

PUBLIC SAFETY

Division of Police

Description

The Division responds to citizen complaints, provides patrol coverage, enforces traffic laws, investigates criminal activity, and provides educational programs on such topics as drug awareness and crime prevention. In addition, the Division conducts crime analysis, investigates animal complaints, operates citizen police academies, and provides emergency communications for the County.

Objectives

- To minimize the occurrence of preventable crime, with the public's assistance.
- To minimize disorder resulting from interpersonal conflicts, personal stress, and disorganization subsequent to police intervention.
- To maximize the level and quality of those police services provided to the community and/or governmental agencies, which are authorized, required or necessary by Federal, State, or local statutes.
- To maximize police knowledge of crime; successfully clear reported crimes; maximize adherence to constitutional safeguards; present all relevant facts to prosecutors; participate as required in the judicial process; and recover and return crime-related and stolen property.
- To maximize the safe and smooth flow of vehicular and pedestrian movement in the County with minimum loss of life, limb and property.
- To maximize the internal integrity, competence and general leadership to the public in the areas of law enforcement and public safety; to work cooperatively with other units of local government and other segments of the criminal justice system; and to ensure efficient and effective operation of all police functions.
- To protect the public from dangerous, wandering and unruly animals.

Annual Fiscal Plan

| <u>Description</u> | <u>FY08 Actual</u> | <u>FY09 Original</u> | <u>FY10 Approved</u> | <u>Change 09 to 10</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Personnel | \$ 56,133,620 | \$ 56,341,875 | \$ 56,442,543 | 0.2% |
| Operation | 6,393,807 | 6,554,766 | 6,999,865 | 6.8% |
| Capital | 3,503,429 | 3,237,954 | 3,137,115 | (3.1%) |
| Total | <u>\$ 66,030,856</u> | <u>\$ 66,134,595</u> | <u>\$ 66,579,523</u> | <u>0.7%</u> |
| Personnel Complement* | 810 | 813 | 799 | (14) |

*Complement includes fourteen complement II positions funded by State revenue (Wireless E-911 funds). A total of fourteen Police Support Technician III positions were transferred to the Sheriff's Office during FY2008-09.

Police (cont'd)

| | Performance Measures | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| | FY08 | FY09 | FY10 | Change 09 to 10 |
| Workload Measures | | | | |
| Number of Calls for Service | 205,147 | 209,249 | 213,433 | 4,184 |
| Number of Animal Calls | 19,064 | 19,445 | 19,833 | 388 |
| Number of Part I Crimes | 10,866 | 11,083 | 11,304 | 221 |
| Number of Criminal Arrests | 23,150 | 23,613 | 24,085 | 472 |
| Number of Traffic Arrests | 48,236 | 49,200 | 50,184 | 984 |

Budget Highlights

The FY2009-10 approved budget for the Division of Police is \$66,579,523, which represents an overall net increase of \$444,928 or 0.7 percent over the FY2008-09 approved budget. The personnel component increased by a net difference of \$100,668 or 0.2 percent, from the previous approved fiscal year. This increase was driven primarily by rising health care expenditures. It is important to note that fourteen Police Support Technician III positions were transferred to the Sheriff's Office during FY2008-09, which decreased the personnel budget by \$720,824. In addition, three Communications Officers were transferred from the General Fund to the Special Revenue Fund to support the Wireless E-911 effort, decreasing the personnel budget by \$161,475. Also, overtime was increased by \$150,000. In total, the personnel component of the budget represents 84.8 percent of the total Police budget for FY2009-10.

The Division's operating budget totals \$6,999,865 and represents 10.5 percent of the Division's total budget. This component increased by a net difference of \$445,099 or 6.8 percent from the previous approved budget. Operating adjustments to this component include an increase in gasoline totaling \$861,148, forecasted Central Automotive Maintenance rental charges of \$14,050, an overall electricity increase of \$11,382, and a rental increase of \$9,217 for two leased facilities. These increases were offset by reductions in the operating component totaling \$445,087, which impacted various discretionary accounts, airtime for mobile computers, and reflects a County-wide adjustment in technology replacement.

While the operating component was a driver of the increase, capital outlay experienced a reduction. The capital component of the budget totals \$3,137,115 and decreased by \$100,839 or 3.1 percent from the

previous approved fiscal year. This decrease was driven by a reduction of \$105,450, which represented one-time funding in the FY2008-09 budget to provide for capital costs associated with three new School Resource Officers.

