

# Annual Report 2021



**Spotsylvania**  
**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



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## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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## **2021 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

|                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Battlefield District</b> | <b>Chris Yakabouski</b>       |
| <b>Berkeley District</b>    | <b>Kevin Marshall</b>         |
| <b>Chancellor District</b>  | <b>Timothy J. McLaughlin</b>  |
| <b>Courtland District</b>   | <b>David Ross</b>             |
| <b>Lee Hill District</b>    | <b>Gary F. Skinner</b>        |
| <b>Livingston District</b>  | <b>Barry Jett</b>             |
| <b>Salem District</b>       | <b>Dr. Deborah H. Frazier</b> |

## **2021 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

|                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Clerk of the Circuit Court</b>  | <b>Christy Jett</b>        |
| <b>Commissioner of the Revenue</b> | <b>Deborah F. Williams</b> |
| <b>Commonwealth's Attorney</b>     | <b>Travis Bird</b>         |
| <b>Sheriff</b>                     | <b>Roger L. Harris</b>     |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                   | <b>Larry Pritchett</b>     |

## **2021 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY**

|                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>County Administrator</b>        | <b>Ed Petrovitch</b> |
| <b>Deputy County Administrator</b> | <b>Mark Cole</b>     |

## **ABOUT SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY**

Spotsylvania County is located in Northern Virginia, midway between the Nation's capital of Washington D.C. and the State's capital of Richmond. The County covers over 400 square miles and has a 2020 population of 140,032 according to the U.S. Census Bureau April 1, 2020 census. In prior years, the County's growth rate resulted in the County being included in the rankings of the hundred fastest growing counties in the Nation. The County's growth can be attributed to several factors. The County is located along the I-95 interstate corridor with close proximity to businesses, industries, military installations, as well as federal and state governmental offices. Affordable housing, relative to the surrounding areas, has led many individuals and families to migrate to Spotsylvania County. Over half of the County's employed residents commute to work in the Northern Virginia, Washington D.C. or Richmond area. Within its boundaries, the County possesses the scenic beauty of Lake Anna, rural landscape, suburban amenities and a wealth of historical attractions from the Colonial and Civil War eras. These resources also make the County a favorite tourist destination.



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the men and women of the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office is dedicated service to improving quality of life through a partnership with our community. We are committed to protecting life, property, and reducing fear of crime. With honor and integrity, we uphold the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Constitution of the United States.

## MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HARRIS

### SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA

As your Sheriff since 2012, it has been my pleasure to see Spotsylvania County continue to thrive and grow as one of the safest places to reside in our Commonwealth. We have brought community policing to the forefront with educational efforts, events, and crime preventative measures. The Apartment, Church, and Neighborhood Watch programs continue to flourish and expand. National Night Out increases in size each year. Blue Christmas is on its seventh year and now serves over 1,000 less fortunate children with toys and clothing, as well as many senior citizens.

Numerous financial saving efforts have been put into place. Grants are sought, with many received, on a continuous basis to be able to meet the County's request to reduce our expenses. Our Volunteer in Police Service (VIPS) program has been a tremendous cost saver. Volunteers from all aspects of the community are contributing time, talents and more. These selfless workers participate at our many community events, on our Search and Rescue Team, at our Animal Shelter, and in the office.

It is my goal to continue serving this fine county and bring the best of law enforcement to the community.

*Sheriff Roger L. Harris*

## SHERIFF ROGER L. HARRIS

### SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



On February 28, 1947, Roger Harris was born in Stuart, Virginia to Marvin Jackson Harris and Lula Ann Harris. His early interests, which continue to this day, include fishing, classic cars, and street rods. He attended Radford High School.

On October 5, 1979, Roger married Terry L. Fay at Tabernacle United Methodist Church in Spotsylvania, Virginia. Once married, his primary interests became his devotion to his family and his church. Roger and his wife have two children.

Roger's passion for a career in law enforcement started at an early age. His dream became reality when he began work with the Fairfax County Police Department. From 1969 to 1989, Roger advanced through the department starting as a Patrol Officer. He was promoted to Criminal Investigative Services Detective, followed by Criminal Investigative Division (CID) Detective, CID Master Police Officer, Master Police Officer Detective in the Intelligence Division, Polygraph Examiner, and Polygraph Examiner Supervisor. From 1989 to 1996, Roger served as Coordinator for the Regional Narcotics Task Force under the Spotsylvania County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.

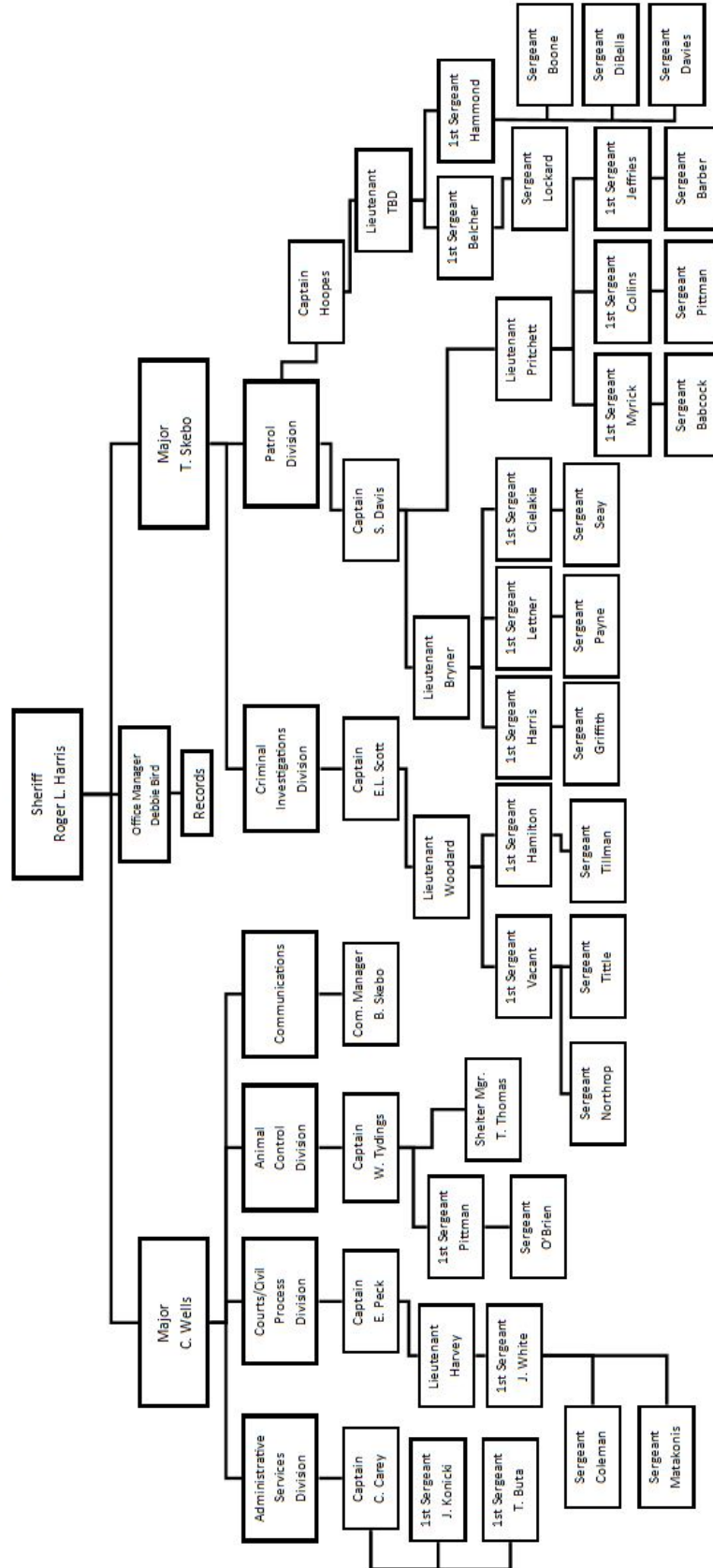
From 1996 to 2011, Roger served Spotsylvania County in a variety of positions including Polygraph Examiner, Narcotics Investigator, CID Detective and CID Lieutenant. His wealth of experience, exceptional knowledge, training, communication skills, and advanced education in law enforcement were all contributing factors to his election as Spotsylvania County Sheriff in 2011. On January 1, 2012, Sheriff Harris was sworn into office as the 90th Sheriff for Spotsylvania County. On January 1, 2016 he was re-sworn into office. His main goal has always been and continues to be to serve the people in his community.

