

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Spotsylvania
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Roger L. Harris

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2023 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Battlefield District	Chris Yakabouski
Berkeley District	Kevin Marshall
Chancellor District	Timothy J. McLaughlin
Courtland District	David Ross, Chairman
Lee Hill District	Lori Hayes
Livingston District	Jacob Lane, Vice Chairman
Salem District	Dr. Deborah H. Frazier

2023 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Clerk of Circuit Court	Christalyn M. Jett
Commissioner of Revenue	Deborah F. Williams
Commonwealth Attorney	Travis D. Bird
Sheriff	Roger L. Harris
Treasurer	Larry Pritchett

2023 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

County Administrator	Ed Petrovitch
Deputy County Administrator	Mark L. Cole

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 UVA Weldon Cooper Center for Public Services. 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 Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office is to provide efficient, quality law enforcement service to all citizens of Spotsylvania County.

This will be achieved through a meaningful and a sustained public partnership which will promote and ensure a safe environment with a focus on mutual trust, integrity, fairness, and professionalism.

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, Business, Worship, and Neighborhood Watch programs continue to flourish and expand. National Night Out increases in size each year. Blue Christmas is on its eleventh year and now serves over 1,000 less fortunate children with toys and clothing, as well as many teenagers and 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 Volunteers 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 many community events, on our Search and Rescue Team, the 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 Lee Harris was born in Stuart, Virginia to Marvin Jackson Harris and Lula Ann Harris. He attended Radford High School and his early interests, which continue to this day, include fishing, classic cars, and street rods.

On October 05, 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 church. Roger and his wife have two children and six grandchildren together.

Roger's passion for a career in law enforcement started at an early age. His dream became reality when he began working for the Fairfax County Police Department. From 1969 to 1989, Roger advanced through the department as a Patrol Officer. He was promoted to Criminal Investigation Services Detective followed by Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Detective, CID Master

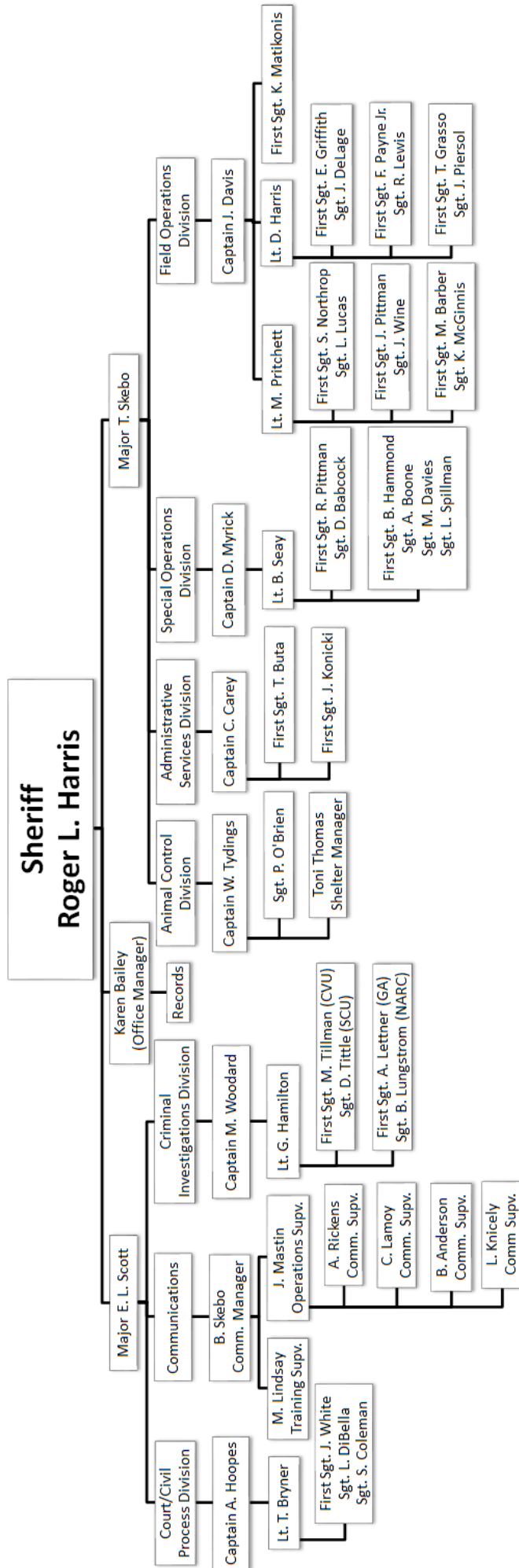
Police Officer, Master Police Officer Detective in the Intelligence Division, Polygraph Examiner, and Polygraph Examiner Supervisor. From 1989 to 1996, Roger served as Coordinator for the Regional Narcotics Task Force under the Spotsylvania County Commonwealth Attorney's Office.