During 2006, the Division converted to a new patrol operations organizational structure. The new structure incorporated the utilization of stations within specific geographical areas of the County. Under the new structure, the Command Staff Officer responsible for each station has direct responsibility for addressing crime prevention and crime reduction strategies within the communities served by the station. Currently, the Division has three stations. The Fair Oaks Station serves the southern area of the County. The Central and West Stations currently operate out of the Public Safety Building, and it is possible that the Central Station eventually will be relocated to one of the primary corridors served by the station. The Division's long range plan anticipates that a fourth and fifth station may be needed as the southern area of the County becomes more populated. The application of the station philosophy to police operations augmented the Division's ability to address crime responsibly and quickly. This method of operation also improved communications with staff to ensure the Division is tackling criminal activity occurring throughout the County.

The Division of Police continues its long tradition of implementing new and creative initiatives and programs to benefit the County's citizens. There are joint programs with Henrico County Public Schools, which help students develop into upstanding law abiding citizens. If students learn to obey the law, then the chances of him or her breaking the law as an adult are reduced.

Police (cont'd)

Another example of a joint program is ROPE, Repeat Offender Program Experiment that was created in conjunction with the Commonwealth's Attorney. This program was created to identify career criminals and seek revocation of suspended jail time through the judicial system.

The community policing initiative "Operation Lion Share" is a partnership between the Division of Police and Food Lion stores in Eastern Henrico. The initiative provides timely crime prevention tips and information to citizens using displays located in four Food Lion stores in Eastern Henrico. These displays also provide recruitment brochures for people interested in a career in law enforcement.

Another on-going initiative of the Division of Police is recertification of the County of Henrico as a Crime Prevention Community. In December 2007, the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services voted to recertify the County of Henrico as a Crime Prevention Community. The County is one of fourteen localities within the Commonwealth of Virginia that has met the necessary criteria to become certified. The County of Henrico received its initial certification in October 2003. The Division of Police is responsible for the completion of this program. A team of twenty-two individuals from the Division of Police and six other County agencies - the Henrico County Public Schools, Victim/Witness Services, Mental Health/Mental Retardation, Social Services, Juvenile Probation, and Community Maintenance - worked over seven months, putting in hundreds of hours, to obtain this recertification.

The Division placed second in the nation for the International Association of Chiefs of Police traffic initiative, the National Law Enforcement Challenge. The Division competes each year with agencies of similar size from across the country to determine which police departments have done the best job of not only conducting enforcement activities, but also activities related to policy and procedures, prevention and education, and training. The program also looks at the Division's efforts and the results of those efforts on fatality and injury crashes within the County.

The Division was reaccredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission in

2007. In addition, the Division was reaccredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 2008.

The Division of Police in conjunction with the Henrico Neighborhood Watch Council created a Community Resource Guide, which is a step by step manual to assist residents in the resolution of neighborhood problems which affect their everyday life. The goal of the guide is to empower citizens to quickly and effectively resolve neighborhood problems. The Community Resource Guide is available on the Police website - www.co.henrico.va.us/police/. Also available on the website is publicly available data on incident crime reports, calls for service reports and arrests reports for the most recent thirteen month period. The website provides a means for the County's citizens to easily access public safety information.

After recognizing problems encountered by young drivers, the Division of Police and the Henrico County Schools jointly developed a program, which is a first of its kind in the nation, to teach students how to react in an off-road correction and obstacle avoidance situation. The program is a one day supplement to the current driver's education program offered through Henrico County Public Schools. The supplemental program is taught at the Public Safety driving range, which is equipped to teach these skills in a realistic setting.

The Division continues to work diligently to make enhancements to recruit new officers as well as retain existing officers. The Division assigned additional personnel to the Recruiting Office including a staff officer to coordinate and assimilate recruitment practices. New publications and recruiting trips have been accomplished and will continue to be scheduled to tap all potential applicant pools. The additional efforts placed on recruiting new Police Officer applications has proven to be beneficial as the Division is seeing a larger number of individuals being employed by the Division of Police to fill vacancies.

In FY2007-08, the Division initiated a program to provide mobile radios in all police vehicles. These mobile radios will enhance officer safety and allow greater interoperability with Hanover County's new emergency communications network. These mobile

Police (cont'd)

radios are the latest technology and most recent generation of radios for use in a trunked 800 Mhz radio system. In addition, the installation of the mobile radios will provide emergency communication abilities in the event the officer's portable radio is disabled or inoperable. This program is being phased in over multiple fiscal years and funding of \$414,541 is included in the existing budget to continue this important program.

The number of E-911 calls the County's Emergency Communication Center receives from cellular (wireless) telephones continues to increase. The County's Emergency Communication Center began receiving these calls in June of 2000. Prior to June 2000, the State Police answered these calls, however legislation was enacted mandating localities answer these calls. Also in the communications area, the County continues to enhance the ability of the Computer Aided Dispatch system to use features of the County's Geographical Information System (GIS). These improvements allow communications officers to provide police officers and fire officials with more detailed information about the location of the call for service.

