 miners were killed in a methane gas explosion.

• One of the first “crime scene sketches” was used as evidence in Chesterfield County during the murder trial of Richard Whitehead and Thomas Willis for the murder of James Roger on February 21, 1869. The scale drawing depicts a portion of Manchester, Va., (part of Chesterfield County at the time) and illustrates the murder scene, showing two routes from a local tavern to the home of Whitehead. Whitehead and Willis were
convicted of the murder of Roger, a stonemason and the father of four children. Testimony showed that while drinking with Willis at Talley's Bar Room, Whitehead became enraged and was unable to suppress his considerable ill will toward Roger. Whitehead's dark mood erupted into a shooting later that evening. The Chesterfield County Court convicted both Whitehead and Willis of murder in the second degree and sentenced them to 18 years and seven years, respectively, in the penitentiary.33

• In 1870, the first Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors met. One of its first actions was the creation of a County Seal. Realizing the importance of coal mining in the County, and seeking to commemorate the many miners who had lost their lost lives producing coal (more than 200 by 1900), the seal's central theme was a coal miner. In its resolution, the board directed the seal to have... to wit: a coal miner leaning on his pick under a pine tree with a flowing river at his feet. 34

• From March 1874 to January 1875, a series of arsons occurred in the County. In all, two homes, two barns, two stables, one smokehouse and one corncrib were destroyed. No lives were lost, but numerous livestock were killed. The Sheriff's Department arrested Hillary Page, who later confessed to the crimes. A Chesterfield County jury convicted Page of several counts of arson and sentenced him to death. On September 1, 1876, Hillary Page was executed by hanging in a field a half-mile northwest of the old Chesterfield County Courthouse. Due to the large viewing crowd, a special train from Richmond had to be scheduled to handle the throng. After the condemned was executed, he was placed in a grave 20 feet from the scaffold.35

• After 1874 and until the early 1900s, Virginia law dictated that every four years each Magisterial District (six in Chesterfield County at the time: Bermuda, Clover Hill, Dale,
Matoaca, Manchester and Midlothian) had to elect a supervisor, three justices of the peace, an overseer of the poor and one Constable. Each constable worked independently and reported to his supervisor and Circuit Court Judge.  

- A legal first in Virginia occurred in Chesterfield County in the fall of 1879 during the trial of George Lewis. Lewis, a 19-year-old African-American, was on trial for the murder of his grandmother. His attorney made a motion that Lewis be allowed a jury of his peers. So, instead of an all-white jury, as was normally seen at trials in Virginia, Lewis was granted a jury made up of citizens from the African-American community. This historic all-black jury found Lewis guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced him to prison for 18 years.

- Richmond Police and Chesterfield County Constables hunted for three days in the wooded area south of Belle Island for an armed fugitive in early 1886. The fugitive, Charles Shaw, was suspected of breaking into a local grocery store and using explosives to blow the safe. During his escape, he shot and wounded a Richmond Police Officer, Sergeant Brooks. Shaw was finally captured without a struggle and was protected from an angry mob.

- From February 4-6, 1899, the “Great Blizzard” lasted 55 hours. County roads and rails were blocked for two weeks. Numerous citizens froze to death during this winter storm. Considered by some to be the storm of the century, some drifts were measured at over five feet deep.

- One of the first mentions of a Chesterfield County Police force was recorded in public documents in 1900. On March 26, 1900, Police Officers appeared before the Judge of the Circuit Court and requested that their Richmond-Petersburg trolley line at Bellwood Farm (circa 1905)
salaries as county policemen be raised to $40 a month. This action was approved by the Circuit Court Judge.40

- The Louise Beattie homicide occurred in Chesterfield County in 1911 and gained national attention, making front page headlines for days in newspapers all over the country. Henry Beattie, the son of a prominent Richmond family, shot his wife while she sat in their family Model-A Ford at a location in Chesterfield County near the City of Richmond on Midlothian Turnpike. The suspect blamed a shotgun-yielding minority and a frantic search was begun by officers from Richmond and the county using tracking dogs (bloodhounds from the state farm and the Henrico Jail). However, investigators punched holes in Beattie's story based on the angle of fire, and soon discover that the suspect had a 13-year-old mistress. The murder case became very infamous due to the media scrutiny and was discussed for decades. The media coverage and public attention became so intense that special police were sworn in and placed in tents, supplied by the State militia, outside the Chesterfield County jail and courthouse. This was done at the request of Sheriff Gill to prevent interference in the trial and the possible escape of the Beattie.41 The suspect confessed and was executed two months after conviction.42 A song about the murder was even written and recorded by country singing legend, Kelly Harrel, in 1927.43

- On June 22, 1912, Thomas Archer Belcher, a prison guard at a state work camp in Ettrick in Chesterfield County, was brutally attacked by three escaping inmates carrying a crowbar and other tools. The escapees clubbed Officer Belcher to
unconsciousness, stole his rifle and pistol and then escaped from the prison camp. The inmates were captured three days later, near Farmville, after a running gun battle with deputies and police. Officer Belcher never regained consciousness, and died of his injuries 24 days later in the Petersburg hospital. Officer Belcher was 47 years old at the time of his death and left behind a wife and 10 children. The two suspects, William Pierce and John Furby, were convicted of capital murder and placed on death row. They were executed on the same day in June 1912 making their execution the first double electrocution in Virginia history.44

- On June 10, 1913, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors debated for eight hours the issue of reorganizing the police officers within the county. The proposed reorganization was centered on reducing the police force from six officers to three, with Officer A. T. Traylor as the chief of the police. The matter was tabled with no decision finalized.45
Chapter Two

1st Generation of Policing

(1914-1938)
After months of discussion, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on November 9, 1914, to formally establish a Police Department. The resolution stipulated that A. T. (Alonza Thomas) "...Traylor be made a chief of these police, with authority to supervise and direct the operations of the policemen, to the end that the most efficient service may be obtained."

The police force in 1914 consisted of five officers, including the Chief of Police and one part-time officer. The officers patrolled the following areas:

- The territory embracing the villages of Ettricks and Matoaca; Assigned to Officer G. Johnson (appointed in January 1915).
- The territory from Bishop's Bridge along the Petersburg Turnpike to Swift Creek (Town of Colonial Heights and surrounding area); Assigned to Officer W. P Dyer.
- The area from South Richmond along the Petersburg Turnpike and Richmond & Petersburg Electric Railway South to Swift Creek (Route 1 from Richmond to Colonial Heights); Assigned to Chief A. T. Traylor.
- The Midlothian District, and embracing the villages along the line of the Southern Railway from Granite to Hallsboro (essentially Powhatan to Forest Hill Avenue in Richmond); Assigned to Officer R. C. Redford.
- A part-time officer was authorized to patrol the mining town of Winterpock during the weekend for $10 a month. This duty was assigned to Officer V. G. Traylor.
- The monthly salary of each full-time officer in 1914 was $50; Chief Traylor received $60 a month.
- Their official duties at the time included turning on and off all streetlights in the County and replacing broken bulbs in traffic lights.
• Chief A.T. Traylor became the police department's first K9 officer. In December 1914, the ownership of a bloodhound was transferred from the City of Richmond Police Department (Third Precinct) to Chesterfield County, with Chief Traylor in charge of the care and training of this “man chaser.” It was thought that the dog would get more training in the county than in South Richmond.  

• The first police motorcycle was purchased in 1916 so Chief A. T. Traylor could catch speeders on the Richmond–Petersburg Turnpike (present day Jefferson Davis Highway). It is unknown what brand of motorcycle was purchased, but the 1916 Indian Powerplus was considered by many to be the best motor bike at the time.

• The Police Department purchased the first “modern” communication equipment in 1917. In February of that year, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Police Department to buy and install a telephone in the home of the “Bon Air” police officer so citizens and the county could contact him in case of emergencies.

• The County rented the first police car in 1918. The Board of Supervisors allocated $84 a year to Chief Traylor to hire a car four days a month to curb speeding on the turnpike. On other days of the week, police officers normally rode on the streetcars that served southern (present-day Jefferson Davis Highway) and northern (Westover Hills and City of Manchester) parts of the county, rode on horseback or caught a ride on a horse-drawn carriage going their way. Police reports at the time often documented streetcar stops or farms, instead of actual addresses.

• Chesterfield County passed a local speed limit ordinance for the entire county in March 1922. Based on the recommendation of Commonwealth’s Attorney Harry Snead, Circuit Court Judge Southhall set the countywide speed limit at 20 miles per hour and set fines for violators. At the time, it was estimated that an excess
of $1,000 in fines would be raised in the first year, which would help offset the County police force's budget, which was $10,000 a year in 1922.51

• In 1920, a change in Virginia law allowed counties adjoining a city with a population over 125,000 the ability to establish an official police department. In March 1924, at the request of Chesterfield County representatives, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation allowing Chesterfield County to establish such a department. Chesterfield County took advantage of this opportunity to reorganize its police department on April 7, 1924; at the time, the County had a population of approximately 23,300 and covered 550 square miles of land. 52

• In June 1924, during this reorganization of the police force, A.T. Traylor was reaffirmed as the Chief of the Chesterfield County Police Department. “On motion, it is resolved, that Mr. A.T. Traylor be, and hereby is, appointed Chief of Police for the County of Chesterfield.” His salary was placed at $150 a month and his officers’ monthly salaries ranged from $135 to $75. Total police force: five officers, including the Chief of Police.53 The bill made Chesterfield County very unique within Virginia law enforcement agencies, as the charter established that the Chief of Police was unable to hire and fire personnel. For years, Chesterfield County was the only locality in the state of Virginia in which the judiciary had the power to hire and fire police personnel. The Chief of Police had to appear before a three judge panel and present his case (along with the county attorney) as to why an officer should be fired, and he had to have permission from the Circuit Court judge to hire officers. 54 This unusual arrangement continued until the County Charter was changed in 1989.

• The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors in 1924 allocated money in the budget for the Police Department. The first purchases made were speedometers for all police vehicles — so speeders could be “clocked”— and 12 police badges.55

• A regional raid by Federal and State Prohibition Officers discovered 11 illegal moonshine stills and 10 arrests were made. One of the locations was in Chesterfield County, where agents discovered a 300-gallon copper still with 10
500-gallon fermenters. The area was described as being in ..."an obscure place and had evidently been doing a good deal of business.” 56

- On February 28, 1925, newspapers’ headlines state, “Chesterfield Feels Earthquake,” after an abnormally strong tremor shook buildings and bridges in the county. The tremors were felt as far away as Washington, D.C. The police force was inundated with calls related to the two-minute quake. 57

- The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors authorized a yearly uniform clothing allowance of $35 per officer in August 1926. Previously, officers had to purchase their own uniforms and equipment. This move created a consistent look for the entire Department’s uniforms. The first official department patch was round and worn on the right shoulder.

- On April 15, 1927, Chesterfield County Police investigated an accidental shooting at Stop 26 on the Petersburg Turnpike (present day Jefferson Davis Highway). A 46-year-old local storeowner was shot and killed by a 3-year-old boy who discovered a loaded revolver in an unlocked drawer. According to Chief Traylor, the storeowner was leaning over a wash basin when the boy shot him in the thigh.58

- In August 1929, Chesterfield County’s first Chief of Police, while on patrol, suffered a heart attack. Chief Alonza T. Traylor, age 56, was walking back to his police car after a traffic stop when he fell to the ground on near the gravel pits on Hopkins Road. He was pronounced dead at the scene. He was employed as a Chesterfield County Police officer for 18 years (hired in 1911) and he led the young department as Chief for 15 years.59 After his death, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution detailing his accomplishments for its records and a copy of the resolution was given to Chief Traylor's widow. The police force was temporarily placed under the command of the Commonwealth’s Attorney until a replacement could be found. 60
Railroad Detective Lyle B. Clements of the Atlantic Coast Line was shot and killed in Chesterfield County on September 2, 1930. Detective Clements was checking rail cars for illegal passengers when he came upon William Foy inside a coal car. When Clements attempted to place Foy under arrest, the suspect shot the detective four times, wounding him in the head, shoulder, side and back. Though mortally wounded, Detective Clements was able to return fire before succumbing to his wounds, striking the suspect in his leg. Foy threw Clements’ body from the moving train near the Dunlop Yards in present day Colonial Heights. Foy, who confessed, was later convicted of Clements’ murder and the murder of a police officer in North Carolina. He was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Detective Clements.\textsuperscript{61}

In September 1930, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors considered a suggestion to build a separate police station located away from the courthouse area. The proposed location was at a road that left the Petersburg Turnpike (Route 1) and went to the town of Chester and the Courthouse (Route 10). It would be more than 70 years before a police station was built near this location (South District Station in Chester).\textsuperscript{62}

Charles W. Smith, a former deputy sheriff and a prohibition officer from Albemarle County who was also the son of that county's sheriff, was hired as Chesterfield County's second Chief of Police in November 1930. He would hold the position for over 30 years (until 1963).