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 01, 2012, Sheriff Harris was sworn into office as the 90th Sheriff for Spotsylvania County. On January 1st of 2016, 2020, and 2024 he was re-sworn into office. His main goal has always been and continues to be to serve the people in his community.

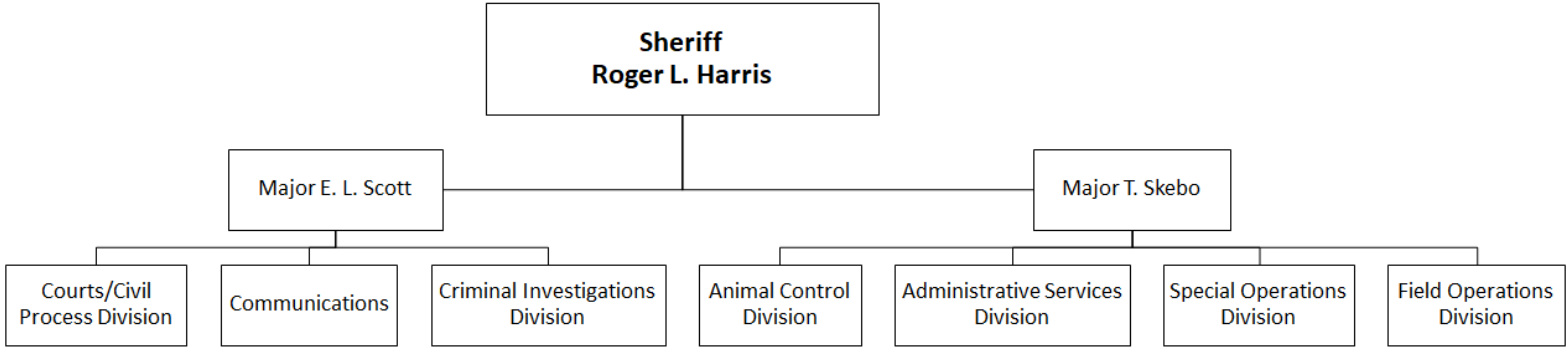
Sheriff Harris' professional affiliations include the Fairfax County Police Association, Virginia Sheriffs' Association, Homicide Investigators Association, Eagles, Fraternal Order of Police, and working with the Sheriffs' Institute. Sheriff Harris has been with the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office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

2023 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
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 enforcement of all State and County animal codes, supervises the operations of the County's animal shelter, and maintains the security of the courts operating within the County.