The Division outfits all officers with a Mobile Data Computer (MDC). The MDC is considered standard equipment for all officers. The Division currently has 603 of these semi-ruggedized units. The County began the program in December 1997, and since that time, through the use of the County's Technology Replacement Fund, these units have been systematically replaced on a regularly scheduled basis. By regularly upgrading the MDC, officers on the street are able to take advantage of up-to-date technology while performing their duties. The MDC provide officers with access to a vast amount of information from their patrol cars including access to warrants, arrests, and incident reports, as well as links to State and National Crime databases. Officers also receive call for service information, which is relayed through the radio system, on their MDC. These units are equipped with the County's GIS software, giving the officers increased access to maps and aerial photos to assist them in responding to calls for service.

The Division of Police's FY2009-10 budget includes continued funding for the police vehicle replacement

program. This program began in FY2000-01 with funding to replace 75 vehicles annually. The program was expanded in FY2004-05 to include funding for the replacement of approximately 84 vehicles annually. This enhancement was due to an acceleration of the take home vehicle program. The program received additional funding in FY2006-07 to cover the increased cost to outfit a police vehicle. In FY2007-08, the program was increased to fund the replacement of approximately 94 vehicles annually. In FY2008-09, the program was expanded to include the replacement of approximately 108 vehicles annually due to another enhancement in the take home vehicle program. The total cost of the program in the FY2009-10 budget remains constant at \$2,574,800.

In FY2007-08, the Division began converting to digital cameras to collect and store photography evidence. Digital photography is acceptable as evidence in criminal cases as long as chain of custody and documentation showing the images have not been altered can be provided to the courts. Using digital cameras enhance the quality of images and allow instant viewing and verification of images. The conversion to digital cameras began with the purchase of digital cameras for the forensic unit as well as computer hardware to store the digital photographs and software that is used to provide the necessary chain of custody documentation. By the end of FY2008-09, all sworn officers within the Division of Police will be equipped with a digital camera.

The Division of Police complement totals 799 in FY2009-10. This complement reflects the reduction of fourteen Police Support Technician III positions, which were transferred to the Sheriff's Office during FY2008-09. One of the Division's top priorities is maintaining the appropriate level of patrol officers, investigators, and command staff. Included in the FY2009-10 Police Complement of 799 are fourteen Communication Officer positions, whose salary and benefits are funded in the Special Revenue Fund. The County receives funding to support these positions from the State Wireless Board, which distributes to localities a portion of the E-911 service fee collected by the State. The State service fee is \$0.75 per month charged to each cellular phone.

In 2006, the General Assembly approved a change in the method of distributing the revenue collected. In

Police (cont'd)

the approved legislation, 60.0 percent of the revenue collected from the \$0.75 monthly fee is distributed to the localities. The distribution from the State Wireless Board to each locality is based on the cost to operate the localities emergency communications center as well as the call load of the center. More information regarding Wireless E-911 is available in the Special Revenue section of the budget.

Also included in the Police Complement are twenty-five School Resource Officers. One of the officers is responsible for gang prevention issues that arise throughout the County, and one officer is dedicated to providing relief throughout the system and is not assigned to a specific school. The remaining twenty-three officers are assigned to a specific County middle or high school. The School Resource Officer Program is a joint effort between the Division of Police and the Henrico County Public Schools. The Henrico County Public Schools provides funding for nineteen of these Officers while the Division of Police funds the remaining six positions.

Police Staffing

The Office of Management and Budget has prepared a historical depiction of new positions included within the Division of Police budget over the past sixteen years, FY1994-95 through FY2009-10. This is included as a historical reference.

The tables below show personnel additions and subtractions by position type and funding source during the period FY1994-95 to FY2009-10 (a sixteen year period).

| Position Type | No. |
|--|------------|
| Police Officer | 149 |
| Animal Control Officer | 2 |
| Communications Officer | 19 |
| Police Support Technician | 12 |
| Police Support Tech (trans to Sheriff) | (14) |
| Technical Support | 5 |
| Radio Repair Shop (transfer to GS) | (5) |
| Other | 9 |
| Total | 177 |

| Funding Source | No. |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Grants (*) | 90 |
| State Wireless E-911 | 14 |
| General Fund | 73 |
| Total: | 177 |

It must be noted that of the 90 positions added with grant funding, 83 were police officers and seven were civilians.

**Note: Grant funding had been used as an initial funding source for these new Police positions. All funding has been replaced by General Fund dollars.*