Sheriff Harris' professional affiliations include the Fairfax County Police Association, Virginia Sheriffs' Association, Homicide Investigators Association, Eagles, Fraternal Order of Police and working with the Sheriff's Institute. Sheriff Harris has been with the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office for twenty-five years and in law enforcement for fifty-one years.

# 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

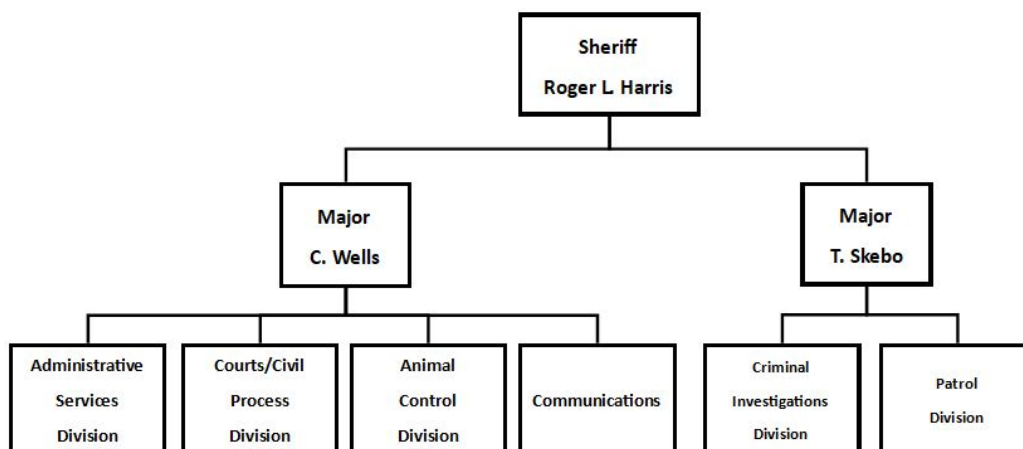


Revised 10/01/2021

# THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA



The Sheriff is a constitutional officer of the Commonwealth of Virginia and is not an officer or employee of the County. The Sheriff is elected by the voters of Spotsylvania County every four years. The duties, responsibilities, and privileges are set out in the State Constitution, the Code of Virginia and supplemented by local ordinances. The Sheriff provides law enforcement services to the citizens of the County, including the enforcement of all State and County criminal codes, serves civil and criminal papers, provides for the enforcement of all State and County animal codes and supervises the operations of the County's animal shelter, and protects and maintains the security of the courts operating within the County.

There are five divisions within the Sheriff's Office that together, serve all the law enforcement functions described above: Patrol Division, Criminal Investigations Division, Animal Control Division, Courts Security and Civil Process Division, and Administrative Services Division.

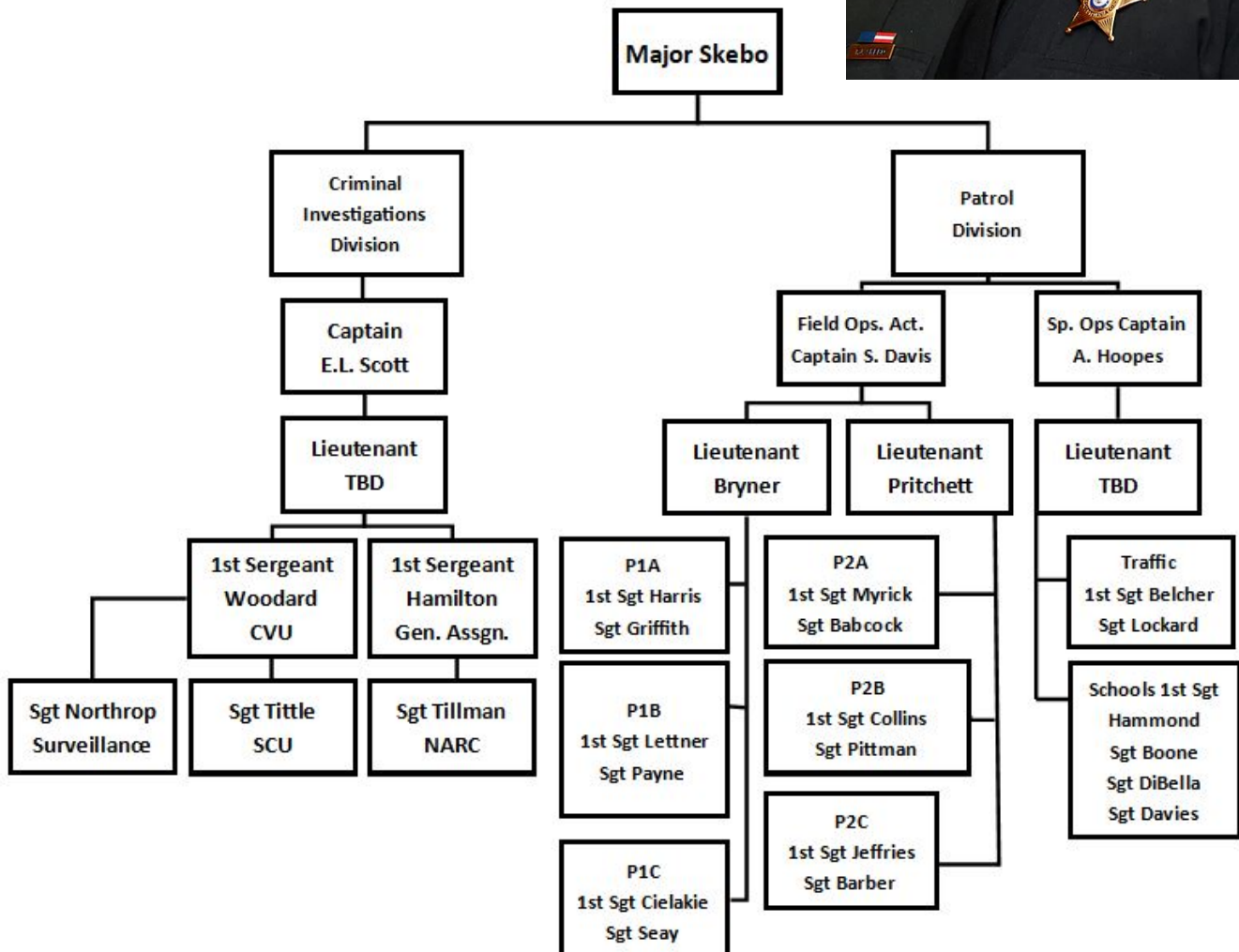
Within these Divisions are additional specialty functions. The Emergency Communications Center is a 24/7 operation that serves as the 911 answering point for calls for service and the dispatching of public safety services. Some of the other specialty functions within the divisions are: Street Crimes Unit, Crime Prevention Unit, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Bicycle Team, Canine Unit, Hostage Negotiation Team, Dive Team, Ground Search and Rescue Team and Traffic Services Unit, School Resource Officers, Civil Disturbance Unit, Crisis Negotiations Team, Drone Team, Honor Guard, Marine Unit, and Mounted Patrol

