

2025 County of Stafford
Certified Crime Prevention Community
Summary of County of Stafford Final Report

A review of the nineteen (19) Core Elements and Optional Elements materials and discussion demonstrated that the prevention efforts of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office are strong and proactive. This is a summary of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office initial certification application for the Certified Crime Prevention Communities program.

Throughout the review, it became clear that the success of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office prevention efforts was due to four (4) factors: community interactions, the dedication of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office personnel not only to the Sheriff's Office but to their community, program developments, and finding ways to bridge the identified gaps within their community.

The County of Stafford Board of Supervisors adopted the Certified Crime Prevention Community Program Resolution of Participation on January 16, 2024, and completed the Letter of Intent on November 29, 2024.

Since 2023 Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has been a member of the restorative Justice Coalition for the PD 16 area. The coalition meets quarterly, and Stafford County Sheriff's Office has

attended six (6) of these meetings since joining. They have established new connections with local resources to be used by the Sheriff's Office, conducted a comprehensive examination into a restorative justice that the public school utilizes, and connections made with Veteran Affairs to join the alliance.

Sergeant Curtis received his Certified Crime Prevention Specialist certification as of October 28, 2024. Upon obtaining his certification through DCJS as a Certified Crime Prevention Specialist, he revamped and improved rebranding the Global Shield Network, creating a Chaplain Program alongside Stafford Fire/Rescue, and revitalizing their local TRIAD alongside Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office and Fredericksburg Police Department.

Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has a Neighborhood Watch program as part of their SHIELD Program. Through SHIELD they partner with other agencies across the nation and can share alerts, safety tips, and other information via their Neighborhood Watch newsletters. They utilize social media such as WordPress, Facebook, Nextdoor, and Ring Neighbors to communicate with the neighborhoods. They hold quarterly meetings both in person and virtual and provide training. They have created Neighborhood Watch signs, participated in the National Night Out program, and hosted quarterly meetings to address community concerns.

The Sheriff's Office has always had a connection to the community in how they do proper community policing. For a long time, they used Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Files and had deputies assigned to specific neighborhoods or areas in the county to contact and come up with solutions to the issues alongside those communities. Now the unit works alongside their other divisions, to better communicate and implement effective community policing strategies.

Through their Shield Program, they use technology such as WordPress, to create a mailing system that they utilize to send out monthly newsletters, alerts, and other pertinent information that is focused to what their citizens want when they sign up through their website. In 2024, they had thirty-seven (37) SHIELD postings and forty-eight (48) Crime Reports posts, one hundred and fifteen (115) Facebook posts, twenty-five (25) Instagram posts, forty-three (43) X posts, and forty-three (43) Nextdoor App posts. In 2024, they held ten Coffee with a Cop event and engaged approximately three hundred and fifteen (315) citizens.

Stafford County Sheriff's Office utilizes national security assessments to find the best and leading trends, suggestions, information, and training on conducting effective and applicable security and safety assessments for their community. In 2024, they conducted one hundred and thirty-one (131) county site plan reviews. This involved getting blueprint and layout documentation sent to their office and having their Business Watch Coordinator review the proposed building/site plans in

detail. They have partnered with the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency since 2023. In February 2025, the Department of Homeland Security and Stafford County Sheriff's Office partnered together to provide a tour of different examples of infrastructure in Stafford County to various federal agencies and entities that evaluate federal grants for security funding. They provided a security assessment at the request of a local house of worship in 2023.

Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had a crime analysis since 2003. In 2024 the crime analyst created a total of four hundred and nineteen (419) intelligence and officer safety awareness bulletins that were sent out to all sworn deputies, ensuring they were aware of concerns in and around their region. In 2023, our crime analyst got trained on how to use Crime View through ARC GIS systems.

Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a relationship of cooperation with their county public schools. Their MOU was updated in March 2025. In 2024 the Stafford County Sheriff's Office increased its number of School Resource Officers and School Protection Officers, filling all the high schools and majority of middle schools with a uniform presence. In 2024 the Sheriff's Office continued its partnership with the Stafford County Public Schools to provide security and traffic control by supporting thirteen (13) deputies on two days at high school graduations, five hundred (500) in attendance.

Their Business Watch program conducts quarterly meetings with their business partners to go over recent crime trends that affect them, as well as hearing from them about what issues and concerns, they are each facing in their respective locations. In 2024 these meetings were attended on average by 5-9 of our larger retailers. In 2024 they created a business watch branch called Hotel Watch that is made up of twenty-eight (28) hotels and motels. In 2025 Stafford County Sheriff's Office in partnership with Target retail store loss prevention were provided with skimmer checking 3D printable files to create an unlimited number of plastic devices that go into card readers and can check for skimmers.

In 2024, Empowerhouse reported six thousand five hundred and seventy (6,570) individuals affected by domestic violence and were provided services or advocates. With seven hundred and fifty (750) voluntary screenings being conducted on scene with victims by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. In 2024, Crime Prevention's Workshop Watch program held a meeting with faith leaders from around the county to detail and teach about Empowerhouse.

Their Cadet Program focuses on young men and women. The program is designed to help build character and training for civic responsibilities. They have twenty-one (21) cadets active in the program. They provide a Junior Deputy Academy, which is a one-week summertime experience for 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th graders, culminating in a graduation event. They had approximately two thousand

and three hundred (2,300) students graduated during the annual D.A.R.E Day event. This is a partnership with several community organizations who sponsor the event and that focuses on delinquent behavior determent.

In May of 2024, the Sheriff's Office was reaccredited by VLEPSC marking its seventh (7th) accreditation since 1999. The Sheriff's Office utilizes PowerDMS for policy management and training, ensuring all personnel have immediate access to current policies and procedures that align with VLEPSC standards.

The TRIAD initiative holds meetings every other month with community stakeholders to assess safety concerns and provide education to senior residents. These normally have approximately 12-14 attendees. March of 2025, the Spotsylvania, Fredericksburg TRIAD hosted their annual Senior Safety Day events in collaboration with local partners, including local senior living facilities, Department of Social Services, and the Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging. There were two hundred and six (206) senior adults in attendance and forty-eight (48) vendors.

The Worship Watch program has one hundred and seventeen (117) houses of worship that have joined. The program has provided several safety and security assessments to multiple houses of worship. These assessments utilize CPTED and other established safety and security principles specific to houses of worship, to best provide recommendations on security measures. The program also holds quarterly

Worship Watch meetings at the Sheriff's Office with approximately twenty-two (22) attendees. The meetings go over hot topic issues based on crime prevention and utilize 3-4 nonprofits to come and speak, giving them 30 minutes to share their resources.

Stafford County Sheriff's Office began their partnership with National Night Out in 2010. The Sheriff's Office National Night Out in 2024 had grown to approximately three thousand and five hundred (3,500) citizens in attendance for their main event. They had one hundred and forty-seven (147) exhibitors with a mixture of business, houses of worship, first responder organizations, and restaurants.

