



The City of
Hopewell, Virginia

Hopewell Police Department
John Keohane, Chief of Police
804-541-2282



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VIRGINIA LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION HONORS THE HOPEWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR ACHIEVING RE-ACCREDITED STATUS

[Hopewell, VA] – The City of Hopewell Police Department has achieved re-accreditation by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) for its commitment to law enforcement excellence as evidenced by their successful completion of the re-certification process for the Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

All accreditation programs are designed to measure and confirm compliance of the participating agency with the professional standards in whatever discipline or profession they are involved. It is one of the only means by which citizens and government leaders can be assured that an agency is maintaining the high performance marks to which the community has a right.

The Hopewell Police Department has demonstrated their commitment to professionalism and their willingness to be measured by and compared to the best in the profession.

The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) overview and benefits statement reads, in part, “Accreditation is a coveted award that symbolizes professionalism, excellence, and competence. Employees will take pride in their agency, knowing that it represents the very best in law enforcement.” “I am honored to accept this recognition on behalf of the men and women of the Police Department for their hard work to reach our re- accreditation goal,” said Chief John Keohane. “Our team has demonstrated a clear devotion to their profession and a willingness to be measured by and compared to our law enforcement peers.”

To obtain accreditation, a law enforcement agency must meet all applicable program standards, maintain their accreditation files on an on-going basis, and provide annual verifications of compliance as required by the Commission. On-site assessments by specially trained program assessors assure consistency and full compliance of all accredited agencies.

“The State Accreditation process ensures that the Police Department policies are of the highest standard and that they are adhering to these policies, said City Manager Mark Haley. This recognition is independent confirmation of the professionalism and high quality of police services we have in the City of Hopewell.”

Mr. Derrick Mays, Department of Criminal Justice Services VLEPSC Program Manager will formally present the second Certification of Accreditation to the City of Hopewell Police Department at City Council meeting scheduled for:

Date: May 23, 2017

Time: 7:30 pm

Where: Municipal Building, City Council Chambers, 300 N. Main Street

A listing of the VLEPSC program criteria is available on the DCJS website at www.dcjs.virginia.gov.



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