The Chesterfield County Police Department showcased its new green uniform in November 1930. Before this time, there was no formal uniform, save a hat and badge that was pinned to the outside of the officer's personal coat or vest. The new uniform took some of its design from various military uniforms from during and after World War I, to include a
U.S. Army M1926 officer's jacket, riding breeches and a British officer's Sam Browne belt. Additionally, the uniform included the traditional bus driver's hat with a shield and the department's first patch, which was a round tan-and-brown emblem with the words “Chesterfield County” embroidered around the outside edge of the patch. The center of the patch contained a tan triangle with the word “Police” above the triangle (see page 25). The green color was chosen by Chief Smith so his officers would be able to covertly approach illegal moonshine operations.

- During the 1930s, with the advent of the National Recovery Act (part of the New Deal to bring America out of the Depression), moonshine or “cawn likker” became an important cash crop in Chesterfield County. The NRA added an extra federal tax to alcoholic beverages, thus making home brewed whiskey a bargain for the local drinker. This increase in moonshine production led to the Chesterfield County Police Department's traditional green uniform, which was utilized to covertly and stealthily approach back-woods stills. From the 1930s to the 1950s, patrol officers used many innovative methods to catch moonshiners, from looking for heavily laden cars to using fallen trees to stop the fleeing suspects.

- Two State Prohibition Officers were arrested by Chesterfield County police in October 1930 on charges of extortion and bribery. It was alleged that the officers would extort money from citizens that they arrested in exchange for refusing to testifying against them. The prohibition officers were caught when they were searched after null processing a case and “marked bills” were discovered on their persons; the marked bills were given to the defendant before the trial by police.
Chesterfield County Police Department
History

- Two officers were shot and wounded during a raid at an illegal liquor distillery near Swift Creek on August 28, 1931. During the raid on what was one of the largest moonshine stills at the time, Prohibition Officers Olgers and Haskins were shot and stabbed by the suspects. Olgers received gunshot wounds to his shoulder, hand and legs, as well as knife wounds to his arm, while Haskins was wounded in his leg by a knife. One suspect was shot and wounded by officers and later arrested. The raid closed down an operation that used 20,000 gallons of mash and operated two 500-gallon stills; additionally, the officers discovered 40 cases of illegal whiskey and one automobile loaded with 10 cases of “shine.”

- Stepping up the pressure, Police Chief Smith, along with Commonwealth’s Attorney M. A. Cogbill and Officers R. K. Livingston, C. E. Richter, G. V. Swallow and W. H. Flynn, raided five suspected “speak-easys” (i.e. establishments that sold illegal alcohol during Prohibition) during a day-long operation in October 1931. The following locations were raided: Meyers Filling Station on Midlothian Turnpike (4 miles west of Richmond); Mac's Place near German School; two places at Stop 9 on the Petersburg Turnpike (a dance hall and a roadhouse); and the Tivoli Sandwich Shop on the area of Forest Hill Avenue. At the last location, officers used a battering ram to bust in the front door and discovered illegal “concoction” on the tables. In total, six arrests were made.

- A deadly assault on a 52-year-old widow in her home occurred in December 1932 and the case still remains unsolved. Lottie Shuman, of Trolley Stop 8 on the Petersburg Turnpike, was found inside her well by Chief Smith, who was there following up on a theft report. A examination of the crime scene indicated that she had been assaulted with a hickory stick inside her home, then dragged from the house and placed in the well. Previously, she had reported a theft of a pistol from her home and told neighbors that a suspicious person had been seen lurking around her house.
• In October 1935, the first police radios were authorized to be mounted in police vehicles. The radios were one-way receivers, similar to today's FM radios, which meant patrol officers could only receive calls and lookouts. If they wanted additional information, they had to stop at a local business or residence and call the Courthouse switchboard.

• In January 1936, the police department began providing the first 24-hour paid police service, with the officers working 10 hours a day, seven days a week, with one day off a month. Additionally, each officer was responsible for his assigned area and subject to unpaid callouts for crimes reported after hours. Compensation was given to the officers for supplying their own automobile to patrol in; they were paid 3 cents per mile up to $65 a month for mileage.69

• Three prisoners escaped the Chesterfield County Jail on January 4, 1936, by prying a hole in the roof with a can opener. A massive search began for the three escaped felons (who had been arrested for house breaking), and two were arrested by Chesterfield County police 13 days later near Colonial Heights.70 The escape began a long public discussion on building a new jail, and in April 1936 the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors voted to set aside $15,000 for the construction of a new jail, though $35,000 was originally proposed.71 Construction was delayed and the jail finally closed in 1943,72 when the County began to use the Henrico County and City of Petersburg jails for its prisoners.

• Members of the Chesterfield County Police Department attended one of the first “police academies” in Virginia in the summer of 1938. This two-week course was developed and sponsored by the Virginia Police Executive Association, the League
of Virginia Municipalities and the State Division of Trade and Industrial Education, and was offered in different regions in the Commonwealth. The Central Police Recruit School was hosted by the University of Richmond and offered such classes as community affairs, traffic management, handling strikes and riots, patrol duties, crime classification, laws of arrests, etc. This groundbreaking course also had a hands-on portion that included first aid, self-defense, accurate shooting and how to use revolvers, riot guns, tracer bullets, gas guns, parachute flares, machine guns, and other special equipment.⁷³

Chesterfield County Police Rookie E. P. Gill is shown the proper procedures on how to make an arrest by Richmond Police Sergeant C. F. Fox.
Chapter Three

Second Generation of Policing

(1939-1963)
The City of Richmond gained new territory and citizens on November 6, 1941. On this date, the city annexed 7.7 miles of land and gained 5,293 residents from the county. The area included Westover Hills, Forest Hill Avenue and homes along the James River. The forced annexation absorbed approximately 10 percent of the County’s population and 16 percent of its revenue base, greatly affecting the Police Department’s budget for years.  

- World War II began in December 1941. By the war’s end, some 3,700 county residents had enlisted in the United States Armed Forces; this was almost 12 percent of Chesterfield County’s population. Over 60 county citizens gave their lives for their country. Many of the police department’s future officers were veterans of this war.

- In early 1942, the Richmond Quartermaster Depot opened (today Defense Supply Center Richmond) at historic “Bellwood.” The site became a major logistic point during World War II, as well as a prisoner of war camp for captured German soldiers; the camp housed over 2,500 prisoners at its peak. A “break-out” in 1944 (German prisoners walked away from their work detail) put the Chesterfield County Police Department on high alert until all were captured.

- Additionally in 1942, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors authorized Chief Smith to purchase first aid and safety kits for each patrol car at a cost of $30 per set.

- Chesterfield County Police began strict enforcement of wartime driving bans in June 1943 at the direction of Judge John Snead, trial justice and Chairman of the County Wartime Ration Board. At the time,
all non-essential driving in the U.S. was banned in order to save gas for the war effort. Violators were brought before the Ration Board, where the police would testify; fines could range from the loss of all gasoline rations for 30 days to coupons taken their ration books.\(^78\)

• The Chesterfield County Police Department received praise from the Virginia Superintendent of State Police, Major J. R. Nunn, for its diligence in reducing the number of fatalities on the Petersburg Turnpike, commonly referred to at the time (according to a local newspaper article) as the “Pike” or “Virginia's Death Trap.”

Due to the efforts of patrol officers from Chesterfield County and state troopers from Division 1, the Petersburg Turnpike did not have any fatalities in 1944. This stopped a cycle of “…12 years of slaughter,” according to Major Nunn, who was referring to the years between 1931 to 1943, when 94 motorist or pedestrians were killed on what was state's most dangerous highway.\(^79\)

• During 1944, the young police department finally had a headquarters it could call its own. The Chesterfield County Police Department converted the first floor of the old jail, built in 1892, into office space. The upper floor of the building was configured into an 8-person lock-up for prisoners. Previously, the Police Department had to share space with the County Sheriff and Commonwealth's Attorney.

• Dog Days strike in Chesterfield County in May 1944. Police Chief C. W. Smith released a report stating that in the month of May the Chesterfield County police handled an average of more than one dog
complaint a day. Of the 40 dog calls handled, 22 related to stray dogs, eight were dogs damaging property, six were lost dogs and four were dogs attacking people. The report further showed that almost $420 was paid out in claims for livestock and fowl being killed by stray dogs, a little less than the $585 spent in 1943. Additionally in 1944, 98 dogs were destroyed compared to 38 dogs being put down in 1943.80

• The United States War Production Board granted the Chesterfield County Police Department priority for a two-way radio system in July 1945. This new technology was installed in 10 police cars. At the time, the 50-watt system cost $6,500 and, according to Chief Smith: “...the need for two-way radio system is hard to explain. The two-way radio system is as much ahead of the one-way radio system as radio is over no radio at all.” 81

• Chesterfield County Police responded to a military plane crash near the Courthouse on April 3, 1947. The plane, a U.S. Army Air Force twin engine A26 Invader Bomber, went down in a fiery explosion one mile southwest of the Courthouse near Beach Road. Chief Smith was the first officer on the scene and he stated that witnesses said the plane was circling the area, apparently lost, when it suddenly power dived 500 feet down, creating a 20-foot deep crater. Weather was overcast and foggy at the time of the crash (11:15 a.m.). Five U.S. Army members from U.S. Army Airfield in Myrtle Beach, S.C., lost their lives in the crash. 82

• In December 1947, Charles W. Smith resigned as Chief of Police of Chesterfield County for personal reasons after serving the County for 17 years. A special meeting of the Board of Supervisor convened on December 31, 1947, to select Chief Smith's replacement. The Board selected State Police Special Investigator Robert C. Guance as the new chief, but he was unable to report for duty until mid-January; in the interim, Captain I. E. Bowman was placed in charge of the police department. Chief Guance reported for duty on Thursday, January 15, 1948, but after only two days on the job, he sent the Circuit
Court Judge a letter of resignation, but gave no specific reasons for leaving the job. A search committee was formed and Captain Bowman was named Acting Chief until a replacement could be found. After months of searching and interviewing eight potential candidates, the former Chief of Police of the City of Petersburg, Charles A. Ryburn, was selected by the Board of Supervisors and he was appointed Chief of Police by Circuit Court Judge Jefferson on June 23, 1948, as the third Chief of Police of Chesterfield County.

- In 1948, the City of Colonial Heights, formerly a town within Chesterfield County, annexed one square mile of the County. The population of the county at the time was 39,791.

- On January 1, 1949, the Chesterfield County Police Department started its own fleet management program by purchasing 14 vehicles for its police officers. This action replaced the policy of either requiring officers to supply their own vehicles for patrol or renting vehicles for the Department’s use. With the new vehicles, officers saw the end of their monthly mileage allotment, but most received pay increases to make up the difference. Chevrolet Fleetline Sedans were among the first vehicles purchased.

- A moonshine raid that occurred on December 24, 1947, was transferred from Chesterfield County to Federal authorities on January 23, 1948, due to some questions about possible improprieties taken by two county officers involved in the raid. The raid netted 16 400-gallon fermenters, 700 gallons of mash, and 140 gallons of illegal whiskey. Involved in the raid were Officers E. P. Gill and W. B. Gill.

- Chesterfield County and State Police engage in a six-hour stand-off with a mentally ill subject in Ettrick in March 1949. The incident began when 10 county
and state officers arrived at the suspect's home with a search warrant for illegal whiskey still parts and 100 gallons of mash. When they knocked on the suspect's door, the officers were greeted with gunfire from a shotgun and rifle. Negotiations failed, so officers fired tear gas and used a machine gun borrowed from Petersburg Police Department to attempt to persuade the suspect to surrender. These attempts failed, so officers used an armored car and rammed the front door of the suspect's house, after which the suspect surrendered. He was charged with the attempted murder of two officers, but was later found to be mentally incompetent to stand trial.  

- On May 11, 1949, the Board of Supervisors secretly offered former Chesterfield County Chief of Police Charles Smith his old job back, even though the position was currently being filled by Chief Ryburn. Chief Smith declined, but said he would take the job back if Chief Ryburn were not reappointed after his first year in office was up on June 30. Petitions began circulating in every magisterial district in Chesterfield County for the Board of Supervisors to give Chief Ryburn a “fair” hearing before deciding whether to replace him. However, Chief Ryburn was not reappointed after his first year on the job and he resigned as Chief of Police of Chesterfield on June 30, 1949; he then took a position with the State Corporation Commission. The former Chief, Charles W. Smith, replaced him on July 1, 1949, after being sworn in by Circuit Court Judge Jefferson. Shortly after taking over, Chief Smith saw the Chesterfield County Police Department expand to 15 officers and three dispatchers to serve a population of almost 40,400 citizens.
• According to the Department of Motor Vehicles, Chesterfield County had the second-highest number of traffic offenses in the counties in Virginia during the 1949 fiscal year. DMV's figures showed that there were 67,312 traffic violations in the Commonwealth of Virginia at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 1949); Arlington County had 4,261 violations and Chesterfield County had 2,744 violations.  