# MAJOR TROY SKEBO

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Major Skebo reports directly to Sheriff Harris and is responsible for the Criminal Investigations Division and Patrol Division. Major Skebo is well versed in all areas of the Sheriff's Office and is able to stand in for the Sheriff if Sheriff Harris is absent.

Major Skebo has been in law enforcement for twenty-four years.

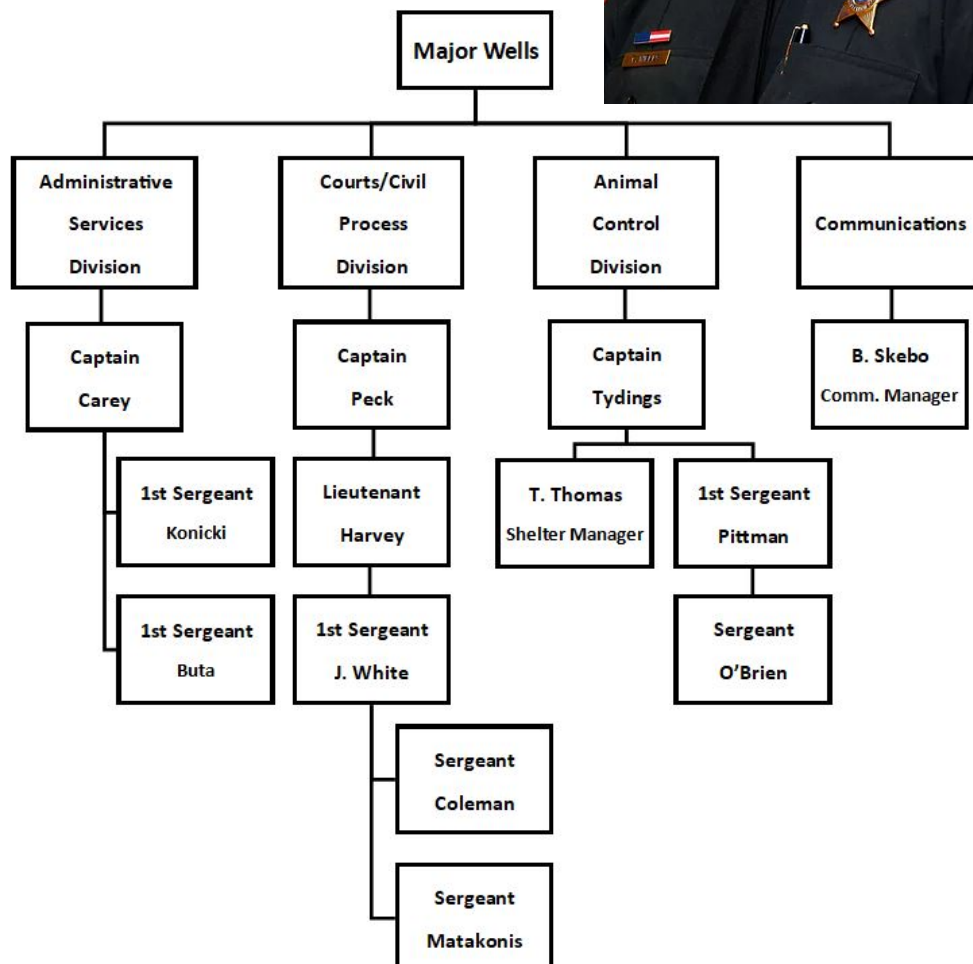


# MAJOR CARTER WELLS

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Major Wells reports directly to Sheriff Harris and is responsible for the Administrative Services Division, Courts and Civil Process Division, Animal Control Division, and Communications. Major Wells is well versed in all areas of the Sheriff's Office and is able to stand in for the Sheriff if Sheriff Harris is absent.

Major Wells has been in law enforcement for forty-one years.



# PATROL DIVISION

Field Operations Captain S. Davis  
Special Operations Captain A. Hoopes

## 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♦ CY21 Patrol handled 59,770 calls for service<sup>1</sup> which is up 18% from last year with 49,511 service calls.
- ♦ CY21 the Patrol Division worked 5,280 crashes<sup>2</sup>, up 57% from last year's 2,256 crashes.
- ♦ CY21 DUI/DUID 334 arrest, up 8% from last year with 306 DUI/DUID arrests.
- ♦ In FY21 the Patrol division worked a total of 23,550.5 overtime hours with 14,372.5 hours not reimbursable
- ♦ Law Enforcement NARCAN was administered 28 times resulting in 22 lives saved.
- ♦ Project Lifesaver participation has increased to include 135 clients.
- ♦ The Patrol Division now employs two captains to oversee the many facets within the Division





The Patrol Division is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the citizens of Spotsylvania County through a partnership with the Community. The Division's primary objective is to carry out this partnership through swift response to calls for service and proactive initiatives. To carry out his mission, the division is broken down to three platoons.

**PATROL PLATOONS-** The Patrol Division is divided into three platoons. Two operate on a permanent schedule of three, 12 hour shifts; days, evenings and midnight shifts. These two platoons provide first response to calls for service from citizens and preventive patrol through their presence in the County. The third platoon consists of specialized units to include Traffic Services Unit, School Resource Unit, and Part-time/Auxiliary Unit.