In 2025, Stafford Crime Solvers did a drive to raise \$500 towards the National Law Enforcement United Ride during National Police Week. In 2023, they endorsed and helped to set up, plan, and organize a holiday parade in Stafford County.

The McGruff mascots have been utilized primarily at events with juveniles such as D.A.R.E Day and First Responder Education Days. These have been invaluable for changing juvenile perspectives of law enforcement.

Currently, Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a dedicated and certified group of D.A.R.E officers, including one full-time D.A.R.E officer and two (2) other D.A.R.E certified deputies. Annually they host a D.A.R.E Day event with

approximately two thousand and three hundred (2,300) students have graduated from the D.A.R.E program.

Since the 2021 Shield Alerts rebrand, there have been three hundred and eighty-six (386) informational literatures sent out with an approximate outreach of sixty eight thousand and three hundred (68,300) citizens. In 2024, they joined the Global Shield Network. The Shield newsletters are sent out monthly, and are a mixture of relevant information on the particular watch program, safety and security tips and questions, recent concerns or criminal activity, and promotion of events relevant to that particular watch program.

The intent of this document is to provide a summary of the County of Stafford Initial Certified Crime Prevention Community program final application. The entire County of Stafford Certified Crime Prevention Community Initial Final Application is following this document.

Tina Sumpter
Accreditation Coordinator
DCJS

**Stafford County
Certified
Crime Prevention
Community**

2025 Application





STATEMENT OF INTENT

Our community, Stafford County wishes to participate in the Certified Crime Prevention Community Certification Program. The leadership of this community fully realizes this program requires dedicated effort. By making entry into this program, we are pledging our honest efforts to become designated as a "Certified Crime Prevention Community".

The program requires the existence of formation of a local community crime prevention/community safety council or coalition. The name of this council/coalition is PD16 Criminal Justice Reform Alliance.

We understand that the goal of our community is to complete successfully this program within six (6) months of the day of the official start date, to be recorded when the program manual is delivered.

David Decatur
Designated Official

Steven Curtis
Program Coordinator

Sheriff
Title

Sergeant
Title

November 29, 2024
Date

November 29, 2024
Date

Address for Contact:
1225 Courthouse Road
Stafford, Va 22554

Address for Contact:
1225 Courthouse Road
Stafford, Va 22554

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Office 540-658-4400
Home _____

Telephone:
Office 540-220-7715
Home _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 19th day of November, 2024:

<u>MEMBERS:</u>	<u>VOTE:</u>
Meg Bohmke, Chairman	Yes
Tinesha O. Allen, Vice Chairman	Yes
Deuntay T. Diggs	Yes
Darrell E. English	Yes
Monica L. Gary	Yes
Crystal L. Vanuch	Yes
Dr. R. Pamela Yeung	Yes

On motion of Ms. Vanuch, seconded by Ms. Gary, which carried by a vote of 7 to 0, the following was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR STAFFORD COUNTY TO APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE TO BE CERTIFIED AS A CRIME PREVENTION COMMUNITY AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board prioritizes the safety and security of its citizenry and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the Board supports appropriate efforts within the community to promote crime prevention and community safety; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Criminal Justice Services offers a program which is specifically designed to recognize Virginia communities committed to crime prevention and community safety while providing a framework for those communities to institutionalize crime prevention at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office meets all the requirements to be recognized as a Certified Crime Prevention Community and said requirements are met through the Office conducting site plan reviews, completing school safety audits, having a Certified Crime Prevention Specialist, and having a Neighborhood Watch Program; and

WHEREAS, through partnerships with other localities the Sheriff's Office meets the requirement to have a local community crime prevention/safety council through its participation in the PD16 Criminal Justice Reform Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to participate in the Certified Crime Prevention Community Program and support the Sheriff's Office's application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 19th day of November, 2024, that it be and hereby does express its desire for Stafford County to participate in the Certified Crime Prevention Community Program (Program) and for the leadership of Stafford County to fully support all reasonable efforts to meet the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) requirements to become designated as a Certified Crime Prevention Community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with Program requirements, the Board designates the PD16 Criminal Justice Reform Alliance through the Stafford County Sheriff's Office's participation as its local crime prevention/community safety council or coalition;

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator, or his designee, is authorized to execute the form Resolution of Participation from the DCJS and any and all other documents that he deems necessary and appropriate to participate in the Program and effectuate this Resolution.

A Copy, teste:



William H. Ashton, II
County Administrator

WHA: DPD:rjd

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Core 1

Develop a local community crime prevention/community safety council or coalition.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Restorative Justice Alliance History

Failsafe-ERA is an organization that focuses on restorative justice and support for incarcerated citizens and their families. They formed the Restorative Justice Alliance as a way for the PD 16 area to have options on discussions and community involvement for crime prevention. This Alliance made one of their first goals to promote the DCJS Certified Crime Prevention Community program to all participating law enforcement agencies.

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office joined the Restorative Justice Alliance in 2023 after partnering with Failsafe-ERA. This Alliance has grown to include:

- Stafford County Public Schools
- Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office
- Fredericksburg Police Department
- Veteran Affairs
- Fredericksburg CA's Office
- Spotsylvania Juvenile CSU
- Stafford Juvenile CSU

Program Evaluation

Per the second core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit is a member of the restorative Justice Coalition for the PD 16 area since 2023.

Not only has the coalition made it one of their founding goals to have all participating law enforcement agencies seek out DCJS Certified Crime Prevention Program participation; but has made strides to be able to fill the core community safety element as a coalition for crime prevention and community safety.

The coalition meets quarterly, and Stafford County Sheriff's Office has attended 6 of these meetings since joining. The topics have been a range of crime prevention focuses such as:

- Best crime prevention practices utilized around the nation
- How to better bring in experts and organizations who do crime prevention efforts in the local area.
- Restorative justice practices with juveniles and how to best engage parents and families in a way to reduce future crime.
- Involvement efforts with commonwealth attorneys, board of supervisors, and community leaders to be involved in the efforts for crime prevention

Program Accomplishments

Through this restorative justice alliance, we have accomplished several tasks that were set forth from the alliance's start. These include:

- Establishing new connections with local resources to be used by the Sheriff's Office. Funneling those into a website for the local community to be able to utilize in an easier and more accessible way. This was made through our Shield program at www.staffordshield.com/resources
- Conducted a comprehensive examination into a restorative justice that the public schools utilize. This was shared by the alliance in a classroom setting with several community leaders. The result was a vast interest in learning more about the program as a way to resolve conflicts when wrongs have been committed.
- Connection made with Veteran Affairs to join the alliance. With Stafford being a predominant military community, this resulted in the alliance being able to get increased awareness of data and statistics to support our crime analytics for our direct community demographics.



Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase presence and impact of the alliance in the region that the alliance supports.

Objectives:

- To identify and present the alliance to at least five new community-based partners focused on crime prevention to bring into the alliance by the end of 2026.
- Assist with getting regional agencies acquiring their Community Crime Prevention Community Certifications. Aiming for one agency each year, if not more, that are a part of the alliance. The plan is for Stafford County Sheriff's Office to do so by 2025 and with Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office and/or Fredericksburg Police Department to do so by 2026.
- Establish a community outreach team to respond as a reaction to major crimes that target or affect regional neighborhoods. This response team will provide services and be made up of law enforcement, mental health resources, health resources, and community programs and resources that can be brought to the location of these incidents. This outreach team is planned to be formed by the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. Being a founding member of the alliance that is utilized for this core role. We plan to continue to grow this alliance with more members to get a better understanding and perspective of multiple views from local community members to better support our crime prevention and community efforts.

CJR Community Task Force Meeting

“Criminal Justice Evolution”

Agenda: September 9, 2023

- I. **Welcome/Introductions**
- II. **Finish/Finalize Mission & Vision Statement**
 - a. **Mission Statement:** *Promote community safety and wellness through restorative justice, trauma-informed care and crime prevention in the Rappahannock Regional Area (City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, King George, and Stafford Counties)*
 - b. **Vision Statement:** TBD (remember this is to be the ideal future the task force wants to achieve, it is succinct, and measurable)
- III. **Conduct Needs Assessment: SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, & Threats) that relate to our three goals: Restorative Justice, Trauma-Informed Care, and Crime Prevention**
- IV. **Homework Check-in**
 - a. **VA SAVE Training or more robust Suicide Prevention Training/Trauma-Informed training:** [VA S.A.V.E. \(psycharmor.org\)](https://psycharmor.org) (30-minute self-paced course) or [Rappahannock Area Community Service Board | \(rappahannockareacsb.org\)](https://rappahannockareacsb.org) (trainings listed under “Upcoming Trainings”)
 - b. **Read/review the Richmond Mayor’s Office Initiative on reimagining public safety. Found here:** [Final Report Task Force on Regimagining Public Safety November 2020 0.pdf \(rva.gov\)](https://www.rva.gov/files/2020/09/Final_Report_Task_Force_on_Regimagining_Public_Safety_November_2020_0.pdf)
- V. **Community Crime Prevention Certification Application Updates (Localities)**
 - a. Stafford
 - b. Fredericksburg
 - c. Spotsylvania
- VI. **Next Meeting: Monday, October 2nd at 6pm. Hybrid option (Zoom/physical location TBD)**
- VII. **Thank you for attending and participating!**

Restorative Justice Workgroup

Deb Lokrantz (co-lead)

Kim Jenkins-Snodgrass

Bobby Anderson (co-lead)

Libby Humphries

Anita Newhouse

Karen Kallay

Stephen Eubank

Sergeant Steven Curtis

First Sergeant Heather Torrance

Juanita Shanks

Angela Jameson

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

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Action Phase

- Three goals – Restorative Justice, Trauma-Informed Care, and Crime Prevention
- Target Population – Justice-Involved
- Remember Our Mission: *Promote community safety and wellness through restorative justice, trauma-informed care and crime prevention in the Rappahannock Regional Area (City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, King George, and Stafford Counties)*
- Next Steps: Action Plan

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

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VIRGINIA SAFETY COALITION ROUNDTABLE

Tuesday September 12, 2023

6pm til 8pm

10000 Germanna Point Drive, Fredericksburg, VA. 22408
(Sealy Auditorium)

RSVP to: sincere@reformalliance.com

Education, Public Safety & Workforce Development Opportunities.

Core 2

A DCJS-certified crime prevention specialist assigned to crime prevention duties in the law enforcement agency.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Crime Prevention

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has long held a Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit, within the Special Operations Division since 1991.

The Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit was developed to establish relationships with community partners, provide training and information sharing, and focus on way to reduce crime alongside our community.

The Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit is made up of 3 sworn deputies, 1 detective, and 1 admin assistant.

Core Programs

- Neighborhood Watch
- Worship Watch
- Business Watch
- Hotel Watch
- Stafford RISE
- TRAIID
- Crime Solvers
- SAFE Assessments
- National Night Out Partner
- SCSO Holiday Toy Drive
- Camera Trailer Program
- Crime Mapping Program
- Project Life Saver Program
- Restorative Justice Coalition Partnership

Program Evaluation

Per the second core requirement of community safety elements; Sergeant Steven Curtis is the current sworn deputy who has received his Certified Crime Prevention Specialist certification as of October 28th, 2024.

Sergeant Curtis has 9 years of law enforcement experience, 4 of which has been in his assignment to the Crime Prevention Homeland Security unit of Stafford County Sheriff's Office.

Training Experience

Crime Prevention Applicable Training

- General Instructor Development
- Basic Crime Prevention Training
- Domestic Terrorism and Violent Extremism Awareness Training
- Cultural Diversity: Empowering the Mind
- Community Police Defined
- New Perspectives on Community Policing
- High in Plain Sight: Current Drug Trends
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Certified Crime Prevention Certification

Program Accomplishments

Upon obtaining his certification through DCJS as a Certified Crime Prevention specialist, he has revamped and improved various programs.

- Rebranding the Global Shield Network contributing program of Stafford Shield with an updated website and updated communication platform for county citizens.
- Creating a Chaplain Program alongside Stafford Fire/Rescue, recruiting 8 volunteer chaplains and 2 sworn chaplains. These chaplains now not only provide emotional and spiritual support to agency staff; but also goes to calls for service such as DOAs and fatal accidents to provide support to citizens.
- Revitalizing our local TRIAD alongside Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office and Fredericksburg Police Department. Getting re-chartered through the Virginia Attorney General's office on November 21, 2024.



Program Accomplishments (continued)

Sergeant Curtis, as a Crime Prevention Specialist, has dedicated the 2024 year to his efforts on bolstering our already extensive community engagement programs. Sergeant Curtis has since allocated his time in the following categories.

Type of Event	Count	Percentage
Worship Watch Meetings Held	4	1.04%
Neighborhood Watch Meetings Held	3	0.78%
Worship Events Attended	132	34.46%
Neighborhood Events Attended	151	39.43%
TRIAD Meetings Attended	5	1.31%
Restorative Justice Coalition Meeting	4	1.04%
HOA Meetings Attended	8	2.09%
Security Assessments	13	3.39%
Trainings Held	18	4.70%
Building Tours Held	10	2.61%
Alerts Sent Out	35	9.14%
Total	64	

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Maintain a certified Crime Prevention Specialists assigned crime prevention duties within Stafford County. Increase community participation and utilization of Sheriff's Office resources and support.