• Rapid growth often leads to problems, as documented in newspaper articles in late 1950. At the time, the local headline read, “Chesterfield’s Rapid Growth Accentuates Three Big Problems Facing County.” The article went on to describe problems with school overcrowding, lack of water resources and inadequate roads caused by the County’s increased population. From 1910 to 1950, the population in the County jumped from 31,183 to 39,791 citizens.

• In an emergency move in April 1950, Chesterfield County ordered all dogs within the county to be quarantined for 45-days in a move to combat the rabies disease. Owners who allowed their dogs out in public would face a fine of $50 from police officers or dog wardens.

• In January 1951, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors authorized the purchase of two advanced Geiger counters for public safety reasons. The County Executive stated, “These electronic gadgets will be helpful if the county would ever be bombarded with atomic bombs.” The counters were turned over to the County’s Civil Defense Force, which later becomes the nucleus of the modern day Chesterfield County Police Auxiliary. However, department officers were also trained on how to use the Geiger counters, with 14 officers later taking an 18-hour course and being certified in radiological monitoring.
• On August 13, 1953, one of the largest ground searches in the history of the police department tragically ended with the discovery of the bodies of four young boys on the grounds of McGuire Veterans Hospital. The boys, ages 3, 5 and 7 (two were twins), were reported missing after failing to return home for lunch. Over 1,500 volunteers, state police, firemen and National Guard members, led by the police department, searched for the missing boys for two-and-a-half days in the deeply wooded area using civil air patrol and State Police planes and helicopters from the Air Force. According to Chief Smith, the boys had scaled a wall in a restricted area and had become trapped in an abandoned icebox, where they suffocated. This incident and a similar one in Arkansas involving five children during the same month began a nationwide discussion on the safe disposal of refrigerators. 95

• In July 1955, two Chesterfield County police officers, E.P. Gill and R. E. Feeback, were attacked by two suspects they were transporting to Court. As the officers were transporting three suspects from the City of Richmond Jail to Chesterfield County for their court appearances, two of the three suspects pulled out hidden knives and pressed them against the throats of the officers, who were sitting in front of them. The officers were able to take control of the prisoners, but the attempt escape began a discussion about officer safety and the lack of jail facilities in Chesterfield County. 96

• Chief Smith announced a major reorganization of the police department in May 1956. In an effort to “…provide more adequate patrolling by prowl cars in some of Chesterfield's heavily populated areas and to leave more men available for full-time investigation…” the
department was adding five to seven more officers to the 12-man patrol force. In order to accomplish this expansion, the police department's annual budget had to be increased from $65,619 to $92,766. The increased patrols would take place on Cherokee Road in Bon Air, River Road in Matoaca, Hickory Road near Ettrick and Hundred Road (Route 10) through Chester. Justification for the department's expansion were an increase in complaints/calls that Chesterfield had received, going from 5,044 calls in 1950 to 6,992 calls in 1955. Chief Smith pointed out that the increase was due to the rapid growth of the County's population, which grew from 40,000 residents in 1950 to 65,000 in 1955. 97

- In October 1956, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, reduced the work week of a police officer from 60 hours a week to 48 hours a week. Officers would work rotating shifts of 8 hours a day, six days a week, with one day off.

- In one of the last covert operations of its kind in Chesterfield County, on January 3, 1957, police led by Detectives E. P. Gill and C. E. Richter and Patrolmen J. A. Simmons, C. E. Jones and L. L. Edwards raid a moonshine operation.98

- Two days later, on January 5, 1957, one of the officers involved in the moonshine raid the previous day, Chesterfield County Police Officer Lamont L. Edwards, was killed in the line of duty. His patrol vehicle collided with a lumber truck on the Boulevard in Colonial Heights while en route to a call. Officer Edwards was 27 years old at the time of his death and left behind a wife and four small children. 99 At the time there was some controversy about his accident. Some blamed the accident on the thin tire treads on Officer Edwards' police car.

- In 1957, the safety of Chesterfield County roads were questioned when the death toll for traffic accidents was the highest in the state and death toll exceeds the previous high number. At the end of the year, there had been 29 deaths from traffic accidents, exceeding the previous high, 27 deaths, set in 1941. 100 According to the State Police, 16 of the 29 fatal crashes occurred on the
Petersburg Pike (Route 1), “…as many as the total lost in traffic crashes in Henrico County.” Additionally State Police stated that 14 of the fatalities were due to excessive speed and nine were caused by improper passing or failing to yield the right of way. 101

• The Federal Communications Commission gave the Chesterfield County Police Department permission in August 1958 to begin using a new, more efficient radio system on a different frequency. This change would resolve the problem of wave crowding and interference, since the current police band included Petersburg, Hopewell, Colonial Heights, Dinwiddie, Prince George, and seven other jurisdictions. The change would include new radios in each police car, along with increasing the height of the department’s radio tower from 85 feet to 185 feet. 102

• In 1960, the police department began to experiment with some officers having canines in their vehicles. These officers were responsible for the training and care of these police dogs, and early reports indicated that the parings were very successful, such as a search in Ettrick in September 1960 by Officer J. G. Gunn. The local paper reported that Officer Gunn and his dog, Bruce, were able to locate a missing 5-year-old child within 10 minutes, whereas police and citizens had been searching unsuccessfully for two hours.103 Based on this and other successful cases, the Department formed a two-man K9 Unit in mid 1962. By 2014, this Unit had evolved into a 10-person team providing 24-hour coverage to the Department and surrounding jurisdictions. The K9 Unit gives a scene commander the ability to track wanted subjects, safely clear buildings and locate hidden, illegal drugs.104

• The County was authorized by the State Police to obtain a teletype machine for the police
department in May 1960. The department made headlines the previous month when it was discovered that two Chesterfield County patrolmen had stopped, spoken with and released a escaped convict who had shot a state trooper. Officers in the department were unaware that the suspect was wanted because the wanted poster had not yet arrived to the department in the mail.105

- On New Years Eve, December 31, 1961, the police department began to enforce the County's dancing ban. The operators of See Dee's Supper Club on Midlothian Turnpike were arrested when patrol officers arrived at the location and saw two couples dancing, violating the County's ordinance against dancing on Sunday.106

- A family of three (father, mother and 16-year-old daughter) was shot and killed in front of their farm house on Genito Road near Mount Hermon Church on June 1, 1962. A 17-year-old farm hand who had a fixation on the daughter was discovered by State Police in the mountains on Skyline Drive with the family's stolen car and the murder weapon (a .22 caliber rifle). He was later convicted on three counts of capital murder and died decades later in a penitentiary.107

- The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors approved a new police retirement plan on June 29, 1962. Under the plan, officers who participated would be eligible for retirement after working for 25 years and reaching the age of 55. Each officer who enrolled would have to contribute 3 percent of his salary to the plan each month; the County contributed a percentage, also. Previously, officers planned and contributed for their retirement through the non-profit Chesterfield Police Benevolent Association. Part of the plan involved the County taking over the approximately $100,000 Benevolent retirement fund.108

- The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors passed the County's first leash law, making it illegal for residents to allow their dogs to run free between May 1 and September 15 each year. The law was passed to protect livestock; one county residence lost 11 sheep, which were killed by roaming dogs, and Chief Smith pledged that new law would be enforced beginning in May 1962. 109
• At tragic murder shocked the citizens of Chesterfield County and the region on January 12, 1964. On this freezing cold day a father drowned his two young children in a pond on the family’s farm on Hallsboro Road in Midlothian. According to the suspect, he threw his 6-year-old son into the pond first and watched him struggle for a few minutes until he drowned, then he held his 18-month old daughter under water until she stopped moving. The suspect was later found to be innocent of murder due to insanity. 110

• On January 31, 1964, Chief Charles Smith retired after 32 years of service to the County. Edgar P. Gill was appointed Chief of Police on February 1, 1964. Chief Gill formerly held the rank of captain (in charge of the Detective Unit) and had been employed by the Chesterfield County Police Department since 1938. Chief Gill took over a police department staffed with 51 people and serving a community of 83,000 citizens. 111 He was the fourth Chief of Police and would lead the Chesterfield County Police Department for 11 years, until his retirement in 1975. 112

• In June 1964, Chief Gill recommended three women as potential candidates to be the department's first school crossing guards. The Circuit Court Judge approved and Mrs. Marge Green (assigned to Forest View Elementary School), Mrs. Margret Davis (assigned to Chester School) and Mrs. Charlene Bickering
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(assigned to Ettrick Elementary School) were sworn in as the department's “first police women.”  

- An article appeared in the Chesterfield News-Colonial Heights Journal in March 1965 describing the day-to-day job of a Chesterfield County patrol officer. The total patrol force at the time was 33 officers, and the County was divided into eight sectors, or beats. The call volume was fairly low, with 10 to 12 calls for service (Countywide) coming in during an average 24-hour day. A sample of a dispatch log for a four-hour period in 1965 revealed the following types of calls for service: 0800 hrs – Runaway horse; 0915 hrs – daughter eloped; 0927 hrs – firecracker complaint; 10:14 hrs – auto larceny.

- In the spring of 1965, Chief Gill polled his sworn officers and asked them if they would like a higher salary or a shorter work week. Based on their response, he requested a shorter work week for patrol officers, dispatchers and supervisors. The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors approved and in October 1965 reduced the work week of a police officer from 48 hours to 40 hours. Officers worked rotating shifts of eight hours a day, five days a week, with two days off. However, the new schedule did not apply to detectives, who still had to work six days a week.

- The Chesterfield County Police Department raided Jean's Soda Shop in Ettrick in January 1965 and confiscated 125 magazines and 90 paperback books. According to Chief Gill, the magazines were of the “girlie” type and the books were
suggestive in nature. The owners of the store were charged with possessing and offering for sale obscene material.  

- The late 1960s brought additional relief in terms of safety and comfort for officers. Hood-pins were installed in vehicles to prevent the hoods from popping up at high speeds and causing accidents, as had happened in several locations around the state. Also, air conditioning and power steering were installed for the first time in cars for the comfort of officers and passengers. 

- The County’s Civil Defense Force was reorganized in 1967. In the past, numerous Civil Defense Officers had been “unofficial volunteer police officers” in Chesterfield County (riding with patrol officers, directing traffic, assisting on calls, etc.), but they had no real legal police powers. In 1967, legislation was passed that authorized jurisdictions to have a trained volunteer police force or “Special Police.” Following this legislative change, 20 County Civil Defense Officers were trained between 1967 and 1968 to become the nucleus of Chesterfield County’s Special Police. By 1976, the department’s Chesterfield Police Auxiliary had an authorized strength of 50 volunteers, and represented a cross section of the community. 

- After a decision by the Supreme Court to integrate public schools in Virginia and portions of the south, massive protests occurred. White parents picketed schools and government buildings demanding freedom of choice. African-American parents demanding equal education opportunities also demonstrated in mass protests. In September 1968, all 21 Chesterfield County schools were closed to prevent violence. The Chesterfield County Police Department was called in to maintain the peace. No violence was reported between protestors and the schools eventually reopened.
• In the fall of 1969, a 33-year-old Richmond man was sentenced to 10 years in prison for performing an illegal abortion on a 23 year old victim in the Falling Creek Apartments in Chesterfield County. This conviction ended a year-long task force investigation by the Chesterfield County and City of Richmond police departments.120

• On October 29, 1969, Chesterfield County Police Officer John S. Thomas Jr. was killed in the line of duty in a traffic accident on Forest Hill Avenue near the City of Richmond-Chesterfield County border. Officer Thomas was en route to a traffic accident on Shoreham Drive when he ran off the road and struck a large oak tree off of Forest Hill Avenue near Huguenot Road. Officer Thomas was 23-years-old and left behind a wife and a 4-year-old son. 121

• After seven years of resistance, 23 square miles of Chesterfield County lands were annexed to the City of Richmond on January 1, 1970. About a third of the County’s population (47,000 people) were removed from Chesterfield and 76,855 people remained. The loss of revenue greatly affected the Police Department’s growth and budget for years. 122 The Census Report at the time shows the total population of Chesterfield County to be 76,855, which was served by 54 sworn officers.