**TRAFFIC SERVICES UNIT**—The Traffic Safety Unit is dedicated to promoting and improving traffic safety within Spotsylvania County. Within this unit, there is a Motor Squad, Motor Carrier Units, Parking Enforcement and other traffic crash investigators. This unit enforces traffic and safety laws, responds to all crashes within the County, funeral escorts, and all other traffic related calls. The Spotsylvania Tow Board is staffed by Traffic Services Unit members and is currently comprised of seven members; made up of 3 companies, 3 law enforcement members (2 Sheriff's Office, 1 Virginia State Police), and 1 citizen volunteer. The tow board is the regulatory authority for all Sheriff's Office and the Virginia State Police (VSP) requested tows. The tow board also oversees citizen complaints with regards to Sheriff's Office or VSP tow's. Also within their purview is the initial body for consideration in updating and changing the laws associated with the Spotsylvania County tow ordinance. The Sheriff's Office also conducts quarterly inspections of all 19 towers and their equipment to ensure they are within required specifications of Spotsylvania County Tow Ordinance.



**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**— There are currently twenty-eight School Resource Officers (SRO) which includes fourteen DARE certified deputies. The primary objectives of the SRO program include: assisting school administration in fostering a safe, appropriate school environment; acting as an advocate for any child who may be a victim of suspected criminal activity; and promoting a relationship of trust while enhancing the lines of communication among the Sheriff's Office, County Public Schools, students, and parents.



**PART-TIME/AUXILIARY UNIT**— Deputies who donate their time or become part-time employees are a valuable asset. These individuals assist with numerous special events, search and rescue, Marine Patrol, and help with staffing shortages in patrol.

In addition to the Patrol Division, Traffic Safety Unit, School Resource Unit, and the Part-time/Auxiliary Unit, there are other vital specialty and support units within the Patrol Division. Among these are:

- ♦ ***Bike Patrol Unit*** -- The Bike Team is a twelve member unit. All members have regular duty assignments and are called upon during special events or enforcement details. The purpose of the Bike Team is to take deputies out of their patrol vehicles and make them more accessible to the public they serve. Once in operation, participating deputies soon learned that patrolling the county in this manner is effective in locating and detecting crime.
- ♦ ***Mounted Patrol Unit*** -- The primary focus of this team is community policing during events, at shopping centers, and off-road terrain. Officers generally ride together in pairs which enables them to patrol in high crime areas providing a law enforcement presence. This team also participates in search and rescue missions.
- ♦ ***Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)*** -- The primary responsibility of this team is to increase the likelihood of safely resolving critical incidents. The team specializes in high risk felony apprehension, hostage negotiations, armed criminal activities, and other tasks. The duties of this team also include hostage rescue, barricades, high-risk apprehension, dignitary protection, terrorism response, and special assignments. All team members have regular duty assignments and are on-call at all times. SWAT maintains and issues various equipment and supplies that tactical officers use in handling barricaded persons, hostage situations, and other special incidents.
- ♦ ***K-9 Unit*** — This unit was established in 1976 and currently consists of six canines and five handlers. The K-9 Unit is a full time continuously operating unit within the patrol division. The unit consists of two patrol canines, three canines crossed trained in the areas of patrol and narcotics detection and one bloodhound. The canine breeds vary ranging from German Shepherds, Dutch Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, and Bloodhounds. This unit utilizes their special abilities to locate wanted felons, missing persons, narcotics, and evidence. The handlers and canines undergo a strenuous program during which the teams are instructed in basic obedience, agility, handler protection, narcotics detection, tracking, building searches, veterinary first aid, and legal issues. The success of this unit can be attributed to the support provided by our citizens, schools, businesses, and local organizations.
- ♦ ***Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT)*** — Team members undergo specialized training based on problem resolution and psychological tactics. This training is focused on convincing the subject (s) involved to resolve the situation peacefully. Training is enhanced by joint training with SWAT. These monthly training sessions are scenario based and verbal crisis management techniques are practiced. This training is necessary in order to maintain the highest level of competence and readiness.





- ♦ ***Search and Rescue Team***—This team was first established in 1997 and is designed to locate lost or missing persons with certified search and rescue personnel. The Search and Rescue Team also participates in rescues within other localities as part of the County’s Mutual Aid Agreement with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.
- ♦ ***Project Lifesaver***— The Spotsylvania Project Lifesaver program assists families and caregivers of individuals who have a propensity to wander. These individuals are provided with a wrist or ankle band that contains a silent transmitter. In the event that the individual becomes missing, the Sheriff’s Office can be contacted and equipped with a special receiver, the team is able to locate the missing individual. Project Lifesaver has had a 100% recovery rate for individuals enrolled in the program. In addition to providing peace of mind to the caregiver, this program has also mitigated the time and money needed to coordinate a major rescue.
- ♦ ***Honor Guard*** — The Honor Guard is an eight member unit. All members have regular duty assignments and are on-call at all times. The Honor Guard is ceremonial units composed of deputies who are highly motivated and maintain exceptionally high standards of appearance. The unit provides funeral honors for fallen officers, military veterans, and civilian dignitaries. The honor guard may also serve as the “guardians of the colors” by displaying and escorting the national flag on ceremonial occasions at official functions.
- ♦ ***Marine Patrol Unit*** — The Marine Patrol Unit patrols any body of water within the County and other jurisdictions in which we have a mutual aid request. The unit is responsible for driving under the influence (DUI) enforcement, boating laws of Virginia, and assisting stranded citizens on the lake. The unit responds to boat crashes, shore incidents, and patrols the marinas, beaches, and parks. This unit works with Virginia Fish and Wildlife, Louisa County Sheriff’s Office, the United States Auxiliary Coast Guard, and other law enforcement agencies on the waters within the Commonwealth. The Marine Unit drives the dive boat for the associated team and provides security during dive missions.
- ♦ ***Dive Team*** — Spotsylvania County contains numerous ponds, rivers, creeks, and lakes to include Lake Anna. Lake Anna is a 1,300 acre body of water. The Dive Team provides rapid response to any water related incident within the County or in response to a mutual aid requests. The divers assist citizens, recover equipment, evidence, and personnel. Team members have regular duty assignments and are on-call at all times.

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID)

CAPTAIN E. SCOTT

## 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♦ Twenty full time detectives, four part time detectives, and six deputies collectively worked 1,595 cases
- ♦ Seized \$633,339.07, approx 50lbs marijuana & 3oz cocaine, and two vehicles from 1 narcotics incident
- ♦ Investigated seven homicides
- ♦ Seized a total of \$655,104.45 and five vehicles

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) handles the assignment, closure, and filing of all cases within the Sheriff's Office. CID ensures proper procedures and policies are followed during investigations, review and assign cases, investigate and close cases, perform various inspections of personnel and equipment, and assist personnel with advice and guidance in their investigations and daily activities. Within the division there are specialized units.



The specialized units within the Criminal Investigations Division are as follows:



- ♦ **General Assignment Unit** - Detectives assigned to this unit handle the more complex cases to include larcenies, burglaries, robberies, auto theft, rape, malicious assaults and homicides. Cases that involve suspects or witnesses outside of the County's jurisdictions, and those cases which involve extensive investigation, follow-up, forensics and/or evidence gathering are assigned to this unit.

- ♦ **Special Investigations Unit**—Detectives assigned to this unit have specialized training to address crime related to narcotics, street crimes, and gangs.