Objectives:

- Assign an additional deputy to the Crime Prevention Unit by 2026.
- Certify a minimum of two deputies as Certified Crime Prevention Specialists by 2026 to have a secondary certified deputy as a redundancy should Sergeant Curtis change roles/position within the agency.
- Increase output and design new format for community monthly newsletters by start of the year 2026. Including social media digital campaign to increase sign up for newsletters that can be tracked.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office plans to maintain a minimum of one DCJS-certified Crime Prevention Specialists assigned to crime prevention duties.

Commonwealth of Virginia



Department of Criminal Justice Services

This will acknowledge that

Steven Curtis

has met the minimum training requirements as established
within the Commonwealth of Virginia for

Crime Prevention Specialist Certification

In accordance with sections 9.173.19 and 9.173.20 of the *Code of Virginia*

Donna P. Michaelis, Director
Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

November 30, 2027

Expiration Date

Core 3

A neighborhood watch program with training and documented support of watches.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Stafford Neighborhood Watch History

Sheriff's Office has long held a Neighborhood Watch program in our county. It has gone through many variations and forms over the years. Developing the relationships with our neighborhoods and their unique qualities and issues they face.

As of 2023 we have revamped our Neighborhood Watch program to adapt to the new age and growing technology. We have included:

- Easier and faster digital ways to report traffic incidents in neighborhoods.
- A way for neighborhoods to send a representative to the Sheriff's Office during meetings to bring the neighborhoods concerns directly to us. These meetings are held quarterly, with an average of attendance of representation of 9-13 neighborhoods.
- Greater integration with social media, to include joining Neighborhood Facebook groups.

Program Evaluation

Per the third core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has a Neighborhood Watch program as a part of our SHIELD Program. Through SHIELD, we partner with other agencies across the nation and are able to share alerts, safety tips, and other information via our Neighborhood Watch newsletters quickly and successfully. This network includes NYPD, VSP, LAPD, and even international organizations like Scotland Yard.

We utilize social media such as WordPress, Facebook, Nextdoor, and Ring Neighbors to communicate with our neighborhoods. We provide several ways of neighborhoods to report incident and concerns to our agency through our website. The main one is a way for neighbors to report traffic concerns, of a one time or repeating nature, directly to our Traffic Safety Unit. This has been a hugely successful endeavor.

We utilize Crime Mapping and Crime View to allow citizens to see the crime statistics in their area or provide more detailed crime statistics on request at neighborhood watch meetings.

We hold quarterly meetings both in person and virtual. In these, we do a small training on topics that fit the season such as vehicle break ins during the summer and package thefts during the holiday seasons. We also offer training on request for neighborhoods, especially scam related training that affect our residents. These training requests are submitted directly to the Crime Prevention Unit and delegated to Crime Prevention Deputies. During these meetings we also discuss neighborhoods that need new Neighborhood Watch signs for their neighborhoods.

We have used a mapping program to consolidate all our neighborhoods, the points of contact within them, and the date of our last correspondence or activity to better organize our communication and partnership efforts.



Program Accomplishments

The Neighborhood Watch Program has gone through several iterations, all with various improvements and concepts introduced that grow on what has come before.

- Creating Neighborhood Watch signs that we provide to any and all neighborhoods to be put up in their neighborhoods. This is used as a main crime prevention deterrent for neighborhoods to place.
- Being a part of the National Night Out program since it's introduction within our agency. This is now the largest event in our county with over 3,000 citizens coming out every year to participate.
- Hosting quarterly meetings to address community concerns directly, answer questions, hear comments from the HOA/POA representatives, and increase community partnership with the Sheriff's Office.

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Create a more modernized and increased way of assisting neighborhoods in Stafford County to design and develop unique Neighborhood Watch programs for themselves.

Objectives:

- Change the Stafford County Sheriff's Office website to move away from a PDF document, to a digital form with key questions that can be submitted. These submissions can give us a unique insight to be able to suggest recommendations based off neighborhood size, location, issues, volunteers, and other information. The objective for this is to be evaluated and pushed out between 2026 and 2027.
- Develop a training program on suspicious persons/vehicles, what to look for/memorize, and how to properly report those incidents. We do a small program on this for county employees. This objective is set to be designed and offered between 2026 and 2027, based off of training manpower.
- Design digital campaign to coincide with Crime Prevention newsletter rollout campaign as a way to offer these services, aiming to be pushed around 2026 time frame outline in Core 2.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office plans to maintain the Neighborhood Watch program throughout the existence of the Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit.

Stafford County Sheriff's Office



Recent
Community
Issues

Speeding
and Parking
Issues

Neighborhood
Watch
Programs

Thank
You

Neighborhood Watch May 2025

Sec. 26-8. - Limitations on firearms.

It shall be unlawful to shoot within one hundred (100) yards of any regularly occupied structure, which is not the shooters'/hunters' own residence or structure, without written permission of its owner or occupant. The written permission shall contain the following information:

- (1)The name of the person granting permission; (2)The date the permission was granted; (3)The daytime phone number of the person granting permission; (4)The name of the person given permission to shoot; (5)The expiration date of the permission; and (6)The permission shall be signed by the grantor.

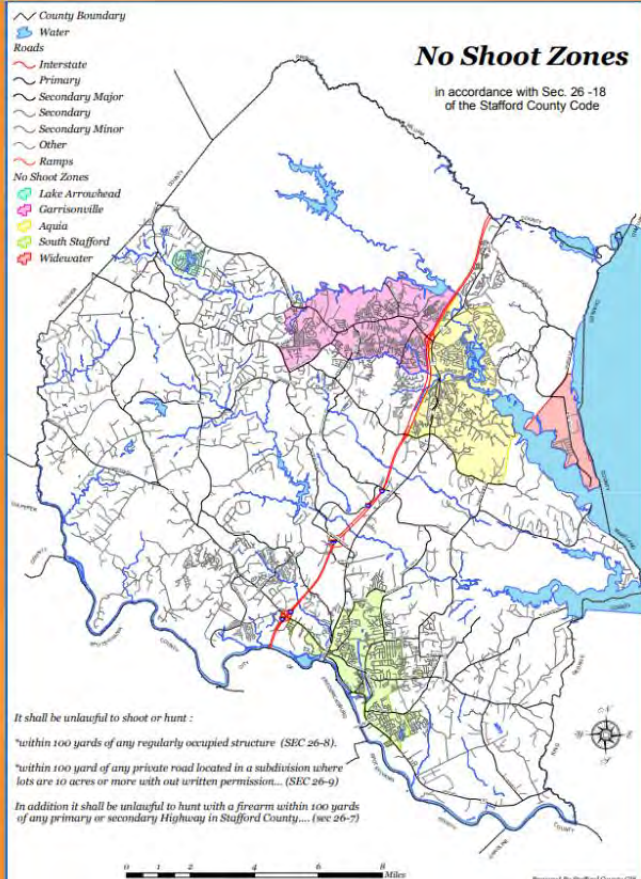
26-9. - One-hundred-yard safety zone, private roads. It shall be unlawful to shoot within one hundred (100) yards of any private road located in a subdivision where lots are ten (10) acres or less in size without written permission of the owner or occupant.