• In 1970, Chesterfield County Police and Virginia State Police, a force of 100+ officers, arrived on Virginia State University’s campus to contain a riot started over the dismissal of a popular administrator.123

• With the use of illegal drugs and prostitution on the rise, the Department formed the Chesterfield County Vice and Narcotics Unit. On January 1, 1972, the Narcotics Unit was instituted, with three men assigned to carry out the function of controlling drug traffic and offenders.124

• In the heat of the summer in July 1972, a suspect armed with a shotgun and knife took eight people hostage inside the Bank of Chesterfield. He demanded $500,000 in cash, a 1972 Lincoln Continental, a case of beer, two pizzas and a
blanket. After a three-hour stand-off with secret service, police and FBI agents, he surrendered after talking to FBI Special Agent Donald Moore and Chesterfield County Police Chief Gill.  

- During the fall of 1972, Chesterfield County suffered $800,000 in damage from Hurricane Agnes. The Police Department evacuated many families by boat from the James River area (Cherokee and Old Gun Road areas).

- In 1973, Chief Gill authorized the first true in-service school for the department, which was attended by all sworn persons hired between 1970 and 1973. Additionally, in September of that year, the department hired its first female police officer, Alice E. Berry. The next step forward for the department would occur 13 months later, when Mike Morse, the department's first black officer, was hired in October 1974.

- In February 1974, 7-year-old Christy Wright was abducted from her home in Chester. The Chesterfield County Police Department launched a massive search of the area, but it wasn’t until 68 days later that her body was discovered in a creek in Dinwiddie County. Forty years later, this case remains unsolved.

- A new retirement system for police officers was adopted on August 14, 1974, by the Board of Supervisors. It stated that any member who reached the age of 55 and had 25 years creditable service with the Chesterfield Police Department was eligible for retirement. The retirement plan increased the amount of retirement benefits the officer, his widow or children might receive.

- On August 25, 1974, Chesterfield County Police discovered a murder victim, Mary Houston Cole, near a church. Ms. Cole, an employee of the Chesterfield County Sheriff’s Department, had been shot twice in the chest. A suspect, James A. Jackson, was quickly identified and was located in North Carolina with the victim’s stolen car and murder weapon. Before being captured, the suspect held local police at bay when he took a young woman hostage. After a tense stand-off, Jackson surrendered. Jackson was later convicted of first-degree murder for the death of Ms. Cole and sentenced to 30 years in prison.
• The Progress-Index ran an article in September 1974 that discussed the different opinions police officers in Petersburg and Chesterfield County had on unions. The article explored those perspectives, citing the starting salaries in each jurisdiction: Petersburg started at $7,792 and Chesterfield started at $8,160. Captain W.E. Martin of the Chesterfield Police Department was interviewed and stated that Chesterfield's 79-person force received a 10 percent cost of living raise in July 1974. Other patrol officers cited in the article, including Officers Madra and Vaughan, expressed no desire to be part of a union and said they enjoyed working for the county.132

• In June 1975, Joseph E. Pittman became the Chief of Police of Chesterfield County, replacing Chief Gill, who reached the mandatory retirement age after 37 years of service. Chief Pittman inherited a department of 84 officers including 11 detectives and eight dispatchers. Thirty-nine years old at the time of his appointment, Chief Pittman, who had been employed by the Department since 1957, was the youngest of the five internal candidates that applied for the $21,000-a-year position. His selection coincided with the publication of a critical report completed by a consulting agency hired by the Board of Supervisors to study the management practices of the Police Department. A newspaper article about his promotion stated that Chief Pittman was selected because he was young and innovative. Chief Pittman's assignment before selection was as the Department’s Vice Lieutenant.133

• On June 1, 1975, Chesterfield County appointed the first Deputy Chief, who held the rank of Major. In January 1976, the department was reorganized into three
major divisions – Patrol Operations, Investigative Operations, and Services. This move defined responsibilities, strengthened span of control, aligned like functions to eliminate duplicity, and established a clear chain of command. It also expanded the department’s space allotment to include a portion of the second floor of the Courthouse Building.  

- In the fall of 1975, the Identification Section is transformed to the Forensic Section. The newly expanded section included a police lab and police officers trained as evidence technicians. Previously each detective has to process and collect evidence from their own crime scenes, as well as mail off the evidence to the FBI labs. 

- On April 1, 1976, the Planning and Research Division was created through a U.S. Department of Justice grant. In the 1976 Annual Report, Chief Pittman wrote that "from a police department consisting of two men at the turn of the century, the Chesterfield County Police Department has grown and developed into a well-manned, well-equipped, well-trained modern law enforcement unit 150 strong." One of their first reports was an annual report that gave department leaders and citizens an idea of trends within department. For example the report stated that the population in Chesterfield County as of July 1, 1976, was 127,145. The ratio of officers per square mile was .25 officers. The Police Department Budget for 1975-1976 was $1,882,590. 

- In 1976-1977 requests the budget was $2,335,166. In fiscal year 1976, the Department created a Special Operations Squad whose mission was to conduct surveillances of suspected criminals or potential crime sites and apprehend suspects in the act of committing crimes such as larceny, burglary, and robbery. This was the start of the present day Tactical Investigations Unit (TIU). The
Uniformed Patrol Division, consisting of 64 sworn personnel, 11 dispatchers, and two Clerk Typists. It was commanded by a Captain and divided into four platoons, each commanded by a Lieutenant and assisted by two sergeants. The county was divided into 12 beat areas. During each tour, there was one officer assigned to patrol each area; a 6p.m. to 2 a.m. shift was implemented to take care of peak-hour complaints.\textsuperscript{138}

- The Property/Equipment Squad was formed in February 1976, and was attached to the Services Division. The Squad was charged with recording and maintaining the security of all lost, found and stolen property that came to the Police Department. The Squad was responsible for uniforms and equipment for the Police Department.\textsuperscript{139}

- The Communications Section implemented a new 10 Code System in October 1976 in order to reduce unnecessary radio traffic and develop a higher degree of professionalism. In keeping with the increased demand for efficiency and standardization, the practice of using military time (2400 hour time) was begun on December 1, 1976.\textsuperscript{140}

- In 1976, the Safety and Community Support section presented 638 programs on subjects such as drugs, home protection, gun safety, self defense, bicycle safety, pedestrian safety, general safety, defensive driving, child abuse, and first aid.\textsuperscript{141} The Chesterfield County Police Department’s Neighborhood Watch Program was started by the Safety and Community Support Section in mid-1976; Surreywood was the first
community to be accepted in the program. By 2014, Chesterfield County had almost 280 neighborhoods participating in the Neighborhood Watch Program, which included 62,000 homes and 188,400 people.  

- In December 1976, The Progress-Index highlighted Chief Joe Pittman's request for a 30 percent budget increase in 1977-78, which would have brought the department's budget to $3.1 million. His budget requests would have funded 16 additional officers. Additional funds were requested for two more investigators, as well as another dog warden for Animal Control.

- Law Enforcement Explorer Post 609 was chartered to the Chesterfield County Police Department in 1977 by the Boy Scouts of America. This youth organization (14- to 21-year-old members) was organized to promote law enforcement as a career goal. In the last 27 years, many of these members have become officers with the Chesterfield County Police Department. In 1986, 19-year-old Karen Carr was elected national youth chairman for 1986-87; she later became the department's first female major.

- In the spring 1978, the Chesterfield County Police Department created the first law enforcement Field Training (FTO) Program in Virginia. In the FTO Program, the skills the recruits learn in the Police Academy are applied (and critiqued) on the street under the direct supervision of experienced, trained patrol officers.

- In August 1978, Chesterfield County resident and former Republican National Chairman Richard Obenshain, while campaigning to be Virginia's U.S. Senator, died when his private plane crashed on approach to the Chesterfield County Airport. He was replaced by the former Secretary of the Navy, John Warner, who went on to win his first term in the Senate in November 1978.
In the fall of 1978, Chief Pittman went before the Board of Supervisors asking for a pay increase for his officers, since "...their salaries are not competitive with surrounding jurisdictions." According to an article in a local paper, the starting salary and top pay for patrol officer in the region was:

- **Chesterfield County Police:** $9,720 - $12,936
- **Colonial Heights Police:** $9,425 - $12,629
- **Henrico County Police:** $10,784 - $14,287
- **Hopewell Police:** $10,628 - $13,560
- **Petersburg Police:** $10,442 - $13,333
- **Richmond Police:** $10,686 - $14,300

The Special Weapons Assault Team (SWAT) was created in early 1979. Led by Lieutenant L. Matthews and Sergeant Buck Maddra, the original team was composed of 10 officers and they were outfitted with only basic equipment (revolvers, shotguns and gas grenades). This group would later form the first half of the Department’s Police Emergency Response Team (PERT).

The 1980 United States Census showed the population for Chesterfield County to be 141,372. This was an increase of nearly 84 percent since 1970. The Police Department had 149 sworn personnel, supported by 40 civilians.

On November 14, 1980, a patrol officer made a brutal discovery alongside a residential road off Walmsley Boulevard. Under a thin pile of leaves, he discovered the dreadfully mutilated body of Patricia Cubbage. She had been stabbed and hacked with a machete more than 180 times. Two suspects were identified by Investigations as the result of a previous encounter by Patrol Officer Jim Stanley. One of the suspects, Edward Fitzgerald, was found guilty of capital murder and later executed.
Chesterfield County Police Department
History

• In January 1981, the Department went to a permanent shift work cycle that was used in the Uniform Operations Bureau until July 2012. Officers worked a permanent shift nine hours a day, five days a week (45 hrs), with three days off.

• On January 9, 1981, four men and two women were found murdered with execution-style gunshot wounds to the head in a house at 3121 Walmsley Boulevard in Chesterfield County. The six victims were later identified as members or associates of a local motorcycle club called the Invaders. Investigators in the case theorized that the victims became involved in a turf war between rival national motorcycle gangs. This mass homicide (one of largest in the history of the metro Richmond area) was cleared when the prime suspects were found murdered.148

• The department ended its new “police efficiency program” in November 1981 after only 10 weeks of operation due to public outcry. The program was designed to measure officer productivity by "...assigning each of the 100 officers 1 to 50 points for verified acts ranging from traffic tickets to felony arrests." After numerous complaints from citizens and public officials, Chief Pittman scraped the program because he feared citizens may have thought they were being targeted by overzealous officers. He told the media that the police department’s job "...in a nutshell, is to make the public feel safe and not make them believe they will be victimized by the police."149

• In early 1982, the Chesterfield County Police Department supplied its officers with protective armor. This action would prove beneficial to at least seven officers during the next two decades. These officers, all recipients of IACP DuPont Kevlar Survivor’s Club, were either stabbed or shot in the line of duty, but escaped serious injury due to their protective armor.150

• The Chesterfield County Police Department’s patch was changed in early 1982. In the 1920s to 1930s, the first patch was a gold-and-brown circle. This changed
in the 1940s to a gold-and-black triangle patch, which lasted until around 1951. The colors and words remained the same, but the patch’s shape was replaced with a shield-type form (see photo). In 1982, the plain gold-and-black patch was changed to a black-and-gold patch displaying a “red badge of courage,” the state seal, the United States and Virginia flags, the year 1924 and the words “Justice” and “Service.” During the same time period (1982), the marked patrol cars were changed from dark forest green with yellow stripes to white vehicles with yellow-and-green stripes.

- The Police Marine Patrol is authorized in 1983 and charged with the responsibility of patrolling the waterways of the County and the popular 3,000-acre recreational reservoir, Lake Chesdin.

- Two parallel store-front sting operations lead to the arrest of 30 people for dealing in stolen goods in late 1983. One operation, led by Sergeant Buck Maddra, was on Jefferson Davis Highway in a business called Corky’s TV Repair. The other sting operation was in the north end of the county at a store called the Midlothian Bargain Barn, and Sergeant Mack Herndon managed this operation. The highlight of the operation was the discovery of a plot by the Chairman of the Powhatan School Board, Joseph Goode, to have the Chesterfield County Commonwealth’s Attorney, Charlie Watson, killed. Mr. Goode was arrested and convicted in the murder for hire scheme, along with other charges involving drugs and stolen property.