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

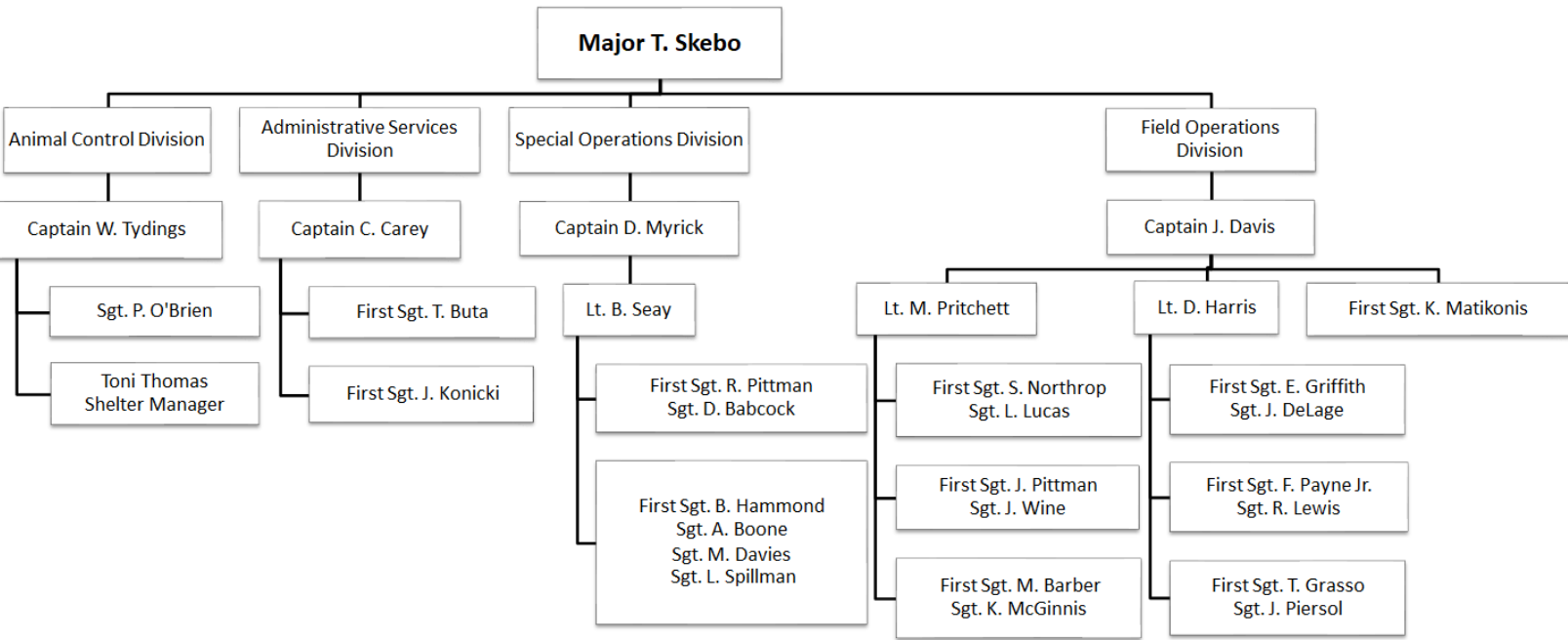
Within these Divisions are additional specialty functions. The Emergency Communications Center is a 24/7 operation that serves as the 911 answering point for calls for service and the dispatching of public safety services. Some of the other specialty functions within the divisions are: Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), K9 Unit, Ground Search and Rescue Team, Street Crimes Unit, Narcotics Unit, Traffic Services Unit, Motor Unit, Crisis Negotiations Team, Marine Patrol Unit, Dive Team, School Resource Unit, Civil Disturbance Unit, Bicycle Team, Drone Team, Honor Guard, and Crime Prevention Unit.

MAJOR TROY SKEBO

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Major Skebo reports directly to Sheriff Harris and is responsible for Animal Control, Administrative Services, 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 in his absence.