Sec. 16-4. - Maximum permissible sound levels generally:

(a)Except as otherwise provided, any noise which emanates from any operation, activity or source and which exceeds the maximum permissible sound levels established in this section is prohibited. Such levels shall be measured at the property boundary of the sound source or at any point within any other property affected by the noise.

Maximum Permissible Sound Pressure Levels

Maximum dBA
Residential Day Time: 60, Night Time: 55



Neighborhood Watch Presentation - 2/5



Steven H. Curtis
To Embrey Mills Watch Committee



SCSO Neighborhood Watch Presentation 2-5.pdf
2 MB

Good Morning,

Attached are the presentation slides from the February 2025 Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

For the notes, the only additions past the briefing were:

- www.crimemapping.com where residents can go to search for crime information
- Decoy car and camera trailers can be requested by neighborhoods from the Sheriff's Office to assist in deterrence

Respectfully,

Sergeant S.H. Curtis #201

Stafford County Sheriff's Office

Crime Prevention & Homeland Security Unit

Chaplain / Worship Watch Coordinator

1225 Courthouse Road

Stafford, Va 22554

(540) 220-7715

Core 4

Community policing or a crime control planning process.



Stafford Community Policing History

The Sheriff's Office has always had a connection to the community in how we do proper community policing.

For a long while, we made use of POP (Problem-Oriented Policing) Files and had deputies assigned to specific neighborhoods or areas in the county to contact and come up with solutions to the issues alongside those communities.

Since the creation of the Crime Prevention Homeland Security unit, this has become to go to for all the communities to have one unit focused on building those relationships and working alongside the communities to help solve the issues they face.

Now the Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit works alongside our other divisions, especially patrol, to better communicate and implement effective community policing strategies.

Program Evaluation

Per the fourth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has a robust community policing program that has long been a staple of the unit.

Through our SHIELD partnership, we provide connection and information to our community. We utilize ArcGIS and Crime Mapping programs to consolidate our reports and calls for service in a way that we can better get crime analytics and information to our community partnerships. Crime Mapping is a way for our community to access a website and look at the recent crimes affecting their locations. The Sheriff's Office provides the crime prevention email and phone number to our community on multiple platforms and encourages our community to ask questions and contact us with concerns directly.

In addition, as a way of assisting our community with community policing, we have an "extra checks" program where any deputy can provide addresses and information that will have all shifts check on periodically between calls for service. In 2024 we conducted 122 extra checks. This can be on the initiative of a deputy who identifies an increased need in an area, or from a citizen letting us know about a problem they would have to have monitored. The citizens do this during calls for service and requesting it from a deputy, contacting the Sheriff's Office non-emergency number and requesting it, or by reaching out by email or phone to the Crime Prevention Office and requesting it. These are all then filled out by an internal form that tracks and notifies deputies of the extra checks. These are further reinforced by a paper "extra checks form" being filled out and put into our patrol roll call binder to be addressed and assigned during roll calls. Citizens can follow up via any of the previously mentioned methods to find out if the extra checks have been made, however very often deputies will make contact with the requesting individual or group when conducting the extra checks.

We utilize social media to post "Happening Now" videos that provide instant information and details about a situation happening that the Sheriff's Office is involved in that the community can plan around, assist with via information, or should know about for safety purposes. These are primarily released through our Facebook account, that has 75,000 followers. These have included severe auto accidents, barricaded suspects with potential firearms, extreme weather concerns or damage, and anything else that our agency believes could impact our citizens that would be otherwise avoided with this information.



Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's office community policing has been a long-standing pillar of our agency to be able to equip and support our community through crime control planning and community involvement. This has resulted in numerous accomplishments and likely more that have not been observed due to the nature of preventing potential crimes through these efforts. Some accomplishments are:

- Updating our extra checks service that citizens can utilize from physical hard copy forms to a digital intranet based online reporting that all deputies can access from their MDTs at any time. Allowing deputies to be able to see where concerns are for extra checks, what neighborhoods, and allows them to make plans for proactive community policing in their zones even after the extra checks has been completed.
- Numerous compliments and appreciative comments and outreach from our citizens for our "Happening Now" videos on social media. Citizens have said, both in person, and via emails/phone calls that they appreciate the number and quality of information that we put out to make sure citizens are aware of situations occurring in their area. This has increased public awareness and public trust and collaboration. There have been leads on criminal investigations that were directly stated to be a result of citizens seeing the "Happening Now" videos and realizing they had information that could help our investigations.

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Develop more online and cellphone friendly options for submissions of extra checks, tips, and engagement with the community.

Objectives:

- Develop a separate Crime Prevention Facebook account to be able to be another option to handle more outreach for citizens to submit requests or information that is more focused to community policing than overall commenting that the main Facebook would receive. This is currently being discussed with a goal for its implementation by start of 2026.
- Update the Sheriff's Office website with new form submission options via Jotform to increase the ability for the community to better engage and report information to us. Specifically focused on getting the extra checks requests put into its own digital form before the end of 2025, to enable this option for those citizens who do not want to directly call or request via email.
- Develop a contract with the P3 text-a-tip system to become our new and primary text-a-tip program. Enabling us to process and source anonymous tips to and from divisions in the agency with greater ability to have community assistance with investigations. This is aimed to be addressed for budgeting before the end of the fiscal year.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office plans to maintain its existing programs and options for community policing, while increasing the outreach.

National Drug Take Back - PD16 October 2024


Locality	Amount by Weight
Stafford County	265.3
Spotsylvania County	783.9
Fredericksburg City	448.6
Caroline County	25.6
King George County	85.4

In October 2024, Stafford County collected 265.3 lbs of drugs during National Drug Take Back Day






Office of Stafford County Sheriff - David "DP" Decatur, Sheriff
 April 25 - 📍
 Thank you to the MOMS of Stafford for taking time out of your Friday for a quick tour and K-9 demonstration.

Sgt. Steven Curtis and K-9 doing a community day with a local MOMS group including a discussion about juvenile safety and see something, say something.




 **Office of Stafford County Sheriff - David "DP" Decatur, Sheriff · Follow**
March 13, 2023 · 🌐

Today, students from [New England College](#) Criminal Justice Program visited the Stafford County Sheriff's Office for a tour. On top of spending the day with Sheriff Decat... See more



  282

4 comments · 20 shares

 Like  Comment  Share

The Sheriff's Office educating and support students from New England College for their Criminal Justice Program.

Core 5

Organized distribution of community safety information
(literature, videos, social media, internet resources) to citizens.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford Information Distribution History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has always sought to stay on top of growing trends in communication since its inception.