- The Hostage Negotiation Team was formed in the summer of 1983. Led by Sergeant D. McDonald, the original team had eight members, a tape recorder and a reel of phone wire. This group would later form the other half of the Department’s Police Emergency Response Team (PERT). During the last two decades, the Negotiation Team has been called out to over 100 crisis calls and has saved over 110
lives.\textsuperscript{151}

- On September 17, 1984, Chesterfield County Police Officer and SWAT team member Lee Pulley was seriously wounded at a barricaded subject call. The incident began when a 61-year-old man in a blouse and a skirt was acting strange and carrying a .45 caliber pistol in a local restaurant. The subject, Marion Driggers, was a Korean War veteran with a history of mental illness. A police officer pulled him over on Route 10, but Driggers shot at the officer when he approached his car. Police followed the subject to his residence off Enon Church Road. The subject barricaded himself inside the residence for hours while the SWAT team surrounded his house and contact was established by the Hostage Negotiation Team. Hours into the incident, the suspect shot a rifle at Pulley’s sniper position next to a chimney on the roof of a house across the street from Driggers’ residence. The bullet and debris struck Officer Pulley in his eye, permanently blinding that eye. A SWAT team member returned fire and killed the assailant in the doorway of his residence.\textsuperscript{152}

- A local article appeared in December 1984 about the first husband-wife team hired by the police department. Tim and Lorrie Smith were married two weeks before their police academy started and were participating in the Field Training Program at the time of the article's printing. Lorrie would later retire as a Captain, and Tim as a Lieutenant.\textsuperscript{153}

- The Department’s Crime Solvers Program started in 1984. This private, non-profit organization provides cash for confidential information about crimes committed in Chesterfield County and City of Colonial Heights. As of its 30th
anniversary in 2014, 26,680 tips had been received, over 7,079 crimes had been solved and over $2,063,191 worth of stolen property had been returned to the rightful owners through information garnered from the program.154

• In 1985, the public was introduced to the department's bloodhounds "Sarge," who was trained and handled by Sergeant Ralph Bartley, and “Lord Chesterfield,” a bloodhound puppy still in training. The article discussed the bloodhound's tracking abilities and ways it could help the county.155

• In November 1985, just before Thanksgiving the father of Anne Vaden discovered her brutally murdered body bound and gagged on her apartment bedroom floor. After pursuing hundreds of leads and interviewing numerous suspects, Chesterfield County Police detectives went to California and to arrest the former maintenance man of the apartment complex, Ronald Bennett. He was later convicted of capital murder and executed. 156

• During 1987, Richmond was in the grip of terror due to the horrific deaths of several young women who were attacked while they slept in their homes. The last victim of the Southside Strangler, as he was dubbed by the local media, was 15 year old Diane Cho in Chesterfield County, an honors freshman at Manchester High School. On the night of November 23, while her family slept feet away from her in their rooms in the three-bedroom apartment, Diane was attacked, bound, gagged, raped and tortured to death by Timothy Spencer. In the first DNA murder trial in the U.S., Spencer was convicted of several capital murders, including Diane Cho, and was later executed.157

• Chesterfield County Police Department, in conjunction with Richmond and Henrico Police Departments, established the Richmond Metro Aviation Unit in the fall of 1987. The Aviation Unit’s three airplanes are used for aerial surveillance and fly search patterns within minutes of major crimes, such as robberies and pursuits. One plane

Pilots Rob McLean and Lee Pulley
is also used to transport prisoners or police officers anywhere in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains.

- Lieutenant Jim Bourque recognized a need to make counseling and pastoral services available to officers, their families, other department members and citizens of the community. He took the lead in the formation of the Department’s successful Police Chaplain program in the fall of 1987. Composed of non-sworn, volunteer, ordained, experienced ministers, the Police Chaplain program provides numerous hours of volunteer service to the Department. These 12 chaplains receive specialized training and an orientation to police operations. Their services are available upon request or upon referral by peers and supervisors.

- In 1988, the Police Department began its Police Recognition and Service Awards program. By 2014, the recognition program included 21 distinct awards; 20 of these awards have ribbons, which can be worn on the uniform. By order of hierarchy, the 20 ribbons are: Medal of Valor, Police Star, Police Purple Heart, Combat, Life Saving, Meritorious Service, Unit Citation, Supervisory Award for Excellence, Officer/Detective of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Chief’s Commendation, National Service, Achievement, Professionalism, Safe Driving Award, Tactical Service, Operational Service, Specialized Service and Seniority.158

- On May 17, 1988, during National Police Memorial week, the Department’s first official valor awards were presented to members of the department who came under fire during an armed confrontation on May 22, 1987, in Petersburg.159 On that date, two Petersburg police officers came under fire and were seriously wounded during a search for a robbery suspect. Detective Stuart Meyer rescued one of the critically wounded officers while under fire and saved his life. Shortly
afterwards, a perimeter was established by Petersburg and Chesterfield County officers around the three-story building the suspect had barricaded himself in. All attempts failed at negotiating with the suspect and officers at the scene came under fire numerous times. Finally, members of the Chesterfield County and City of Petersburg Police SWAT teams made entry into the building. After a 45-minute gun battle covering all three floors, the assailant was killed in the attic. The following officers received the Chesterfield County Police Star for their valor under fire:

- Officer Karl Leonard
- Officer Jim Herring
- Officer Stuart Meyer
- Officer Mike Morse
- Sergeant Courtney Griffin (Purple Heart also)
Chapter Five

4th Generation of Policing
(1989-2014)
On May 9, 1989, Chesterfield County Police Officer Ronald B. Mitchell was shot and murdered by his wife while he slept. His wife attempted to stage the scene as a suicide, but detectives were immediately suspicious of her actions and the inconsistencies at the scene. She was later tried and convicted of first-degree murder for his death.

In fiscal year 1990, the Chesterfield County Police Department modernized the officer’s duty weapon by switching from the traditional 6-shot .38 caliber revolver to a semi-automatic 10mm handgun. Made by Smith and Wesson and recommended by the FBI, the handgun increased an officer’s rate of fire, improved accuracy and increased his duty ammo from 18 rounds per officer to 28 rounds.

In April 1990, two young brothers, 10-year-old Basil and 7-year-old Jamal Abdul'Faruq, were reportedly abducted from their home in the 1700 block of Clarkson Road in Richmond. A massive search by the Richmond Police Department and neighborhood volunteers came up empty-handed. Two days later, an employee of the Shoosmith Landfill discovered the bound and duct-taped body of Basil. Despite a week long search of the landfill, Jamil’s body was never discovered. A Task Force was formed, composed of the Chesterfield County and Richmond police departments and the FBI. In spite of an intensive investigative effort by all agencies involved and hundreds of leads, this case remains unsolved.

On October 5 1990, 10-year-old Charity Powers was last seen alive as she left a skating rink in southern Chesterfield County. A massive search involving over 300 police, fire and volunteers over a period of two months failed to find the young victim. A Task Force composed of Chesterfield County Police personnel and FBI agents quickly identified a sexual predator living in the area as their prime suspect.
suspect. After months of preparation, several coordinated search teams made up of Chesterfield County Police Officers and FBI agents spent two days combing the 35+ acres around the suspect's home. In a shallow grave, 150 yards from suspect Eddie Mueller's home, searchers discovered Charity's body. After a three-day forensic excavation, the Medical Examiner was able to determine that the 10-year-old child had been viciously raped and died from having her throat slit. In a classic example of team interviewing techniques, a Chesterfield County Police Detective and an FBI Agent obtained a confession from Mueller. He was later convicted of capital murder and executed.161

- On October 11, 1990, two Food Lion employees, Assistant Manager Tony Robertson, 31, and Store Clerk Pauline Story, 46, were forced to kneel in a dairy cooler during a violent robbery. While kneeling and pleading for their lives, they were both shot twice, execution style. After exhausting numerous leads, the case went cold until 17 years later, when a suspect, William Wallace Jr., was indicted. He was convicted of two counts each of capital murder, abduction and robbery in February 2008.162

- In April 1991, Lieutenant Ben Mize discovered abandoned silver 1984 Honda Prelude behind Cloverleaf Mall. The vehicle was locked and parked near the power lines with its emergency flashers on. The vehicle was registered to Donna Gail Harris, a divorced mother, who was last seen on April 5 dropping off her 11-year-old son at her mother's house to run some errands. The next day family members reported her missing. Despite numerous leads, Crime Solver Tips and hundreds of hours of investigation, Ms. Harris was never located. The case is listed as suspicious and is regularly reviewed as a ‘cold case’ by the Criminal Investigations Division.163

- In January 1992, Chesterfield County became one of the few Police Departments in Virginia with a remote Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). The cutting-edge technology allowed Forensic personnel to enter latent
fingerprint recovered from crime scenes into the state database system and search for known offenders. This dramatically increased the ability of the Police Department to identify suspects based on evidence left at the scene of a crime.

- On April 17, 1992, police were dispatched to check out three subjects in front of a daycare center on Belmont Road who were suspected of selling stolen guns. As Officer Ed Harney walked up to them, one subject pulled a gun from his waistband, pointed the gun at him and then fled the area. As Officer Harney pursued the subject on foot, he was joined by Sergeant Jim Herring. During the mile-long foot pursuit, the subject shot at the officers several times as they ran through backyards and over fences. At Falling Creek, the 21-year-old suspect turned around on the east bank and directly shot at both officers. The endangered officers returned fire and killed the suspect. For their dogged pursuit and courage under fire, both officers were awarded the Police Medal of Valor.164

- Chesterfield County Police Detectives took the lead on a nationwide search for computer hackers disrupting 911 phone systems. On October 9, 1992, federal investigators acting on information developed by Chesterfield County Police detectives, arrested a 23-year old Newark, N.J., man for terrorist threats, obstruction of a government function, illegal access to a computer and fraud. The suspect belonged to a loose-knit group called the Legion of Doom, whose intent was to penetrate the 911 computer systems throughout the United States and infect them with viruses to cause havoc. At one time, the group connected the Toronto and Los Angeles 911 systems, causing the emergency phone lines to lock up.165

- In the fall of 1992, all sworn personnel were issued canisters of pepper spray. These aerosol spray cans, filled with Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) oil, a component
of hot peppers, were the Department’s first “less-than-lethal” weapon issued to officers. The OC spray is used to safely subdue combatant subjects and to disperse crowds. With its introduction, the Department saw a dramatic decrease in injuries to officers and citizens.

- On August 6, 1993 eighteen tornadoes touched down in Virginia. Two of these tornadoes struck Chesterfield County. One, a minor F1 tornado, caused severe damage to numerous homes, but no injuries. The other storm system was an F4 tornado. It traveled through the southern portion of the County and destroyed a department store in Colonial Heights, killing two people inside. With wind speeds up to 210 mph, this is the strongest recorded tornado in Virginia since 1950. It was also the costliest tornado outbreak, causing an estimated $47 million dollars in damage to 21 Virginia jurisdictions. During the height of the storm, as the tornado was crossing the Interstate I-95 Appomattox River Bridge, Sergeant Mike Magda used his police vehicle to block traffic across the bridge, potentially saving several citizens from traveling into the path of the tornado. For his valiant efforts and taking quick action, Sergeant Magda was awarded the Police Star. This storm caused one of the largest “call-outs” in the history of the Police Department, with over 100 Police Officers, Detectives and Emergency Communication Officers responding from their homes to help with the destruction and devastation.

- The Eanes-Pittman Public Safety Training Center, a jointly managed state-of-the-art training facility, was completed in 1994. Co-managed by both the Fire and Police Departments, the facility has classroom and training areas specifically dedicated to Police Department training and Fire

OC spray in use

Eanes-Pittman Public Safety Training Center
Department training, along with shared facilities. The Police Department has four 40-student classrooms, three role playing rooms, a firearms simulator training room, a forensic training lab, capabilities for a driving simulator, a vehicle bay, a conference room and administrative offices. Shared facilities include a physical training area and locker rooms, four shared classrooms with moveable walls that provide multiple configurations for varying size groups, and a communications training classroom with the capability to receive Law Enforcement Television Network broadcasts via satellite. The facility is named after retired Fire Chief Robert Eanes and Police Chief Joseph E. Pittman Jr.¹⁶⁸

- Tony Fry brutally murdered Bennett Ford car salesman Leland A. Jacobs on February 21, 1994. Jacobs had taken Fry, then 19, and Fry's friend, Bradford A. Hinson, then 17, on a test drive. The teenagers told Jacobs, 42, that Fry's grandmother wanted to buy a 1994 Ford Explorer and lived in southern Chesterfield. Intending to rob Jacobs, Fry shot him 11 times with a .22-caliber handgun, then tied his body to the rear bumper of the Explorer with his necktie and dragged it down a dirt road 777 feet into the woods. Officer David Suda, who had a warrant for Fry for another crime, had a tip that Fry frequented the area where Jacobs was killed. Officer Suda captured Fry and Hinson as they left the area, minutes after the murder was committed. Tony Fry was convicted of capital murder and executed in 1999.¹⁶⁹

- In April 1995, after several safety studies by the Department and the FBI, the Smith & Wesson 10mm handgun was traded in for a .40-caliber SigSauer semi-automatic handgun, Model P229. This issued weapon increased the rounds carried from 28 to 37 cartridges.