- ♦ **Forensic Unit**— This unit is responsible for conducting crime scene investigations to discover, develop, collect and evaluate physical evidence which may include blood and oth-

er body fluids, hair, fiber, paint chips, glass fragments, fire accelerants, soils, firearms, documents, fingerprint and footwear impressions. Several of the detectives have been deemed by the Virginia Circuit Courts as experts in several fields of Forensic Science to include blood splatter, firearms and bullet trajectory. In addition to crime scenes, the unit is responsible for the follow-up investigations of criminal cases where a computer has been used to perpetrate the crime. These cases can involve computer intrusion, online auction fraud, email threats and harassments, identity and credit card fraud, theft of intellectual property, software or music piracy, possession or distribution of child pornography and online child solicitation.

- ♦ **Crime Analysis Unit** —The Crime Analysis Unit is responsible for reviewing all offense reports and tracking any trends that develop within the county by collecting, collating and analyzing local and regional crimes. The data that is provided assists operational personnel in meeting their tactical crime control, criminal apprehension and crime prevention objectives and to assist command staff and administrative personnel in planning and strategic decision-making.
- ♦ **Child Victim Unit (CVU)**—This unit consists of highly specialized detectives that investigate cases involving sexual assault/abuse, physical abuse, domestic abuse, and any other crimes or neglect against children. Likely the most sensitive area of investigation for detectives. This unit is essential when investigating cases involving children as proper, immediate response is critical to the outcome of these cases.

# ANIMAL CONTROL DIVISION

CAPTAIN W. TYDINGS

## 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♦ Live release rate was 91%
- ♦ The shelter received 5,988 visitors with 520 customer adoptions and 524 rescue group transfer adoptions
- ♦ From January 01, 2021 through October 25, 2021 Animal Control Deputies responded to 6106 calls for service within Spotsylvania County and the City of Fredericksburg
- ♦ The division also conducted education programs in the schools and at other events.

The Animal Control Division is responsible for the enforcement of all State and County animal codes and supervises the operation of the County's Animal Shelter. The Animal Control Division oversees the collection of dogs, cats, and livestock running at large as well as the collection of sick or injured animals. The division receives and investigates reports of suspected animal cruelty or neglect in addition to calls received for animal bites, barking dogs or vicious animals.

Currently, the Animal Shelter is located at 450 TV Drive and houses all animals that are collected by the Animal Control Officers or turned in by citizens. Animals are held in accordance with state requirements and are either redeemed by the owner, or adopted.





The Animal Shelter also houses a low cost spay/neuter clinic which is operated by the Lionhearts, Inc., a local humane organization. With the exception of puppies and kittens that are too young, all dogs and cats adopted from the shelter are neutered or spayed.

The division conducts a rabies clinic each year during the spring and fall in order to enable citizens to vaccinate their pets at cost. The division also conducts public education programs such as rabies awareness and proper animal care/treatment in the public schools and at special events.

### ***Animal Control Volunteer Program***

Participation in the Animal Control Volunteer Program supports the division's efforts in the safe and efficient operation of the Animal Shelter with the ultimate goal of humane treatment and care for animals. To accomplish this goal, the division is committed to effectively utilizing properly trained volunteer resources.



# COURTS AND CIVIL PROCESS DIVISION

CAPTAIN E. PECK

## 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♦ In CY21, the Courts Division continued to handle high profile and security sensitive trials without incident.
- ♦ In CY21, the Courts, Civil Process, and Warrants Division maintained an outstanding record without any notable complaints and a professional division with increased productivity.
- ♦ In CY21, The Courts Division worked closely with Spotsylvania County Public Works and Edifice along with other subcontractors on the expansion project currently in progress. The project will increase the efficiency of the courts system allowing for a second General District Courtroom and a third and fourth Juvenile and Domestic Courtroom. Also included in the project are capabilities for two additional courtrooms for future expansions and upgrades.



## ***Court Security***

The Courts, Civil Process and Warrants Division provide law enforcement services to the citizens of the County by serving both civil and criminal papers. They protect and maintain security of the courts operating with-in the County. Court Security has assigned deputies whose responsibilities range from weapon screening and maintaining courtroom decorum and essential public safety as well as law enforcement services. The deputies ensure that the courthouse environments are safe and secure for the judiciary, court support staff and the public. Court security deputies are responsible for the physical protection of the judges, court personnel, attorney's, witnesses, juries and the citizens who have business within the Spotsylvania County Judicial Center. Visitors to all courts may experience a delay upon entering due to the necessity of being screened as they enter any courthouse building.

The Courts Division is also responsible to manage the transports of prisoners to accommodate respective court dates, emergency custody orders (ECO), and temporary detention orders (TDO). In 2021 this division conducted 418 in state transports, 38 extraditions, and 76 TDO's.

Due to COVID-19, many legal proceedings were changed, continued, or modified. The Courts division processed 2,740 concealed weapons permits.

## ***Civil Process and Warrants***

The Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office is responsible for serving warrants and all civil process documents as directed through the courts system. These papers include, but are not limited to, subpoenas, notices, orders, criminal warrants and summonses for both civil and criminal cases, they are also responsible for the execution of evictions, levies, seizures and public auctions. There was a total of 30,089 documents served from January 1 through October 25, 2021.

The Civil Process Unit is also responsible for processing the Counties distress warrants for the County Treasurer, to those who owe back taxes. This Unit served 66 warrants, recovering \$252,526.58 in delinquent taxes during 2021.

The Criminal Warrants Unit processed 9,123 warrants for the Sheriff's Office for calendar year 2021. The warrants personnel conduct research, code, verify, record, and make entries into the National Criminal Crime Center (NCIC) and the Virginia Crime Information Network (VCIN). This Unit also assists in the coordination and completion of audits conducted by the FBI and Virginia State Police.

# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

CAPTAIN C. CAREY

## 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♦ Reviewed 164 applications for employment and successfully hired 26
- ♦ Processed 4,000 items in evidence with 41,415 items in inventory
- ♦ Worked with the Federal Trade Commission to disseminate information to citizens regarding different types of scams and identity theft
- ♦ Provided four RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) classes to citizens
- ♦ Provided over 200 meals to local families in the County
- ♦ Hosted monthly meetings for Neighborhood Watch & Apartment Watch and established Spotsylvania County Church Watch
- ♦ Collected 943 pounds of drugs and 314 pounds of sharps during the National Drug Take Back Program
- ♦ Provided approximately 20,000 pounds of food for the Food Bank Program
- ♦ Assisted the food bank with distribution of 61,488 pounds of food and supplies
- ♦ Served 540 children, 89 teenagers, and 87 senior citizens during Operation Blue Christmas
- ♦ Provided school supplies for School Resource Officers for their Back to School Drive
- ♦ Received \$375,858 in new grant awards





itive relationship with the Regional Training Academy and coordinates basic and advanced level instructors for law enforcement training.