Be it social media, newspaper, flyers in the community through partnership businesses and community boards, or even just face to face dialog; the Sheriff's Office has tried to increase its ways of communicating public safety information to our citizens.

While public safety information has always one of the pillars of our communication to citizens, this has grown into alerts, training, tips and suggestions, and other ways of not only informing our community; but also how to empower citizens with their own awareness and safety in their day to day lives. Whereas before, we were limited to word of mouth and face-to-face interaction at community events, limiting engagement that we now utilize through online tools and technology.

Program Evaluation

Per the fifth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has a thriving and organized way of communicating information to our citizens.

Through our SHIELD program, we use technology such as WordPress, to create a mailing system that we utilized to send out monthly newsletters, alerts, and other pertinent information that is focused to what our citizens want when they sign up through our website (www.staffordshield.com). In addition, we also use this program to offer our Weekly Crime Report that summarizes leading incidents that happened in the community, broken down by area. In 2024, we had 37 SHIELD postings and 48 Crime Report posts.

We also utilize social media such as Facebook, Instagram, X, and Nextdoor to broadcast information such as alerts, "happening now" videos, missing person's flyers, and other information to make it as widespread as possible. In 2024, we had 115 Facebook posts, 25 Instagram posts, 43 X posts, and 43 Nextdoor App posts.

The Sheriff's Office hold several community events, such as our monthly Coffee with a Cop at a local business, that allows citizens to meet us face to face and ask questions or get information. This has also allowed us to be invited to businesses, neighborhoods, and other community events where we do trainings and information sessions on direct issues citizens want to hear about. In 2024, we held ten Coffee with a Cop events and engaged with approximately 315 citizens during those. The average turn out for one of our Coffee with a Cop events is 25 citizens.

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's office has prided itself on its communication with the citizens of Stafford County. Some notable examples of this being accomplished are:

- In Stafford County there are two main cut-through roadways (River Road and Harrel Road) that flood for any prolonged rainfall. Utilizing Stafford County Sheriff's Office Facebook page, we send alerts the second these areas flood. We have several comments of appreciation for how this changes people's commutes and plans to navigate the county during these times. In addition, it also allowed a local non-profit, Micah Ministries, to go out and let some homeless camps know they needed to relocate to avoid them being at risk of being caught in the flooding of their camps.
- The Stafford County Sheriff's Office had a returned missing juvenile in January 2024 that was located with the assistance of citizens who knew the juvenile personally. Having seen the Nextdoor post where their missing person's flyer was posted, they contacted the Sheriff's Office. The support provided by those who saw the Nextdoor post allowed detectives to be able to locate the juvenile and return them home to their parents.

Core 5

Organized distribution of community safety information
(literature, videos, social media, internet resources) to citizens.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Utilize new technology to increase the way in which we send out information to the community, adapting to new technology and ways information is relayed.

Objectives:

- Switch from our current WordPress format of sending newsletters to a more accessible way, utilizing Canva as a new platform to create off of. This is planned to be done before September 2025.
- Update the Sheriff's Office website with easier to find, navigate, and access links and ways to get to the sign-up page for our information distributions. Allowing more access for citizens to find out where to sign up for the latest information from the agency. This is planned to be modified and launched before the end of 2025.
- Develop short form videos and longer informational videos to be put on social media. As well as discussing reviving the Stafford County Sheriff's Office podcast and look at it being reutilized. This is planned to have an outline and proposal done and presented before the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office plans to continue and improve upon its communication the citizens of Stafford County.



Stafford County Sheriff's Office

WEEKLY CRIME REPORT



JANUARY 6TH - JANUARY 12TH, 2025

ALPHA ZONE

ASSAULT

Shasta Place, deputy responded to an assault. It was discovered the victim was assaulted, and bitten, by a known male after a verbal altercation. The suspect was charged with assault and battery.

LARCENY

Lancelot Lane, a deputy responded to a larceny. The victim advised her Amazon package was marked as delivered. After confirming it wasn't buried by the snow, she reported it stolen.

Walmart, II Village Parkway, a deputy responded to a report of seized shoplifters. Staff advised two (2) female suspects were observed stealing over \$300 worth of items. Staff confronted the duo and recovered the stolen items. Both suspects received a summons for shoplifting.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION

Anvil Road, deputy responded to a disturbance. The caller advised she was locked out of her house. When the deputy arrived on scene, he discovered that was not the case and the caller voluntarily left the residence. She had signs of intoxication and admitted to consuming one and a half bottles of wine, a shot, "and more." She was charged with public intoxication.

WARRANT SERVED

Hartwood Road, a deputy responded to a warrant service. The female in question was wanted out of Stafford County for four (4) credit-card-related offenses. When the deputy arrived at the residence he didn't have to look too hard for the suspect; she was the one who answered the door. When informed of her wanted status, the suspect attempted to hand off items in her possession to another individual in the residence. It was discovered these items were suspected controlled substances. She was served on her outstanding warrants, as well as, additionally charged with possession of controlled substances. She was held at Rappahannock Regional Jail on a \$5,000 secured bond.

Trillium Drive, a deputy responded to a spotted suspect. It was advised a male suspect, who was wanted out of Alexandria, was at a residence. The deputy would locate the suspect in the garage watching movies on an iPad. His movie marathon was cut short when he was detained. During a search incident to arrest, the suspect was found to be in possession of suspected controlled substances. He was served on his outstanding warrant, as well as, charged with possession of controlled substances. He was held at Rappahannock Regional Jail without bond.

TRESPASS

Wawa, 9 South Gateway Drive, a deputy responded to reported trespassing issues. Staff advised a male, who had previously been trespassed, had returned. The deputy made contact with the suspect and he was detained without incident. The suspect was charged with trespassing and held at Rappahannock Regional Jail without bond.

Super 8, 557 Warrenton Road, a deputy responded to a "super" situation. Staff advised a female, who had refused to pay for the room she was staying in, was also refusing to leave. The deputy made contact with the suspect and verbally trespassed her. Later into her shift, the deputy observed the suspect still lingering at the business and was charged with trespassing.



JOIN OUR Cadet Program

- Volunteer position for individuals between the ages of 14 and 20 who are interested in a career in law enforcement.
- A wide range of training including traffic control, investigations, and community policing.
- Opportunities to participate in ride-alongs.

Get an in-depth look at law enforcement by joining the Cadet Program today!



Office of Stafford County Sheriff - David "DP" Decatur, Sheriff

17h · 🌐

UPDATE:

The road is open.

Traffic Alert... See more



Core 6

Designation of a person or committee trained to conduct community security and safety assessments of at-risk neighborhoods and businesses.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Stafford Security Assessment History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has utilized nationally recognized training and certifications since the agencies inception to find the best and leading trends, suggestions, information, and training on conducting effective and applicable security and safety assessments to our community.