- Detective A. E. Ott’s heroic actions during an investigation of a bank robbery suspect in July 1995 saved the lives of two FBI Agents. While tracking down two bank robbery suspects, Detective Ott accompanied three FBI agents to Robin Hood Road in Richmond. When Detective Ott and the Special Agents approached the suspect vehicle, two FBI agents came under fire. Detective Ott was able to get around behind the
suspect and tackle him while he was shooting at the agents. The suspect was quickly subdued and charged with attempted murder and several counts of bank robbery. For his brave actions, Detective Ott was awarded the Department’s Medal of Valor. 170

- The Richmond Merchants Valor Awards program recognized four Chesterfield County police officers during their ceremony in late September 1995. Officer O.R. Coates Jr. was awarded a silver medal for grabbing a man and pulling him back as he tried to jump off a bridge and kill himself. Officer Brian J. Miltenberger probably saved fellow officer Jack B. Kilcomons' life when he fired his weapon after a suspect in a domestic-related shooting refused to put down his weapon. Both officers received bronze medals. Detective Douglas E. Mooney also received a bronze medal. Mooney, with a bystander's help, pulled a victim from a burning car that was turned upside down at the bottom of an embankment. 171

- In late December 1995, the successful Civilian Forensic Technician Program began. This team is highly trained to process, document and recover evidence at crime scenes, freeing up sworn personnel to handle the increasing calls for service throughout the growing county.

- In May 1996, Chief Joseph Pittman retired after 39 years of service with the Chesterfield County Police Department and 21 years as Chief of Police. A national search for his replacement began.

- On June 1, 1996, Carl R. Baker, former superintendent of Virginia State Police and former Deputy Secretary of Public Safety of Virginia, became Chief of Police for Chesterfield County. Colonel Baker was the sixth person to hold this position during the history of the Department. At the time of his appointment, the Department was staffed with
approximately 372 sworn officers and the county had a population of approximately 240,000.

- In the fall of 1996, the Chesterfield County Police Department created its Community Policing Unit. It is based on a proactive philosophy in which the police and the community partner to address quality-of-life issues and impact crime. These “bike officers” focus on the problems in their beats and use whatever community assets are available to reach a solution. The original eight areas were: the Jefferson Davis corridor, Meadowdale, Bermuda Run/Tinsbury, Ettrick, Cloverleaf Mall, Squire Hill, the eastern Midlothian Turnpike corridor and Chesterfield Towne Center.\(^{172}\)

- On July 27, 1997, officers were called to investigate a revenge-rage murder. Stacy Hanna, 18, was killed by four of her former friends because she was interfering with an on-going relationship between two of the girls. Hanna was discovered on a dirt trail off Nash Road; her face was pushed down into a mud puddle and her body was covered with slashes made by a box cutter and bruises caused by severe blunt trauma with a cinder block. Three of her former girlfriends received life sentences for her murder.\(^{173}\)

- Beginning in the fall of 1997, the Department began issuing expandable ASP batons to all sworn personnel, replacing the wooden hickory baton carried for decades by officers. The ASP baton was selected to give the officers a readily accessible, intermediate-force weapon to increase their tactical capabilities and to lessen the need for the use of deadly force.

- In 1997, the Chesterfield County Police Department became one of the few law enforcement agencies in Virginia to be accredited by the Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). This achievement requires strict adherence to 214 professional law enforcement standards. At the time, only 2 percent of all the law enforcement agencies in Virginia had been accredited by VLEPSC.\(^{174}\)
The Chesterfield County Police Department’s Success Through Education and Proactive Policing (STEPP) program started at the beginning of the school year in 1998. Designed as an extension of community policing, the STEPP program covers all grade levels within Chesterfield County’s 50,000 student population. When the program was first developed, it centered on the Police Department’s Child Safety Officers and specially trained sworn officers, School Resource Officers (SRO); the philosophy of the program is to coach children and teenagers in public safety awareness. The program, beginning in kindergarten and continuing until the 12th grade, emphasizes basic rules of conduct, responsible citizenship, personal safety and nonviolent conflict resolution as well as drug education and problem solving.

October 1998 was the beginning of the Department's Career Development Program. The Career Development Program was designed to provide career progression opportunities for officers and detectives who demonstrated excellence in the field of law enforcement. Progression in the Career Development Program was based on a high performance standard and individual professional development which included ad officer or detective’s education, experience, training, assignments, accomplishments, firearms proficiency, physical fitness and other criteria. By 2014 the Career Development ranks included Officer/Detective First Class, Senior Officer/ Detective, Master Officer/Detective, Career Officer/Detective and Corporal.

In the morning hours of April 15, 1998, Officer Paul Blocher was seriously wounded in the line of duty. The initial call came in as a domestic dispute. Officer Blocher discovered Donald Mark Davidson on the front deck of a house on
Scotlow Circle. When he approached the suspect to see if he was involved in the dispute, a scuffle ensued. Two Chesterfield County police officers, Officers K.C. Carr and Rich Encinas, were blocks away, but they were alerted by a citizen of the struggle and immediately ran to Officer Blocher’s aid. While they were en route, they heard a shot, which turned out to be the suspect shooting Officer Blocher once in the neck. When Officers Carr and Encinas approached the subject, he shot at the officers. The officers returned fire and Davidson was killed. Officer Blocher survived the shooting but was forced to take a medical retirement. Officers Carr and Encinas were awarded the Police Medal of Valor for their bravery and for rescuing Officer Blocher.  

- The first “police precinct” in the County opened its doors on September 28, 1998. Located in the area of the eastern portion of Midlothian Turnpike, at 20 North Providence Road, the site, called the Midlothian District Station, became the headquarters for the Uniform Operations Bureau North District.  

- On January 1, 1999, the Police Department implemented a new Records Management System (RMS) based on mandated requirements of the Department of Justice National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This new computerized system significantly changed the way criminal activity reports were captured within Chesterfield County and reported to State and Federal authorities. The system is fully automated and allows police officers to gather data at the scene of a crime and call in the report to the Police Record Room.  

- On May 27, 1999, Chesterfield County Police Officer Craig W. Rath was killed in the line of duty in a traffic accident.
accident on Fort Darling Road in Chesterfield County. Officer Rath, a six-year veteran assigned to the Street Drug Enforcement Unit, was 28 years old and left behind a young wife.  

- Shortly after Officer Rath’s funeral, in mid-1999, the Police Department began its Critical Incident Stress Debriefing and Peer Counseling Program. This intervention and support program is based on trained police officers helping their fellow officers in handling stress. They teach and counsel other officers on how to cope with both the day-to-day stress of police work and the emotional trauma of mind-numbingly horrific scenes.

- In the winter of 1999, the Chesterfield County Police Department began its informative Citizens Academy Program. The 10-week course is designed to enhance communication between citizens and police and to give citizens a better understanding of police practices and services in Chesterfield. The interactive course covers a variety of topics, including the organization of the department, emergency communications, uniform operations, criminal and traffic laws, investigations, forensics and crime prevention.

- The Chesterfield County Police Foundation was formed in 2000. This volunteer organization provides an opportunity for citizens and businesses to support the Chesterfield law-enforcement community through monetary or property contributions. The foundation offers a tax-deductible means for making donations that help facilitate partnerships between citizens and the Chesterfield County Police Department. By 2014, the Foundation had been able to provide over $110,000 to assist officers and their families in need.

- On June 14, 2000, police responded to the residence of Charles and Diane Fleming on Fox Branch Lane to investigate the suspicious death of 37-year-old Charles. Through the use of sophisticated chemical analysis, the Chesterfield County Police Department, the Virginia State Lab and the Medical Examiner determined that Charles had been poisoned with methanol. The methanol used was windshield
wiper fluid and it was gradually introduced into his daily intake of Gatorade. Fourteen months later, his wife, Diane, was arrested (and later convicted) for his murder.\textsuperscript{182}

- The Chesterfield County Police Department held its grand opening of the new Chester District Station on December 11, 2000. This precinct, the second in the County, is located near the busy intersection of Route 10 and Route 1, and is the headquarters for the Uniform Operations Bureau South District.\textsuperscript{183}

- The Chesterfield County Police Department abandoned its antiquated, dirt berm, wooden post firing range in mid-2001. It was replaced by a new, state-of-the-art firing range in Enon, near the Hopewell Bridge. This range includes a separate classroom, cleaning room, control room and two electronic firing ranges with movable targets.

- In April 2001, the Chesterfield County Emergency Communications Center opened its new, state-of-the-art operations center. One of the most advanced on the East Coast, the center is equipped with a computer-aided dispatch system (CADS), 800-MHz digital trunked radio system and enhanced 911 telephone system. The center greatly improved communication with the officer on the street.

- A new era began in the United States and Chesterfield County on September 11, 2001. Nineteen terrorists highjacked four passenger jets, crashing two into the World Trade Center and bringing down both skyscrapers. Another attack occurred at the Pentagon in Arlington, Va. Over 3,000 died in the attacks, which marked the start of the War on Terror. This greatly impacted the Chesterfield County Police Department. During the next three years, over 50 police officers were called to duty to serve in our Nation’s armed forces. Many were sent to the War
in Afganhasan, some to the War in Iraqi, and other officers provided homeland security throughout the United States.

- October 10, 2002, the family of an Alzheimer’s patient reported him missing near the densely wooded area of rural Winterpock. The area in question also has abandoned mines, wells and farmhouses. For the next two and half days, the Chesterfield County Police Department, along with 22 emergency groups (including the American Red Cross, Piedmont Search & Rescue, Blue&Gray Search Dogs, Midlothian Volunteer Firefighters and Henrico County Mounted Police) and 300 citizens search day and night for the victim. After 144 search team missions, the 76-year-old man is successfully rescued.\footnote{184}

- In October 2002, murderous attacks by two roaming serial killers took place in Maryland, Washington D.C., and Virginia. Between October 2 and October 9, the area was terrorized by sniper attacks that left 10 people dead and three wounded.\footnote{185} After an attack occurred in Fredericksburg, Va., the Chesterfield County Police Command Staff created an emergency action plan for the Richmond metro region. A few days later on October 19, 2002, the snipers shot and seriously wounded a man eating at a restaurant in Ashland, Va. The Chesterfield County Police Command Staff, along with the Tac Team and a large team of detectives, responded to Ashland and the Chesterfield County emergency plan was put into place for all responding jurisdictions and agencies. Over the next few days, numerous surveillance sites were set up throughout Chesterfield, Henrico and Richmond. Within days, both snipers were captured at a rest stop near the Virginia/Maryland border, in part due to intelligence collected in the Richmond region.

- In early 2003, the department began issuing Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) to officers; these portable devices automatically diagnosis life-threatening cardiac events in patients and are able to treat with a controlled application of electrical therapy. These devices, along with the officers trained in their use, have been credited with saving numerous lives.
On May 28, 2003, Chesterfield County Police Officer Ryan E. Cappelletty was killed in the line of duty while responding to a shots fired complaint. As Ryan, a young enthusiastic officer, walked up to the door of the residence in a quiet neighborhood, the suspect, who gave no warning, shot at the officer twice. One round struck Officer Cappelletty in his side under his arm where his protective armor could not provide coverage. Ryan, in critical condition, was rushed from the scene, but he was pronounced dead at CJW Medical Center. The armed assailant was then shot and killed in an exchange of gunfire with the backup officer. Officer Cappelletty was 23 years old and he left behind a young wife.\textsuperscript{186}

For the third time in five years, the Chesterfield County Police Department opened a satellite office to decentralize operations and extend its visibility in the county. With County leaders present, the new Clover Hill Police Support Facility on Hicks Road was dedicated in June 2003. The building, which was extensively renovated for police use, holds the department's Support Services Division with nine part-time employee and 13 full-time employees, including crime prevention officers, the crime prevention through environmental design analyst, child safety officers and school crossing guards.\textsuperscript{187}

In September 2003, Hurricane Isabel made landfall resulting in the worst natural disaster on record for Virginia and Chesterfield County. With wind gusts up to 150 mph, Isabel left more than 800 homes damaged or destroyed and destroyed over 100,000 trees. This $8 million path of destruction through the County also resulted in the deaths of six citizens. The Chesterfield County Police Department fielded over 300 officers to handle this disaster and greatly assisted in the month-long recovery efforts.\textsuperscript{188}
On October 25, 2003, the Chesterfield County Police Department was called to a residence off of Salem Church Road. Officers discovered 32-year-old Tasha Robinson shot to death, but her 13-year-old son, Marquis Jobes, and 29-year-old boyfriend, Anthony Rankine were missing. A few days later, the murdered body of Rankine was found duct-taped with a plastic bag over his head in a van in Richmond, near DMV headquarters. An Amber Alert was sent throughout the east coast for Marquis. However, in mid-November, the decayed skeletal remains of Marquis were discovered in a drainage ditch in Richmond on Midlothian Turnpike, 600 yards from Chesterfield County. Numerous people were indicted in 2004 and later convicted for these three murders. 189

On March 5, 2004, Chesterfield County Police Officer Michael Jason Gray, while on duty as a member of the U.S. Navy Reserves, was killed during a vehicle crash near his base in Kuwait. Officer Gray, 32, had served with the Chesterfield County Police Department since April 2001. 190

Between 1997 and 2003, Chesterfield County surpassed the City of Richmond and Henrico County in population (Chesterfield County reached approximately 278,000 residents, Henrico County approximately 275,000 and Richmond 190,000). However, during that same time period, Chesterfield County recorded only 60 homicides (clearing all but one, a 98 percent clearance rate), whereas the City of Richmond had 679 homicides with less than a 60 percent clearance rate. 191

In July 2004, the Chesterfield County Public Safety Team (Emergency Communications, Fire/EMS and Police) began using a state of the art computer-aided dispatch system that included advanced computer laptops in police vehicles. This system reduces radio traffic, allows more flexibility for
Chesterfield County Police Department
History

supervisors to monitor calls for service and gives the road officer instant access to pertinent information about suspects and calls. The officer receives constant, real-time information on a call, map directions to an incident and intelligence about other crimes within the county instantly via their in-car computer. The system also allows the Emergency Communications Officer to instantly view an incident via the automatic vehicle locator and make recommendations to the on-site commanders as to positioning of officers and resources.