- ♦ ***Crime Prevention***—The Crime Prevention Unit offers valuable programs, lectures, displays, seminars, crime prevention and safety tips to all citizens and community groups. The Unit coordinates or participates in the following community programs: Crime Solvers, Crime Council, Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, Apartment Watch, Citizen Advisory Board, Special Olympics, and TRIAD.
- ♦ ***Evidence and Property***—The Evidence and Property function maintains a safe and efficient storage and retrieval system for evidence and other valuable items that are in the custody of the Sheriff's Office. The Evidence Custodian ensures that the proper chain of custody is accurately documented for evidence presentation and admittance in court.
- ♦ ***Recruitment and Hiring***—The recruitment and hiring function is responsible for recruiting, processing and forwarding recommendations of the best qualified candidates to the Sheriff for his review and selection. The Sheriff's Office conducts a regimented, rigorous selection process which affords equal opportunity to every applicant regardless of race, creed, color, gender, national origin or age. All applicants are required to meet the minimum qualifications at each stage of the process.
- ♦ ***VIPS*** —The VIPS (Volunteer in Police Services) Program provides support and resources for agencies interested in developing or enhancing a volunteer program and for citizens who wish to volunteer their time and skills with a community law enforcement agency. The program's ultimate goal is to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers.

Under the direction of Sheriff Harris, the Administrative Services Division (ASD) was established in January 2012. The division strives to offer education, safety programs, and events that bring the community together. Sheriff Harris believes that a safe, effective community is achieved through teamwork between the Sheriff's Office and citizens. The division is responsible for the following functions:

- ♦ ***Training***—Training is an integral part of any effective law enforcement agency. The training coordinator ensures that all employees maintain their state required in-service hours, retains a pos-



In addition to the above functions, this division is also responsible for the promotional processes, awards ceremony, equipment and uniform ordering, issuance, and inventory, grant administration, vehicle fleet, and accreditation.



# EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

BECKY SKEBO

## 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♦ Answered 53,378 emergency and 141,562 non-emergency telephone calls
- ♦ Of the 194,940 calls answered in 2021 we dispatched 113,735 calls for service for the Sheriff's Office, 22,847 for Fire/Rescue, and 429 Crime Solver Tips.
- ♦ Processed 204 text-to-911 interactions
- ♦ Implemented career development for emergency communication center personnel
- ♦ Implemented new public safety computer aided dispatch (CAD) system
- ♦ Implemented ProQA software (medical and fire pre-arrival instructions) integrated within our CAD system
- ♦ Outfitted each dispatch console with new computer equipment
- ♦ Organized, planned and prepared for NG911 technology to be implemented in spring of 2022

The Emergency Communications Center (ECC) is staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The ECC is responsible for answering all 911 calls for the County, as well as the administrative numbers for the Sheriff's Office. The ECC provides radio communication services for the Sheriff's Office, the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management, the Spotsylvania Volunteer Fire Department and the Spotsylvania Volunteer Rescue Squad. Our staff consists of professional, trained employees that provide rapid and convenient access to public safety for the citizens of this community and those passing through.



# AUXILIARY DIVISION

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Article 4, §15.2-1731 of the Virginia State Code provides for the establishment of an auxiliary (or reserve) police force. All members of the Sheriff's Office auxiliary force shall have the same power and authority as the regular police force, provided that each auxiliary deputy has met the training requirements of a law enforcement officer. As such, the Sheriff's Office shall equip each auxiliary deputy in the identical manner as a regular deputy sheriff and supply basic, advanced and ongoing training to all auxiliary deputies. All auxiliary deputies must satisfy the minimum requirements for the contribution of on-duty time of forty-eight hours per quarter, which averages to sixteen hours per month.

The auxiliary deputy shall be bound by the rules, regulations, policies and directives of the Sheriff's Office and shall be issued a copy of the same. When on duty, the auxiliary officer shall carry out the full responsibilities of a sworn deputy without limitations, except as provided by code or statute. The auxiliary deputy shall obey the lawful orders of those appointed over him or her.

In 2012, Sheriff Harris reestablished an auxiliary force. The office currently has three sworn auxiliary members. This will allow for a minimum of four hundred and thirty-two hours every quarter of patrol and assistance at no salary cost to the community. These individuals are committed to serving their community and are a true asset to the office.

# ACCREDITATION

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

***“Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction and skillful execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives.”***

***—Will A. Foster***

The Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office has been accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) since 2006. VLEPSC was established to provide law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth with an avenue for demonstrating that they meet commonly accepted standards for effective and efficient agency operation.

VLEPSC has four sections of standards: administration, operations, personnel, and training. The entire Sheriff's Office must meet elements of each of these standards and provide proof of adherence to them on an annual basis. However, the primary responsibility for accreditation falls upon the Administrative Services Division to ensure that the process and its deadlines are met. Re-accreditation, or inspection, of a law enforcement agency participating in the VLEPSC program occurs every four (4) years. Each re-accreditation team consists of three (3) VLEPSC members which are not routinely associated with the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office. These members are VLEPSC certified assessors and master assessors, with one of the participating members acting as a team leader. This team leader then directly reports to the VLEPSC Program Accreditation Manager on the status of the participating agency and generates a report to be presented to the Executive Board (consisting of active Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police) prior to receiving a re-accredited certification. The Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office underwent an intense inspection on November 14, 2018 and was presented their re-accreditation on January 24, 2019 by the Executive Board. Upon receipt of the accreditation award, a new accreditation term begins and remains in effect until the next re-accreditation inspection is conducted. Currently, the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office is in their fourth term of accreditation and is scheduled to under-go a re-accreditation inspection in September 2022.

# IN MEMORIAM

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



### **DETECTIVE RICHARD SAMUELS**

*END OF WATCH SEPTEMBER 22, 1988*

While waiting to testify at a trial, a prisoner broke free of other deputies and fled the Courthouse area. Detective Samuels chased the prisoner who was running towards a neighboring elementary school. During the pursuit, Detective Samuels suffered a fatal heart attack. Other deputies apprehended the suspect inside of the school. At the time of his death, Detective Samuels was survived by his wife, son, and daughter.



### **DEPUTY DEAN RIDINGS**

*END OF WATCH JUNE 19, 2010*

Deputy Ridings was conducting marine patrol on Lake Anna with another deputy when their boat was struck by a large wake causing it to turn sideways. Deputy Ridings hit his head and his partner was thrown overboard. Other boaters assisted his partner out of the water and back into the boat. Upon returning to shore, both deputies were transported to the hospital where Deputy Ridings succumbed to his injuries. At the time of his death, Deputy Ridings was survived by his wife, two sons, and three grandchildren. Both of Deputy Ridings' sons serve as deputies with the Sheriff's Office.



### **DEPUTY BRYAN BERGER**

*END OF WATCH APRIL 28, 2014*

Deputy Berger suffered a fatal heart attack while participating in physical training exercises. He was warming up for officer survival exercises when he became ill and collapsed. He was transported to the hospital but doctors were unable to revive him. Prior to being a deputy, he worked for the Sheriff's Office as a dispatcher. At the time of his death, Deputy Berger was survived by his wife and parents.

# CRIME FACTORS

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Whenever reviewing crime statistics, please remember that there are numerous factors that influence or contribute to crime. The list below is a partial listing of some of the factors that may contribute to crime.