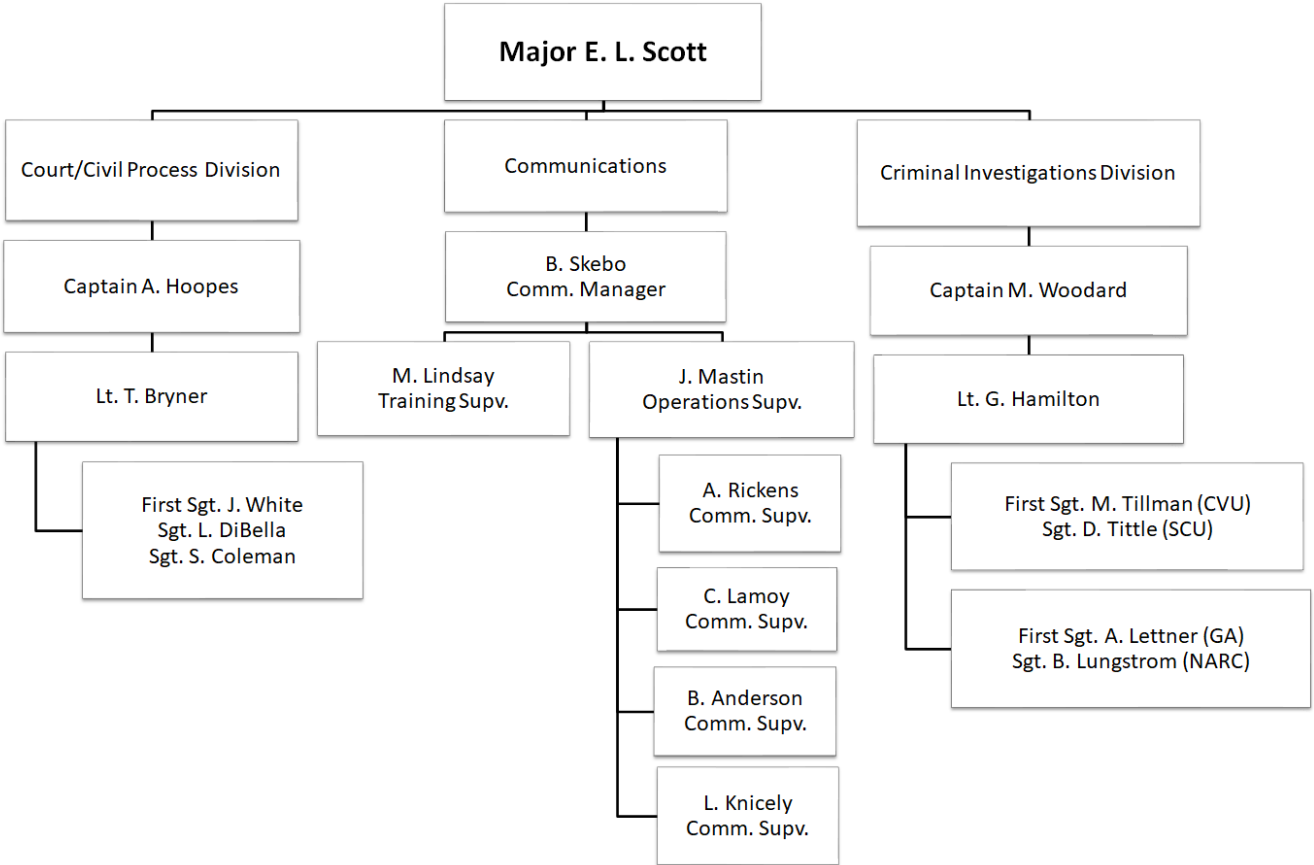
Major Skebo has been in law enforcement for twenty-five years.



MAJOR ELIZABETH SCOTT
SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Major Scott reports directly to Sheriff Harris and is responsible for Courts/Civil Process, Communications, and Criminal Investigations Division. Major Scott is well-versed in all areas of the Sheriff's Office and is able to stand in for the Sheriff in his absence.

Major Scott has been in law enforcement for twenty-seven years.



Field Operations Division Special Operations Division

Field Operations Captain J. Davis
Special Operations Captain D. Myrick

2023 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ CY23 Field Operations and Special Operations handled 118,553 calls for service.
- ◆ CY23 Field Operations and Special Operations worked 5,243 crashes which is up 17% from last year's 4,474 crashes.
- ◆ CY23 Field Operations and Special Operations made 338 DUI/DUID arrests, up 38% from last year's 245 DUI/DUID arrests.
- ◆ FY23 Field Operations and Special Operations worked a total of 32,032 overtime hours with 10,116 hours reimbursed.
- ◆ NARCAN was administered 32 times resulting in 30 lives saved.
- ◆ Project Lifesaver participation is currently 149 clients.





The Field Operations Division and Special Operations Division are dedicated to improving the quality of life for the citizens of Spotsylvania County through a partnership with the Community. These Division's primary objectives are to carry out this partnership through swift response to calls for service and proactive initiatives.

FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION- This Division is divided into two platoons. They operate on a permanent schedule of three, 11.5 hour shifts; days, evenings, and midnights. These two platoons provide first response to calls for service from citizens and preventive patrol through their presence in the County.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION- This Division consists of specialized units to include Traffic Services Unit, School Resource Unit, and Part-Time/Auxiliary Unit.

TRAFFIC SERVICES UNIT- The Traffic Services 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 Virginia State Police (VSP) requested tows. The tow board oversees citizen complaints with regards to Sheriff's Office or VSP tows. 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 conducts annual inspections of all 12 towers and their equipment to ensure they are within required specifications of Spotsylvania County Tow Ordinance.



SCHOOL RESOURCE UNIT- There are currently 31 School Resource Officers (SRO) which includes 16 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 suspect 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 special events, Search and Rescue, Marine Patrol, and help with staffing shortages in patrol.