These have taken the form of site survey plans, in partnership with the county administration, for new or proposed building in the county.

As well as CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) lead direct security and safety assessments on demand through our Neighborhood, Worship, and Business Watch programs.

Program Evaluation

Per the sixth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has a robust and dedicated security and safety program.

In 2024 we conducted 131 county site plan reviews. This involved getting blueprint and layout documentation sent to our office and having our Business Watch Coordinator review the proposed building/site plans in detail. Upon reviewing them, he sends back a safety and security assessment with advice and suggestions through CPTED principals on ways to improve the security of the plan before it is even first built.

In addition, we security and safety plans for businesses, houses of worship, residents, and other organizations or individuals upon request through our Watch programs. In 2024 we conducted 18 of these requests throughout the year.

We have also partnered with the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency since 2023. Through their S.A.F.E. assessments, we have combined to perform a top to bottom system of detailed security and safety evaluation program for our key infrastructure organizations in the community. This has been a well-received program by the community and has resulted in more involvement and connection to resources such as the national FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's office has made great strides in its programs to bring safety and security to our community. Some accomplishments have been:

- In February 2025, the Department of Homeland Security and Stafford County Sheriff's Office partnered together to provide a tour of different examples of infrastructure in Stafford County to various federal agencies and entities that evaluate federal grants for security funding. This gave a profound insight to those who attended on what issues our local businesses and houses of worship face from a security viewpoint when they seek funding support to address those security concerns.
- The Stafford County Sheriff's Office provided a security assessment at the request of a local house of worship in 2023. That same year, they had an incident with a suspicious vehicle and three unknown individuals appearing to be "casing" the house of worship. Due to the recommendation on cameras for the house of worship from the security assessment, the footage obtained was able to be utilized by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office to identify the individuals in the footage from a partial license plate captured on the footage and investigate. The house of worship was made aware of the outcome of the investigation and the Sheriff's Office praised their usage of the cameras for why that was possible.

Core 6

Designation of a person or committee trained to conduct community security and safety assessments of at-risk neighborhoods and businesses.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase the number of security assessments taken advantage of by the community.

Objectives:

- Create an online campaign to push through social media and outreach to increase the awareness of and utilization of security assessments. This will be planned to be pushed out by November 2025.
- Utilizing an online survey, get information and statistics on what neighborhoods, businesses, and organizations know about current security and safety assessment options and what they want to see from them. Using this data to see which areas of the community know less about the option for the assessments and then increase efforts into educating and informing those areas about the assessments. The survey portion of this objective is planned to be conducted during the summer of 2025.
- Redesign the current neighborhood watch, business watch, and worship watch PDFs on the Sheriff's Office website to best utilize modern practices to assist with organizations being able to do self-assessments prior to official security and safety assessments. The redesign is planned to be evaluated by November 2025 to coincide with the online campaign.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had various forms of conducting community security and safety assessments, and will maintain the goals of continuing this going forward.

How To Start

To become a partner with Neighborhood Watch, follow the steps below to sign up for SCSO Shield program:

1. [Click to become a partner](#)
2. Select Neighborhood Watch as one of your programs.
3. Feel free to reach out to Sergeant Burgess for any assistance or support.

To start a Watch Group within the Neighborhood Watch program:

1. Recruit and organize as many neighbors as possible.
2. Refer to the [Neighborhood Watch Book](#) for detailed direction
3. Discuss community concerns and develop an actual plan
4. Create a communication plan
5. Take Action: Hold meetings and events.



Home Security

For a small amount of time and money you can make your home more secure and reduce your chances of being a victim. Review this [Comprehensive Guide to Securing Your Home](#), then assess your home's security by completing this [Checklist](#) for ways you can invest in protecting your family.

For a home security assessment and safety literature at no charge, contact Sergeant Steven Curtis at 540-658-4030 or scurtis@staffordcountyva.gov to schedule an appointment.

Sergeant Steven Curtis
Crime Prevention Unit
SCurtis@staffordcountyva.gov
540-658-4030

What is Business Watch?

Our community is made up of a multitude of businesses, both large and small, that are an integral part of Stafford County. The **SCSO Shield** program is the platform we use to connect our different Watch programs, such as **Worship Watch** and **Neighborhood Watch**. Within this is the Business Watch program; with the goal of ensuring the safety and security of the Stafford County business community. Business Watch takes the "neighbor looking out for neighbors" concept to the commercial level. It is a partnership that focuses on the exchange of information between businesses, the Sheriff's Office, and other organizations that represent business interests. The Business Watch philosophy is straightforward - Take control of what happens in your business community and lessen your chances of becoming a victim.

A sub-group within Business Watch is also our **Hotel Watch**. This is a watch program that follows the same approach as Business Watch but with a more detailed focus on the many hotels and motels within our community. With the nature of these establishments providing temporary lodging to both citizens of our community and visitors; we have found that a more connected and communicative partnership for these businesses and the Sheriff's Office yields a safer and more welcoming community to those that stay within our county.

What You Can Expect

When you join Business Watch, you become a partner in the SCSO Shield program. This means you will be notified, as you see fit, for any and all information and alerts that come from the Sheriff's Office, focusing on our business community. In addition, there are several security-oriented opportunities offered to you as a partner. These include but are not limited to:

- Crime trends around businesses
- Upcoming events in the business community
- Security assessments upon request
- Active Shooter/Critical Incident/Staff Security training upon request
- Monthly bulletins focused on our business community

What You Can Do As A SHIELD Partner

Designed as a partnership, the SCSO Shield program and Business Watch is a mutual exchange of communication and trust. Your participation is vital to make this an effective and efficient resource. As a partner, here are some things you can do to help accomplish this goal.

- Report any and all suspicious activity, individuals, or vehicles
- Check your business to ensure it is as secure and safe as possible, with a focus on larceny deterrence
- Explain to staff and members how the program works and encourage the same reporting and vigilance of suspicious activity
- Communicate with the Business Liaison to set up security assessments and up to date training
- Keep one another and our community safe

How To Start

To become a partner with Business Watch, follow the steps below to sign up for SCSO Shield program:

1. [Click to become a partner](#)
2. Select Business Watch as one of your programs.
3. Feel free to reach out to Deputy Shannon for any assistance or support.



Deputy Frank Shannon
Crime Prevention Unit
fshannon@staffordcountyva.gov
540-658-4706

Ready Business was developed in consultation with the following organizations:

The 9/11 Public Discourse Project, ASIS International, Business Executives for National Security, The Business Roundtable, International Safety Equipment Association, International Security Management Association, National Association of Manufacturers, National Federation of Independent Business, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Small Business Administration, Society for Human Resource Management, U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

These recommendations reflect the Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity Standard (NFPA 1600) developed by the National Fire Protection Association and endorsed by the America National Standards Institute, the 9/11 Commission and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

This common sense framework is designed to launch a process of learning about business preparedness. For more information go to:

www.ready.gov



Every Business Should Have A Plan.