- ♦ Population density and degree of urbanization
- ♦ Variations in composition of the population, particularly youth concentration
- ♦ Stability of the population with respect to residents; mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors
- ♦ Economic conditions, including median income, poverty level, and job availability
- ♦ Modes of transportation and highway systems
- ♦ Cultural factors and educational, recreational, and religious characteristics
- ♦ Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness
- ♦ Climate
- ♦ Effective strength of law enforcement agencies
- ♦ Administrative and investigative emphases on law enforcement
- ♦ Policies of other components of the criminal justice system (i.e., prosecutorial, judicial, correctional, and probational
- ♦ Citizens' attitudes toward crime; and
- ♦ Crime reporting practices of citizens.

Source: United States. Richmond, Virginia. Department of State Police. Virginia Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Colonel W. Steven Flaherty. *2020 Crime in Virginia*. Print.

# GROUP A OFFENSES/ARRESTS

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Several offenses may occur in a single criminal incident. The most serious criminal offenses are designated as Group “A” while less serious offenses are designated as Group “B”. Group “A” offenses consist of twenty-two categories of crimes involving fifty-one different offenses. In 2020 Spotsylvania County had 116 Group A offenses which were categorized as Part 1 Violent Crimes. Part 1 Violent Crimes consist of murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. The information below also includes data from those incidents that the Virginia State Police responded to in 2020.

### ***Group A Crimes Against The Person***

*Murder / Non-negligent Manslaughter  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Kidnapping / Abduction  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Forcible Rape & Other Forcible Offenses  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Aggravated Assault & Simple Assault/Intimidation  
5 Offenses Reported (2020)  
2 Arrest (2020)*

*Non-forcible Sex Offenses  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)*

### ***Group A Crimes Against Society***

*Drug/ Narcotic Offenses  
15 Offenses Reported (2020)  
13 Arrest (2020)*

*Pornography  
12 Offenses Reported (2020)  
2 Arrest (2020)*

*Gambling  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Prostitution  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Weapon Law Violation  
15 Offenses Reported (2020)  
2 Arrest (2020)*

Source: United States. Richmond, Virginia. Department of State Police. Virginia Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Colonel W. Steven Flaherty. 2020 *Crime in Virginia*. Print.

# GROUP A OFFENSES/ARRESTS

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

### *Group A Crimes Against Property*

*Robbery*  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)

*Counterfeiting/Forgery*  
2 Offenses Reported (2020)  
2 Arrest (2020)

*Arson*  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)

*Fraud*  
Offenses Reported  
Arrest

*Extortion / Blackmail*  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)

*Embezzlement*  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)

*Burglary*  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)

*Stolen Property*  
3 Offenses Reported (2020)  
1 Arrest (2020)

*Larceny*  
5 Offenses Reported (2020)  
1 Arrest (2020)

*Destruction / Damage / Vandalism* 3  
Offenses Reported (2020)  
1 Arrest (2020)

*Motor Vehicle Theft*  
3 Offenses Reported (2020)  
1 Arrest (2020)

*Bribery*  
0 Offenses Reported (2020)  
0 Arrest (2020)

*Impersonation & ID Theft*  
8 Offenses Reported (2020)  
2 Arrest (2020)

*False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence  
Game*  
45 Offenses Reported (2020)  
9 Arrest (2020)

Source:United States. Richmond, Virginia. Department of State Police. Virginia Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Colonel W. Steven Flaherty. 2020 *Crime in Virginia*. Print.

# GROUP B ARRESTS

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## *Group B Arrests by Offense*

*Bad Checks  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Non-Forcible Family  
Offenses 0 Arrest (2020)*

*Curfew/ Loitering/ Vagrancy  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Liquor Law Violations  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Disorderly Conduct  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Peeping Tom  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Driving Under the Influence  
48 Arrest (2020)*

*Trespass of Real Property  
0 Arrest (2020)*

*Drunkenness  
4 Arrest (2020)*

*All Other (except Traffic)  
2 Arrest (2020)*

Source: United States. Richmond, Virginia. Department of State Police. Virginia Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Colonel W. Steven Flaherty. 2020. Crime in Virginia. Print.

# 2021 BUDGET INFORMATION

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### Sheriff

|   | FY 2020<br>Amended  | FY 2020<br>Actuals  | FY 2021<br>Adopted  | FY 2021<br>Amended  | FY 2022<br>Adopted  |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>REVENUES: (department specific)</b>          |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| State Compensation Board                        | \$3,802,233         | \$3,643,731         | \$3,802,233         | \$3,849,061         | \$3,798,768         |
| E-911 Taxes                                     | \$1,347,737         | \$1,347,737         | \$1,347,737         | \$1,347,737         | \$1,347,737         |
| County Court Fines                              | \$400,000           | \$248,427           | \$400,000           | \$400,000           | \$375,000           |
| Animal Shelter Fees                             | \$199,104           | \$191,778           | \$206,000           | \$206,000           | \$207,600           |
| Sheriff Local Services                          | \$275,000           | \$365,906           | \$300,000           | \$300,000           | \$300,000           |
| Wireless E-911 Surcharge                        | \$355,000           | \$408,290           | \$355,000           | \$355,000           | \$385,000           |
| Courthouse Security Fees (Clk of Crt)           | \$130,000           | \$93,539            | \$130,000           | \$130,000           | \$130,000           |
| Other Sheriff Fees (Chgs for Svcs)              | \$93,000            | \$100,289           | \$95,000            | \$95,000            | \$95,000            |
| Dog Tag Licenses                                | \$43,540            | \$96,181            | \$60,000            | \$60,000            | \$80,000            |
| Grant Revenues                                  | \$533,297           | \$244,513           | \$265,179           | \$860,895           | \$333,843           |
| Gun Permits                                     | \$17,776            | \$0                 | \$0                 | \$0                 | \$0                 |
| Propane Fuel Refunds                            | \$0                 | \$28,967            | \$0                 | \$0                 | \$0                 |
| Jail Admissions Fee                             | \$16,000            | \$11,296            | \$16,000            | \$16,000            | \$16,000            |
| Reimb Extradition of Prisoners                  | \$10,000            | \$7,018             | \$10,000            | \$10,000            | \$10,000            |
| Rabies Vaccinations                             | \$7,500             | \$3,850             | \$7,500             | \$7,500             | \$7,500             |
| Sheriff's Fees                                  | \$4,099             | \$4,099             | \$4,099             | \$4,099             | \$4,099             |
| Veh Reg Dog/Cat Sterilization                   | \$3,250             | \$3,938             | \$3,250             | \$3,250             | \$4,000             |
| Insurance Claim Revenue                         | \$99,169            | \$84,700            | \$55,000            | \$84,816            | \$55,000            |
| DNA Collection Fee                              | \$1,500             | \$3,656             | \$2,500             | \$2,500             | \$3,500             |
| Solicitor Permits                               | \$1,200             | \$2,180             | \$1,200             | \$1,200             | \$1,200             |
| Towing Application/Inspection Fee               | \$5,000             | \$5,150             | \$5,000             | \$5,000             | \$5,000             |
| Forfeiture/Seizure                              | \$637,100           | \$130,747           | \$105,000           | \$736,873           | \$0                 |
| Sheriff & Animal Control Court<br>Restitution   | \$0                 | \$4,239             | \$0                 | \$0                 | \$0                 |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>                           | <b>\$7,981,505</b>  | <b>\$7,030,231</b>  | <b>\$7,170,698</b>  | <b>\$8,474,931</b>  | <b>\$7,159,247</b>  |
| <b>APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES: (by category)</b> |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Personnel                                       | \$24,617,272        | \$23,370,997        | \$26,540,225        | \$27,548,224        | \$28,262,721        |
| Operating                                       | \$3,311,090         | \$2,283,997         | \$2,863,997         | \$3,668,913         | \$3,101,247         |
| Capital   | \$290,567           | \$249,375           | \$223,933           | \$401,119           | \$176,181           |
| <b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES</b>          | <b>\$28,218,929</b> | <b>\$25,904,369</b> | <b>\$29,628,155</b> | <b>\$31,618,256</b> | <b>\$31,540,149</b> |
| <b>NET TAX SUPPORT</b>                          | <b>\$20,237,424</b> | <b>\$18,874,139</b> | <b>\$22,457,457</b> | <b>\$23,143,325</b> | <b>\$24,380,902</b> |