In addition to the Field Operations Division, the Special Operations Division provides other vital specialty and support units within the Office. 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.
- ◆ ***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.
- ◆ ***K9 Unit-*** This unit was established in 1974 and currently consists of eight canines and eight handlers. The K9 Unit is a full-time continuously operating unit within the patrol division. The unit consists of canines trained in the areas of patrol/narcotics detection, electric storage detection, and missing persons. The canine breeds vary ranging from German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Bloodhound, and Yellow Labrador. 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 and 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.
- ◆ **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 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.
- ◆ **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 boating under the influence (BUI) 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 Coast Guard Auxiliary, 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.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID)

CAPTAIN M. WOODARD

2023 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ 24 full time-detectives and 2 part-time detectives collectively worked 1,494 cases.
- ◆ Seized \$58,931.00, approximately 1oz of heroin, 1oz of methamphetamine, and a firearm from one narcotics incident.
- ◆ Seized 115 firearms used in the commission of a crime.
- ◆ Investigated 7 homicides.

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 other body fluids, hair, fiber, paint chips, glass fragments, fire accelerants, soils, firearms, documents, fingerprints, 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

2023 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Live release rate was 92%.
- ◆ The shelter received 8,231 visitors with 712 customer adoptions and 346 rescue group transfer adoptions.
- ◆ Animal Control Deputies responded to a total of 11,832 calls for service within Spotsylvania County and the City of Fredericksburg.
- ◆ Conducted 23 public education programs.

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 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 fall in order to enable citizens to vaccinate their pets at a low 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 A. HOOPES

2023 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ In CY23, the Courts Division continued to handle high profile and security sensitive trials without incident.
- ◆ In CY23, the Courts, Civil Process, and Warrants Division maintained an outstanding record without any notable complaints and a professional division with increased productivity.
- ◆ In CY23, the Courts Division successfully completed upgrades to Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Clerk's Office.



Court Security

The Courts, Civil Process, and Warrants Division provides 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 within the County. Court Security has assigned deputies whose responsibilities range from weapon screening, 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 transport of prisoners to accommodate respective court dates, emergency custody orders (ECO), and temporary detention orders (TDO). In 2023, this division conducted 738 state transports, 45 extraditions, and 58 ECO/TDO's.

The Courts Division processed 3,227 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 41,684 civil documents served in 2023.

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 32 warrants, recovering \$159,577.92 in delinquent taxes during 2023.

The Criminal Warrants Unit processed 10,934 warrants for the Sheriff's Office for calendar year 2023. 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

2023 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Reviewed and successfully hired 23 applicants.
- ◆ Processed approximately 4,500 items in evidence.
- ◆ Worked with the Federal Trade Commission to disseminate information to citizens regarding different types of scams and identity theft.
- ◆ Provided 5 RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) classes to citizens.
- ◆ Hosted monthly meetings for Neighborhood Watch, Apartment Watch, Business Watch, and Worship Watch.
- ◆ Collected 843.38 pounds of drugs and 284 pounds of sharps during the National Drug Take Back Program.
- ◆ Provided 10,854 pounds of food for the Food Bank Program.
- ◆ Served 772 children, 91 teenagers, and 91 senior citizens during Operation Blue Christmas.
- ◆ Provided school supplies for School Resource Officers for their Back to School Drive.
- ◆ Received \$679,393.00 in new grant awards.





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:

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

- ◆ **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 positive 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, Worship Watch, Citizen Advisory Board, Special Olympics, and TRIAD.
- ◆ **Evidence and Property-** The Evidence and Property function maintains a safe, 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.



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



EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

BECKY SKEBO

2023 NOTABLE EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Answered 57,105 emergency and 122,605 non-emergency telephone calls.
- ◆ Of the 179,710 calls answered in 2023, we dispatched 118,553 calls for service for the Sheriff's Office, 21,652 for Fire/Rescue, and 585 Crime Solver Tips.
- ◆ Processed 147 text-to-911 interactions.
- ◆ Implemented Marcus Alert policy and procedures to provide a response to behavioral health emergencies.
- ◆ Upgraded dispatch radio equipment to have more functionality and feasibility with all radio channels.
- ◆ Upgraded our continuity and redundancy network/internet connectivity within the 911 center.