• In August 2004, Tropical Storm Gaston dumped 14 inches of rain within six hours on the Richmond Metro Region. One of the worst flash floods in Chesterfield County’s history occurred when numerous creeks and drain fields were overwhelmed. The resulting floods resulted in one death, destroyed numerous homes and caused $6 million in damage in Chesterfield. During this thousand-year storm, several officers heroically saved numerous trapped and stranded citizens and evacuated over 1,000 citizens from their endangered homes.192

• In 2004, the Chesterfield County Police Department, in partnership with the Fire/EMS Department, purchased a new mobile command center. This state-of-the-art vehicle is equipped with three advanced communication systems, video surveillance and an integrated computer system, making it one of the most advanced mobile command vehicles on the East Coast. The Mobile Command Center increases a commander’s control over an incident by giving them real time information, an increased level of intelligence and coordinated communications with officers, detectives and other agencies at a scene.
In 2004, the Virginia General Assembly changed the definition of Special Police. In order to be compliant with current law, the Chesterfield County Special Police become Auxiliary Police in September 2004. Invested with essentially the same law enforcement powers, the new Auxiliary Police became eligible for federal grants under the Homeland Security Act. These committed volunteer sworn officers dedicated over 10,500 hours of volunteer assistance in 2004.193

On May 17, 2005, the Police Department unveiled its memorial to honor those officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. The event was part of National Police Week. Inscribed on the triangular-shaped, black granite column were the names of Officers Lamont Edwards, John Thomas, Craig Rath and Ryan Cappelletty, as well as the date of their last patrol. During the dedication, Colonel Carl Baker stated, “It is often stated that a man is not dead until he is forgotten. And as you can see, we have not forgotten these fallen officers." The memorial is located in the historical area of Chesterfield County’s Courthouse green, directly in front of the 1892 jail.194

On August 29, 2005, the sixth strongest hurricane on record, Hurricane Katrina, struck the Gulf Coast, destroying communities in Mississippi and Louisiana. This 100-mile-wide storm, which covered an area the size of Great Britain, is thought to be responsible for $75 billion in damages, making it the costliest hurricane in U.S. history.
The storm killed at least 1,604 people and displaced 1.5 million residents. The Chesterfield County Police Department came to the aid of those less fortunate and almost 40 officers and civilian employees responded to assist. These officers, in four, 18-day shifts, performed law enforcement duties in the hard hit area of Hancock, Miss. Living at times in tents and abandoned, storm-damage buildings, these officers worked 12- to 14-hour shifts a day and risked their lives 1,000 miles away from Chesterfield County and their loved ones. Due to this three-month deployment, the Police Department created the National Service Ribbon and included it in its awards and recognition program.

- On September 18, 2005, millions of Americans were greeted with the story of the heroics of Chesterfield County Police Lieutenant David Stone when they opened their Sunday morning paper. Parade Magazine, in conjunction with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, recognized Lieutenant Stone, along with nine other officers, as being Police Officers of the Year. Lieutenant Stone received his recognition for risking his life in a high-water rescue during Tropical Storm Gaston (August 2004).

- In late 2005 and early 2006, the Chesterfield County Police Department uncovered a bizarre murder plot during a fraud investigation. In February 2006, Chetanand Kumar Sewraz, originally of India, but living in Brandermill, was arrested by police for manufacturing and attempting to use the deadly poison ricin to murder his wife. The FBI, with the assistance of the Chesterfield County Police Department, later implicated Sewraz in two bombings nears his in-law’s home in Florida.

- In the early morning hours of May 4, 2006, Officer Gary J. Buro and Officer Joe Diman responded to a domestic in Ettrick on Totty Street. Within seconds of entering the Victorian-style home, Officer Buro was shot and killed by a 34-year-old suspect. The suspect, William Anderson, a...
Department of Corrections employee, then turned his semi-automatic pistol at Officer Diman and shot him five times. Officer Diman was struck twice in his protective vest and was shot in his leg and right arm. Joe was able to return fire and strike the suspect twice, killing him at the scene. Officer Buro was a 17-year law enforcement veteran from three police departments. Emotional memorial services were held in both Chesterfield County and in his hometown of Denville, N.J. Officer Gary Buro's final resting place is alongside his wife in Lantana, Fla.

- During the summer of 2006, the police department was recognized regionally and nationally for two innovative programs. The Virginia Associations of Counties (VACo) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) gave the department achievement awards for two of its programs: the Crash Fatality Referral Program and the Partnership Between Police and Mental Health Professionals. The Crash Fatality Referral Program is an additional service provided by the Chesterfield County Police Department's crash fatality team. Officers on the crash fatality team notify the families of people who die in vehicular accidents and offer information on funeral arrangements. It also offers information on grief counseling to these families. The outreach service was created by Police Sergeant Clint Schott and Robin Jones, a grief specialist for Chesterfield County Mental Health Support Services. The other joint program, the Partnership Between Police and Mental Health Professionals, has mental health advisors working directly with the Chesterfield County Police Department. In certain crises, such as hostage, standoff and barricade situations, a mental health advisor will travel with police officers to the scene to help assess the situation. There, they will assess and diagnose the suspect to develop an effective strategy. They also monitor the stress levels of negotiators. This program was created jointly by Police Lieutenant Russ Lescault and Larry Barnett from Chesterfield County Mental Health. 199

- The police department opened a “temporary” police station on Route 360 near the community of Woodlake in September 2006. This station, which is still being used in
2014, was dubbed the Hull Street Station and functions as the administrative headquarters in one of the zones in the North Uniform Operations Division. \(^{200}\)

- At the beginning of 2007, the department successfully transitioned from the .40 caliber SigSauer semi-automatic handgun, Model P229, to a new and improved weapon, the Glock, Model 22. Also a .40 caliber handgun, the Glock increased the duty ammo for the average officer from 37 to 46 rounds. \(^{201}\)

- On July 10, 2007, Thierry G. Dupuis became Chief of Police for Chesterfield County. Colonel Dupuis is the seventh person to hold this position in the Department’s history. Col. Dupuis’ law-enforcement career began in 1977 as a deputy with the Richmond Sheriff’s Office. He served as a patrol officer with the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department in 1978 and then joined the Chesterfield County Police Department as a patrol officer in 1979. Col. Dupuis has served within all major divisions within the department. He is the first chief in the department’s history to have held all ranks within the organization, including officer, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, major and lieutenant colonel. He currently oversees a department of 636 full- and part-time sworn and civilian employees.

- In late 2007, the Chesterfield County Police Department initiated a new approach to capturing wanted fugitives. Working with nine regional law enforcement agencies (Amelia County Sheriff, Colonial Heights PD, Dinwiddie County Sheriff, Hanover Sheriff, Henrico County PD, Hopewell PD, Petersburg PD, Richmond PD and Virginia State Police) Lieutenant Dave Stone developed the innovative multi-media program Central Virginia Most

Colonel Thierry G. Dupuis
Wanted. Using weekly TV spots on two different news organizations, ads in local newspapers and several billboards, the regional jurisdictions share information with the public and each other on wanted fugitives in the area. This successful cooperative agreement earned the Chesterfield County Police Department an award of excellence from the National Association of Counties in 2008.  

- In January 2008, the police department revamped the police beats because of the increased calls for service and a need to efficiently dispatch patrol officers. This increased the total beats from 34 coverage areas to 41. Additionally, the county was divided into four separate sectors or zones. These zones would later correspond to the radio channels used to dispatch officers assigned to those areas. 

- LinX, or Law Enforcement Information Exchange, went live in Chesterfield County in 2008. This advanced information sharing system and analytical data warehouse contains information from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. This database greatly extends the criminal intelligence network for officers and detectives, who can use it to locate suspects, victims and crime linkage. 

- On November 28, 2009, Officers Becker, Lambert and Upton responded to a single-vehicle crash on Woodland Pond Parkway. Four occupants were partially trapped in a car that had run off the road, crashed into a tree and become wedged between two other trees. Once on scene, the officers discovered that the vehicle's engine was on fire, endangering the driver and passengers. The officers quickly dispensed their fire extinguishers to keep the flames at bay as they attempted to free the vehicle's occupants. For their heroic actions, the
officers received both a department life saving award and a Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Life Saving award.205

- The department's volunteer program received national attention in 2009. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) awarded the Chesterfield County Police Department the "Outstanding Achievement in Law Enforcement Volunteer Programs Award" during its national conference in Colorado. Specifically, the department was recognized for its multifaceted volunteer program that includes volunteers with the Auxiliary Police, the Crime Solvers Board, the Law Enforcement Explorer Post, the Police Chaplain Program, Animal Control Assistance, the Police Foundation, the Motorist Assistance Team, the Volunteer Mail Courier Program, the Special Events Team, the Training Academy Volunteer Actors, and the Neighborhood Watch Council. The award further praised the department for increasing the number of volunteers from 120 to 216, who contributed 36,274 hours of value-added services to the department and the community.206

- In 2009, the police department received special recognition from Virginia's Office of the Attorney General in their program, “Safe in Our Communities: Community Recognition Program for Promising Practices in Domestic Violence Response.” This program, sponsored by the Attorney General, was designed to recognize localities that have instituted promising or innovative practices in responding to domestic violence in their communities; additionally, it encourages localities to develop and implement policies and practices to enhance their community response to domestic violence issues. Chesterfield County was chosen for its coordinated community response to domestic violence, particularly for outreach to Spanish-speaking victims and for providing services to children who have witnessed domestic violence.207

- In May 2010, the state-of-the-art driving facility in Enon opened and began facilitating better training for new and seasoned officers. The Skid pan at Enon Driving facility
members of the Department’s 55th Basic Police Academy were the first officers to use the course. This training facility allows for a safer, more controlled environment for officers to practice real world pursuits and high-speed driving, as well as practice driving on various road conditions. 208

- The police department took one more step toward becoming a “paperless” department with the introduction of TREDs or the Traffic Records Electronic Data System in 2010. This online data system, managed by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, allows officers to complete and submit a motor vehicle accident report from the computers in their patrol cars. Before this, all accident reports were written and filed by hand. 209

- On January 15, 2011, Officers Griffiths, Ickes and Laffoon and Sgt. Seamster responded to a home on River Road for an attempted suicide call. The officers could see a man inside the residence; he was unresponsive and lying on the dining room floor as two, 30-gallon propane tanks spewed propane gas into the residence. Sgt. Seamster quickly formed a rescue plan with his officers. As Officer Ickes opened the front door to ventilate the residence, the man got off the floor and into a chair. As Officers Laffoon and Griffiths and Sgt. Seamster entered the residence to retrieve the man, the man grabbed a pistol from the table in front of him. Sgt. Seamster took the gun from the man, while Officers Laffoon and Griffiths restrained the man and moved him to the front yard. Officers Ickes and Roeber also entered the residence and helped remove the man, who had lost consciousness again. As firefighters entered the residence to neutralize the propane tanks, the propane gas ignited, starting a gas fire inside the residence. This team of officers was commended for its quick actions in the face of imminent personal risk, earning
them the Department's Life Saving Award and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Valor Award.  

- In November 2011, the department implemented a new communication tool, The ZONE. This interactive webpage was created to improve communications within the department. Specific goals included improving and facilitating communications between department members at all levels and highlighting department members whose actions merit special recognition. In addition, The ZONE provides information on upcoming training opportunities, retirements, and department supported events.  

- On June 29, 2012, after more than 30 years on nine-hour shifts (Days, Evenings and Midnights) the department implemented a new, 12-hour shift schedule (Days and Nights). This platoon-style shift allows for more time off for the officers, better camaraderie among shift personnel and greatly reduced overtime.  

- In June 2012, a gunman entered an office building at 9401 Courthouse Road with a rifle and approached an attorney who was party to a custody dispute the gunman was involved in. The subject fired his rifle at the attorney, but missed him. The attorney fled and the subject chased him in an attempt to fire at him again.  