Source: United States. Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Finance. FY 2022 Adopted Budget. Print.

# STAFFING LEVELS

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

| POSITION                               | FY 2021       | FY 2022       |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Sheriff                                | 1             | 1             |
| Major                                  | 2             | 2             |
| Office Manager I/II                    | 3.63          | 3.63          |
| Records Manager                        | 1             | 1             |
| Records Clerk                          | 2.63          | 2.63          |
| Captain                                | 5             | 5             |
| Lieutenant                             | 5             | 5             |
| First Sergeant                         | 15            | 15            |
| Sergeant                               | 16            | 16            |
| Deputy Sheriff                         | 165.69        | 167.69        |
| Crime Analyst                          | 1.00          | 1.00          |
| Health & Safety Officer (civilian)     | 0             | 1.00          |
| Detective                              | 22.39         | 22.39         |
| Civil Process Clerk                    | 1             | 1             |
| Program Assistant                      | 4.63          | 3.63          |
| Operations Supervisor - CAD Admin/E911 | 0             | 1             |
| Evidence/Property Custodian            | 1             | 1             |
| Parking Enforcement part time          | 1             | 1             |
| Operations Supervisor                  | 1             | 1             |
| Animal Control Officer                 | 8.5           | 8.50          |
| Animal Control Shelter Manager         | 1             | 1             |
| Animal Control Clerk                   | 1             | 1             |
| Animal Control Shelter Assistant       | 7.63          | 7.63          |
| Emergency Communications Manager       | 1             | 1             |
| Criminal Warrants Supervisor           | 1             | 1             |
| Criminal Warrants Clerk                | 2             | 2             |
| Communications Supervisor              | 5             | 5             |
| Communications Officer                 | 21            | 21            |
| Communications Operator                | 11            | 11            |
|  |               |               |
| <b>TOTAL FTEs</b>                      | <b>308.10</b> | <b>311.10</b> |

Full-time equivalents (FTE) reflect full-time and regular part-time positions; excludes seasonal and temporary part-time

Source: United States. Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Finance. *FY 2022 Adopted Budget*. Print.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Sheriff's Office strives to bring to the community the very best in educational and informative family events. We believe in listening and being responsive to the public. Many events such as Coffee with the Sheriff allow for an informal opportunity to meet Sheriff Harris and members of his Command Staff to express their concerns and ask questions. Other events such as National Night Out, Summer Camps and Autism Awareness Day provide opportunities for the community to learn about what our office does and what services we offer. Please see our social media for continuous updated information on what programs we have available. The chart below provides a partial listing of some of the events that we provided in 2021.

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| National Drug Take Back Day                     | April 24, 2021     |
| Special Olympics Torch Run                      | June 11, 2021      |
| Summer Camps                                    | May-July 2021      |
| National Night Out                              | August 3, 2021     |
| Ice Cream With the Sheriff                      | September 8, 2021  |
| Spotsylvania County 300th Celebration           | September 25, 2021 |
| Trunk N Treat                                   | October 30, 2021   |
| Shop with a Cop Seniors                         | December 17, 2021  |
| Shop with a Cop Teen & Operation Blue Christmas | December 18, 2021  |



## COMMENDATION AND COMPLAINTS

### SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Our office strives to serve the citizens of Spotsylvania County, the tourists, the workers and the businesses with excellence. Many of our tasks are daily and routine; however, once in a while a deputy or other Sheriff's Office employee goes above and beyond the call of duty or their work is exceptional enough that someone wishes to express their appreciation. Occasionally, however, we realize that someone will be displeased with an incident or its outcomes. We want to know about those times as well so we can address the actions taken and ensure they were both professional and fair.

Commendations or complaints can be submitted via our website, mailed to us, reported via a call or submitted at our lobby. Contact information for our office can be found on the last page of this Annual Report.



## CONTACT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

### SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Mailing Address</b>  | P.O. Box 124<br>Spotsylvania, VA 22553  |
| <b>Physical Address for the Public Safety Building</b>  | 9119 Dean Ridings Lane<br>Spotsylvania, VA 22553  |
| <b>Physical Address for the Animal Shelter</b>  | 450 TV Drive  |
| <b>Emergency Number</b>   | 911   |
| <b>Main Number for Non-emergency Calls</b> —Non emergency calls are answered 24/7 through the Emergency Communications Center   | 540-507-7200  |
| <b>Main Lobby</b>   | 8:00 am—4:00 pm from Monday-Friday  |
| <b>Website</b> —Contains links for all public information, community outreach, calendar of events, Annual Reports, resources, forms, arrest data and contact information.                   | <a href="http://www.spotsylvaniasheriff.org">www.spotsylvaniasheriff.org</a>  |
| <b>Facebook</b> —Please like us and follow us on Facebook as photographs, video clips and information will keep you informed about what your Sheriff's Office is doing to make a difference | Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office—Roger L. Harris, Sheriff  |
| <b>Twitter</b>  | @spotsysheriff  |
| <b>Instagram</b>  | Spotsysheriff   |
| <b>Crime Analysis Data for Spotsylvania County</b>  | <a href="http://www.crimemapping.com/map/va/spotsylvaniacounty">http://www.crimemapping.com/map/va/spotsylvaniacounty</a>                                     |
| <b>Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minor Registry</b>   | <a href="http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov/sor/">http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov/sor/</a>   |
| <b>Crime in Virginia</b>  | <a href="http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm">http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm</a>   |
| <b>Spotsylvania County Adopted Budgets</b>  | <a href="http://www.spotsylvania.va.us/budget">http://www.spotsylvania.va.us/budget</a>   |
| <b>U.S Census Bureau</b>  | <a href="http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml">http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml</a> |