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, Department of Fire Rescue and Emergency Management, Spotsylvania Volunteer Fire Department, and 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

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.

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 one (1) sworn auxiliary member. This individual provides assistance at no salary cost to the community and is 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 from November 15, 2022 - November 17, 2022 and was presented with our re-accreditation on December 01, 2022 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 our fifth term of accreditation and is scheduled to under-go a re-accreditation inspection in November 2026.

IN MEMORIAM

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



DETECTIVE RICHARD SAMUELS

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

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

Deputy Berger suffered a fatal heat 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;
- ◆ Population variations in composition and stability;
- ◆ Economic conditions, including median income, poverty level, and employment availability;
- ◆ Cultural factors, education, and religious characteristics;
- ◆ Family cohesiveness;
- ◆ Climate, including seasonal weather conditions;
- ◆ Effective strength of the police force;
- ◆ Administrative and investigative efficiency of police agencies;
- ◆ The organization and cooperation of adjoining and overlapping police jurisdictions;
- ◆ Attitudes and policies of the courts, prosecutors and corrections;
- ◆ Citizen attitudes toward crime and police;
- ◆ Crime reporting practices of citizens.

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”. In 2023, Spotsylvania County had 1,188 Group A arrests which were categorized as Part 1 Violent Crimes. These crimes consist of murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft.

Group A Crimes Against Persons

*Non-Fatal Manslaughter
Arrests (202)*

*Negligent Manslaughter
Arrests (202)*

*Intimidation
Arrests (202)*

*Attorney's Fees
Arrests (202)*

*Aggravated Assault
Arrests*

*Animal Cruelty
Arrests*

Group A Crimes Against Society

*Drug/Narcotic/Drug Equipment Violations
Arrests (202)*

*Pornography
Arrests (202)*

*Gambling
0 Arrest (202)*

*Prostitution
Arrests (202)*

*Weapon Law Violation
Arrests (202)*

*Animal Cruelty
Arrests (202)*

GROUP A OFFENSES/ARRESTS

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Group A Crimes Against Property

<i>o sts</i>	<i>Counterfeiting/ o 12 sts (202)</i>
<i>son st</i>	<i>Credit Card/Automatic Teller a Arrests (202)</i>
<i>to tion la ail sts</i>	<i>Embezzlement Arrests (202)</i>
<i>la a in nt in sts</i>	<i>tol n o t Arrests (202)</i>
<i>a n sts</i>	<i>Destruction/Damage/Vandalism Arrests (202)</i>
<i>oto V i l t sts</i>	<i>Hacking/Computer Invasion Arrests (202)</i>
<i>sonation t sts</i>	<i>Pocket-Picking/Purse Snatching Arrests (202)</i>
<i>o li tin sts</i>	<i>als t ns s in l on i n a sts</i>
<i>i st</i>	<i>la a i a st</i>

GROUP B ARRESTS

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Group B Arrests by Offense

<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>	<i>Non-Violent Family Offenses Arrests (202)</i>
<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>	<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>
<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>	<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>
<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>	<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>
<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>	<i>Domestic Violence Arrests (202)</i>