Multiple bystanders were in the area and fled to escape the violence. Corporal James Cosby Jr., an off-duty investigator for the Virginia Division of Capitol Police, was in the parking lot and determined what was occurring from fleeing citizens. He went to intervene in the situation and came in contact with the armed subject as he was exiting the building. Lieutenant Randolph Horowitz arrived immediately after this and also confronted the subject. The subject refused to comply with commands to drop his rifle and instead yelled at the two officers to shoot him. After a short period, Lieutenant Horowitz and Corporal Cosby approached the subject. Each grabbed one of the subject's arms and forced him to drop the rifle. The actions performed by these two law enforcement
professionals ended an active shooter incident without bloodshed. For their actions, the Department awarded each officer the Police Star and each received the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Valor Award. 212

- The Chesterfield County Police Department’s SWAT team, in October 2012, swept the field in state SWAT competitions in Harrisonburg, Va. SWAT teams from all over the state had to compete against one another in pistol relays, officer rescues, a rifle run and an obstacle course, to name a few activities. The department's SWAT team took first place in overall performance at this two-day event.

- Four-legged friends in need became stars in the region with the premiere of Chesterfield County's Animal Control Facebook page in January 2013. This social media outreach allowed the public to view cats and dogs up for adoption, volunteer to assist the shelter, view upcoming shelter events and receive important educational and informational updates on caring for their pets.213

- The Chesterfield County Police Department became the first law enforcement agency in central Virginia to offer an online reporting option to citizens. On April 2, 2013, recognizing the public's expectation for access to automated government services, the department began accepting police reports through its website. For many years, the department has offered to take some reports by phone, but the online method allows users to submit reports without having to wait for an available officer by phone. The most common types of online reports are larceny from unlocked motor vehicles, vandalism, fraud and harassing phone calls. 214
• In May 2013, Chesterfield County, through efforts of the department and other partner county agencies, meets the standards through the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to obtain the Certified Crime Prevention Community certification. To obtain certification as a Crime Prevention Community, a locality must meet 12 core community safety elements/strategies augmented by a minimum of seven approved optional elements. DCJS runs and monitors the program. This official recognition highlights the department's exemplary status and proactive stance for community safety for our current and future community members and businesses. Chesterfield County is now one of a handful of jurisdictions in the Commonwealth to achieve this certification.215

• In June 2013, police arrested Brandon W. Thomas in connection with a 2010 murder. On Sept. 11, 2010, police were called to the 8600 block of Jefferson Davis Highway. Police located Bobbie Jo Bell, who had been shot in her residence while sleeping next to her children. Bell, 28, was pronounced dead at the scene. The case remained unsolved for several years and the investigation included tireless efforts by CID detectives with the assistance of Virginia State Police and FBI's dive teams. On June 10, 2013, Thomas, 27, was indicted with first-degree murder and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony in relation to Bell's death. Following Thomas’ conviction, Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Larry S. Hogan wrote to the department to commend Master Detective Carey Williams for his efforts in the case. “I do not want to guess how many hours he put into this case, but every one of them was reflected in the verdict that was rendered by the jury.”216

• On Independence Day 2013, Brendon Mackey, a local 7-year-old boy, was walking to see fireworks with his father when he was struck in the head by a stray bullet. CID detectives mounted an extensive effort and, with the assistance of the ATF, conducted a door-to-door canvas of the Brandermill community. This case is still active and detectives continue to follow leads as they come in. The case received
national media attention and resulted in a change in state law with regard to celebratory gunfire, making it a felony offense if someone is killed or injured.

- In 2013, the use of cell phone tower information processed through the analytical software PenLink helped solve a major crime series. During August and September 2013, a series of armed robberies occurred at several McDonald's in the area. The Crime Analysis Section was instrumental in identifying the suspects perpetrating the crimes. The cell phone towers nearest the New Kent McDonald's had very little cell traffic at the time of the robbery at that location, allowing the Henrico Case Unit to identify a cell phone number frequency that matched a name in their Crime Intel Database. Crimes Against Persons Analyst Marie Smith was able to quickly obtain that number and analyze the cell phone frequency data from the cell towers nearest the robbed McDonald's in Chesterfield County. Through that process, it was determined that the cell phone number identified at the New Kent robbery had been used at the two McDonald's robberies in Chesterfield County and later at the Henrico County robberies. Investigators now had a solid lead for the robberies. The suspect and his associates were developed as targets for surveillance. As a result of the surveillance efforts, the suspects were arrested by Chesterfield County Police Officers shortly after they committed the final robbery in Dinwiddie County. 217

- In September 2013, the Police Property and Evidence Unit implemented a new evidence management program, File-on-Q, that uses a barcode system to identify and track every piece of evidence. This new system was more efficient and modern than the old.
system that was in place to manage over 39,000 pieces of evidence and property. Chesterfield County Internal Audit conducted an audit at Police Property and Evidence immediately following the implementation of this new evidence management system. The auditors were very impressed with the new process and commended the unit on a perfect audit that resulted in no improvements or changes needed. 218

- In October 2013, patrol officers were provided with another less-lethal option: the Taser. This hand-held device fires two small dart-like electrodes, which stay connected to the main unit by a conductive wire as they are propelled by small compressed nitrogen charges. Once the darts strike a non-compliant subject, an electrical current disrupts the suspect's voluntary control of muscles causing neuromuscular incapacitation. Previously, this weapon system was utilized solely by members of the police department's SWAT team. It was selected for all patrol officers after a 2009 Police Executive Research Forum study that said that officer injuries dropped by 76 percent when a Taser was used. The Taser device issued to officers was the TASER Model X2.

- In January 2012, Colonel Dupuis asked employees to submit designs for new markings on patrol cars. After careful review, the Chesterfield County Police Department updated its marked vehicles with new graphics in the summer of 2013, replacing the department patch decals and out-dated stripes (yellow and green) that had been used to mark the cars since the early 1980s. The new design scheme
features the word “POLICE” in large, easy-to-see lettering in black and gold and sweeping stripes.

- The Chesterfield County Police Department's National Night Out program received national and regional recognition in August 2013. National Night Out is an annual event designed to strengthen communities by encouraging neighborhoods to build stronger relationships with each other and with their local law enforcement partners. The goal is to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs, and most importantly, send a message that neighborhoods are organized and taking a proactive stance against crime. It is also the perfect opportunity to get to know your neighbors better. Chesterfield County ranked sixth nationally and first in the state among localities with populations of 300,000 for its 2013 National Night Out efforts.

- In November 2013, the Chesterfield County Police Department officially began its CIT program. CIT or Crisis Intervention Team training educates first responding officers in how to recognize and assist a person in a mental health crisis. Successful CIT programs improve officer and consumer safety, and appropriately redirect individuals with mental illness from the criminal justice system to the health care system. In 2010, members of Chesterfield County Police joined with other County agencies to develop a planning group to improve services to citizens in crisis or suffering symptoms of mental illness. Through partnerships with Richmond and Henrico Police, Chesterfield County personnel attended CIT training classes to lay the foundation for establishing an in house CIT program. In November 2013, Chesterfield County held its first 40-hour CIT course for 12 police officers, three Fire/EMS personnel, and one Sheriff's deputy. The course was met with a very positive response, and the training the first responders received to assist and provide resources to those who suffer from mental illness received good reports from both line personnel and supervision alike. By June of 2014, the
Chesterfield County Police Department had trained 82 police officers, six Fire/EMS personnel, eight Sheriff’s Deputies, four Mental Health representatives, and two Magistrates.

- In January 2014, the Police Department officially switched over to a newly designed uniform patch. The fifth since the founding of the department 100 years before, the patch was designed by a committee represented by all ranks within the department. The patch was designed with traditional department colors (black and gold) and a historic landmark, the 1917 historic courthouse.

- By the spring of 2014, all detectives within the department had been issued “smart phones.” These upgraded communication devices allowed detectives to be mobile and connected at the same time, allowing them to make phone calls, receive text alerts, access the internet, send and receive emails and generally greatly improve the capabilities during an investigation.

- Chesterfield County, which covers 446 square miles, has in the past 100 years developed from a rural county of 23,000 people to a booming, bustling community of approximately 328,000 citizens, with the men and women in green protecting and serving their needs. By 2014, after 100 years service, the Chesterfield County Police Department had grown from five employees to an authorized work force of 522 sworn officers and 105 civilians. This dedicated work force is spread throughout the County in a three-story administrative building, two precincts, two substations, two training centers, and seven field offices. The annual report for fiscal year 2014 indicated that there were 187,786 calls for service with officers engaging in over 470,000 activities, including 107,471 traffic stops, 121,959 neighborhood patrols, and 182,804 directed patrols.
Chapter Six

Law Enforcement Vehicles & Equipment
(1989-2014)
Chesterfield County Police Department
History

Officer George (Pop) Johnson in 1930s uniform pictured next to a 1934 Ford Sedan, mostly likely his own personal vehicle.

In 1949 Mr. Martin is shown lettering the first police car, a 1948 Chevrolet Fleetline; had a 216 cubic inch engine.
The Police Fleet in 1950; shown are 1950 Ford Tudor Sedans (first four cars) and 1949 Chevrolet Fleetlines; these were photographed next to the fairgrounds behind police headquarters.

1962 Plymouth Belvedere; it had a standard 318 cubic inch engine.
1972 Plymouth Fury III; 440 cubic inch engine. Officer Ralph Arehart’s car later issued to Officer Richard Koren (July 1974)

1975 Ford Torino: Officers Alice Berry (U-55) and Richard Koren (U-77) were the first officers to have the decals applied. One car for the North end and one car for the South end.
1977 Plymouth Fury 440 cubic inch engine.

1982 Dodge Diplomat parked behind the County garage.
Chesterfield County Police Department

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1988 Ford Crown Victoria

1995 Chevrolet Caprice 9C1 with the Lt-1 Corvette motor.
Chesterfield County Police Department
History

2009 Ford Crown Victoria slick top.

2013 Ford Police Interceptor with the new graphics package.
Smith &Wesson .32 caliber revolver; 5 rounds, standard ammo load 15 (circa 1930)

Smith &Wesson .38 caliber revolver; 6 rounds, standard ammo load 18 (circa 1956)

Model 64, Smith &Wesson .38 caliber revolver; 6 rounds, standard ammo load 18 (circa 1985)

Smith & Wesson Model 1076 10mm pistol; 10 rounds, standard ammo load 28 (circa 1991)
Chesterfield County Police Department
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Sig Sauer Model P229 .40 Caliber pistol; 13 rounds, standard ammo load 37 (circa 1996)

Sig Sauer Model P229 .40 Caliber pistol with tactical rails; 13 rounds, standard ammo load 37 (circa 1996)

Glock Model 22 .40 caliber pistol; 16 rounds, standard ammo load 46 (circa 2014)
Chesterfield County Police Department

History

Federal H.V.P. 11 handheld portable radio; 2 channels (circa 1977)

Motorola MT-500 handheld portable radio; 8 channels (circa 1995)

Motorola XTS handheld portable radio; 14 channels (circa 1996)

Motorola XTS 3000 handheld portable radio; 180 channels (circa 2005)
Sergeant John Simmons demonstrates to Chief Smith the department's new radar set, the Electro-Matic (1964)

Panasonic Toughbook Personal Mobile Data Computer used in Patrol cars (circa 2014)

Motorola APX™ 7000, Multiband Portable Radio (circa 2014)
## Chesterfield County Police Department History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Department Size</th>
<th>Chief</th>
<th>County Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>4 officers (&amp; 1 part-time officer)</td>
<td>A. Thomas Traylor</td>
<td>21,299</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>5 officers</td>
<td>A. Thomas Traylor</td>
<td>20,496</td>
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<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>8 officers</td>
<td>Charles W. Smith</td>
<td>26,049</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>9 officers</td>
<td>Charles W. Smith</td>
<td>31,183</td>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>15 officers</td>
<td>Charles W. Smith</td>
<td>40,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>26 officers</td>
<td>Charles W. Smith</td>
<td>71,197</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>54 officers</td>
<td>Edgar P. Gill</td>
<td>76,855</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>149 officers &amp; 40 civilians</td>
<td>Joseph E. Pittman</td>
<td>141,372</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>335 officers &amp; 93 civilians</td>
<td>Joseph E. Pittman</td>
<td>209,274</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>407 officers &amp; 92 civilians</td>
<td>Carl R. Baker</td>
<td>259,903</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>474 officers &amp; 99 civilians</td>
<td>Thierry G. Dupuis</td>
<td>316,236</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>522 officers &amp; 105 civilians</td>
<td>Thierry G. Dupuis</td>
<td>328,000</td>
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</tbody>
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### Chesterfield County Police Department 1914

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  - Police Officer
  - Police Officer
  - Police Officer
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