2023 BUDGET INFORMATION

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff

	FY 2022 Amended	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2023 Amended	FY 2024 Adopted
REVENUES: (department specific)					
State Compensation Board	\$4,079,735	\$4,171,005	\$4,264,964	\$4,264,964	\$4,264,964
E-911 Taxes	\$1,347,737	\$1,347,737	\$1,347,737	\$1,347,737	\$1,347,737
Grant Revenues	\$886,286	\$311,012	\$337,884	\$789,926	\$451,754
Wireless E-911 Surcharge	\$385,000	\$514,390	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$425,000
Sheriff Local Services	\$300,000	\$393,284	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$360,000
County Court Fines	\$375,000	\$205,873	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000
Animal Shelter Fees	\$207,600	\$186,122	\$215,100	\$215,100	\$215,100
Other Sheriff Fees (Chgs for Svcs)	\$95,000	\$126,599	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$115,000
Courthouse Security Fees (Clk of Court)	\$130,000	\$56,239	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Dog Tag Licenses	\$80,000	\$64,775	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Insurance Claim Revenue	\$114,515	\$135,098	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
Reimb Extradition of Prisoners	\$10,000	\$1,585	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Jail Admissions Fee	\$16,000	\$9,891	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
Rabies Vaccinations	\$7,500	\$4,090	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Towing Application/Inspection Fee	\$5,000	\$4,200	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Sheriff's Fees	\$4,099	\$4,099	\$4,099	\$4,099	\$4,099
Veh Reg Dog/Cat Sterilization	\$4,000	\$4,804	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
DNA Collection Fee	\$3,500	\$3,323	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Solicitor Permits	\$1,200	\$920	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Gun Permits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Propane Fuel Refunds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$57,285	\$0	\$0	\$0
Forfeiture/Seizure	\$651,312	\$48,494	\$0	\$749,723	\$0
Sheriff & Animal Control Court Restitution	\$0	\$3,576	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL REVENUES	\$8,703,484	\$7,654,401	\$7,637,484	\$8,839,249	\$7,751,354
APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES: (by category)					
Personnel	\$30,397,097	\$29,592,876	\$31,642,466	\$32,061,235	\$36,040,669
Operating	\$3,997,593	\$2,958,451	\$3,495,827	\$4,660,570	\$4,061,249
Capital	\$290,601	\$191,294	\$429,263	\$528,272	\$349,330
TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES	\$34,685,291	\$32,742,621	\$35,567,556	\$37,250,077	\$40,451,248
NET TAX SUPPORT	\$25,981,807	\$25,088,220	\$27,930,072	\$28,410,828	\$32,699,894

STAFFING LEVELS

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

POSITION	FY 2023	FY 2024
Sheriff	1	1
Major	2	2
Captain	6	6
Lieutenant	5	5
First Sergeant	14	14
Sergeant	15	21
Deputy Sheriff	176.56	182.56
Detective	27.02	27.02
Emergency Communications Manager	1	1
Operations Supervisor	1	1
Criminal Warrants Supervisor	0	0
Criminal Warrants Clerk	3.5	3.5
Communications Supervisor	6	6
Communications Officer	20.50	20.50
Communications Operator	11	11
Animal Control Shelter Manager	1	1
Animal Control Clerk	1	1
Animal Control Shelter Assistant	7.63	7.63
Crime Analyst	1	1
Health & Safety Officer (Civilian)	1	1
Evidence/Property Custodian	1	1
Civil Process Clerk	1	1
Program Assistant	4.26	4.26
Office Manager I/II	3.63	3.63
Records Manager	1	1
Records Clerk	2.63	2.63
Parking Enforcement Part-Time	1	1
TOTAL FTEs	315.73	327.73

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. 24 o t t. 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 allows for an informal opportunity to meet Sheriff Harris and members of his Command Staff to express concerns and ask questions. Other events such as National Night Out, Summer Camps, and Autism Awareness Day provides 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 listing of some events we provided in 2023.

Coffee with the Sheriff	March 16, 2023
Relay for Life	April 29, 2023
National Drug Take Back Day	April 22, 2023 & October 28, 2023
Autism Awareness	April 29, 2023
Summer Camps	May-August 2023
National Night Out	August 01, 2023
Ice Cream With the Sheriff	September 06, 2023
Trunk-N-Treat	October 28, 2023
Veterans Day Celebration	November 04, 2023
Shop with a Cop Seniors	December 15, 2023
Shop with a Cop Teen & Operation Blue Christmas	December 16, 2023



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

Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 124 Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Physical Address for the Public Safety Building:	9119 Dean Ridings Lane Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Physical Address for the Animal Shelter	450 TV Drive
Emergency Number	911
Main Number for Non-Emergency Calls- Non emergency calls are answered 24/7 through the Emergency Communications Center	(540) 582-7115
Main Lobby	8:00AM - 4:00PM from Monday - Friday
Website- Contains links for all public information, community outreach, Annual Reports, resources, forms, arrest data, and contact information.	www.spotsylvaniasheriff.org
Facebook- 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
X (Twitter)	@spotsysheriff
Instagram	spotsysheriff
Crime Analysis Data for Spotsylvania County	crimemapping.com/map/va/spotsylvaniacounty
Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minor Registry	vpsor.com
Crime in Virginia	vsp.virginia.gov/sections-units-bureaus/bass/criminal-justice-information-services/uniform-crime-reporting
Spotsylvania County Adopted Budgets	spotsylvania.va.us/1851/budget-grants
U.S Census Bureau	census.gov