FEMA

www.ready.gov



Federal Emergency Management Agency
Washington, DC 20472

Preparing Makes Good Business Sense.

How quickly your company can get back to business after a terrorist attack or tornado, a fire or flood often depends on emergency planning done today. While the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is working hard to prevent terrorist attacks, the regular occurrence of natural disasters demonstrates the importance of being prepared for any emergency. While recognizing that each situation is unique, your organization can be better prepared if it plans carefully, puts emergency procedures in place, and practices for all kinds of emergencies. This guide outlines common sense measures business owners and managers can take to start getting ready. A commitment to planning today will help support employees, customers, the community, the local economy and even the country. It also protects your business investment and gives your company a better chance for survival.

Every business should have a plan. Get ready now.

Plan to Stay in Business

Business continuity planning must account for both man-made and natural disasters. You should plan in advance to manage any emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation, use common sense and available resources to take care of yourself, your co-workers and your business' recovery.

Continuity Planning: Risk assessment can be a sophisticated area of expertise that ranges from self-assessment to an extensive engineering study. Your organization's risk needs will vary according to the specific industry, size, scope and location of your individual company. Start by reviewing your business process flow chart, if one exists, to identify operations critical to survival and recovery. Carefully assess your internal and external functions to determine which staff, materials, procedures and equipment are absolutely necessary to keep the business operating. You should also establish procedures for succession of management.

Include co-workers from all levels in planning and as active members of the emergency management team. Make a list of your most important customers and proactively plan ways to serve them during and after a disaster. Also identify key suppliers, shippers, resources and other businesses you must interact with on a daily basis. A disaster that shuts down a key supplier can be devastating to your business.

Plan what you will do if your building, plant or store is not accessible. Talk with your staff or co-workers and frequently review and practice what you intend to do during and after an emergency. Just as your business changes over time, so do your preparedness needs. Review and update your plans at least annually and inform your employees of the changes.

Emergency Planning for Employees: Your employees and co-workers are your business' most valuable asset. Two-way communication is central before, during and after a disaster. Include emergency information in newsletters, on your company intranet, in periodic employee emails and/or other communication tools. Designate an

out of town phone number where employees can leave an "I'm okay" message in a catastrophic disaster. If you have employees with disabilities or special needs, ask them what assistance, if any, they require.

Emergency Supplies: When preparing for emergency situations, it's best to think first about the basics of survival: fresh water, food, clean air and warmth. Encourage everyone to have a portable emergency supply kit customized to meet their personal needs, such as the inclusion of essential medications. Talk to your co-workers about what emergency supplies the company can feasibly provide, if any, and which ones individuals should consider keeping on hand. Recommended emergency supplies include: water, food, both a battery-powered radio and a NOAA weather radio with an alert function, extra batteries, a flashlight, first aid kit, whistle, wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, filter mask, plastic sheeting and duct tape in the event of airborne chemical hazards and moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation.

Keep copies of important records such as site maps, building plans, insurance policies, employee contact and identification information, bank account records, supplier and shipping contact lists, computer backups, emergency or law enforcement contact information and other priority documents in a waterproof, fireproof portable container. Store a second set of records at an off-site location.

Planning to Stay or Go: Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the disaster, the first important decision after an incident occurs is whether to shelter-in-place or evacuate. You should understand and plan for both possibilities in advance by developing clear, well-thought-out plans.

In any emergency, local authorities may or may not immediately be able to provide information

on what is happening and what you should do. However, you should monitor television or radio news reports for information or official instructions as they become available.

Make an Evacuation Plan: Some disasters will require employees to leave the workplace quickly. The ability to evacuate workers, customers and visitors effectively can save lives. If your business operates out of more than one location, establish evacuation procedures for each individual building. If your company is in a high-rise building, an industrial park, or even a small strip mall, it is important to coordinate and practice with other tenants or businesses to avoid confusion and potential gridlock.

Make a Shelter-in-Place Plan: There may be situations when it's best to stay where you are to avoid any uncertainty outside. There are other circumstances, such as during a tornado or chemical incident, when specifically how and where you take shelter is a matter of survival. You should understand the differences and plan for all possibilities.

Go to www.ready.gov for more specific information on these topics as well as when and how to "seal-the-room" for protection from chemical contamination and steps to take for fire safety and medical emergencies.

Talk to Your People

Providing for your co-workers' well-being is recognized as one of the best ways to assure your company's recovery. That means communicating regularly with employees before, during and after an incident. Use newsletters, intranets, staff meetings and other internal communications tools to communicate emergency plans and procedures.

Practice the Plan with Co-workers: Frequently practice what you intend to do during a disaster. Conduct regularly scheduled education and training seminars to provide co-workers with information, identify needs and develop preparedness skills. Include disaster training in new employee orientation programs.

Promote Family and Individual Preparedness: If individuals and families are prepared, your company and your co-workers are better positioned in an emergency situation. Encourage your employees and their families to: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan and be informed about different

threats and their appropriate responses. Go to www.ready.gov for more information or print out and distribute copies of "Preparing Makes Sense" brochures to your workers.

Write a Crisis Communication Plan: Detail how your organization plans to communicate with employees, local authorities, customers and others during and after a disaster. Include relevant information for employees, top company executives, the general public and your customers as well as local, state and federal authorities.

Support Employee Health After a Disaster: It is possible that your staff will need time to ensure the well-being of their family members, but getting back to work is important to the personal recovery of people who have experienced disasters. Workplace routines facilitate recovery by providing an opportunity to be active and to restore social contact. Re-establish routines, when possible. You may also want to consider offering professional counselors to help co-workers address their fears and anxieties.

Protect Your Investment

In addition to emergency planning and communicating with employees, there are steps you can take to safeguard your company and secure your physical assets.

Review Insurance Coverage: Inadequate insurance coverage can lead to major financial loss if your business is damaged, destroyed or simply interrupted for a period of time. Insurance policies vary, so check with your agent or provider about things such as physical losses, flood coverage and business interruption. Understand what your policy covers and what it does not.

Prepare for Utility Disruptions: Businesses are often dependent on electricity, gas, telecommunications, sewer and other utilities. You should plan ahead for extended disruptions during and after a disaster. Speak with service providers about potential alternatives and identify back-up options such as portable generators to power the vital aspects of your business in an emergency.

Secure Facilities, Buildings and Plants: While there is no way to predict what will happen or what your business' circumstances will be, there are things you can do in advance to help protect your physical assets. Install fire extinguishers, smoke alarms and detectors in appropriate places. Secure ingress and

egress and plan for mail safety. Plan what you will do if your building, plant or store is not usable. Secure valuable equipment. And make sure your building's Heating, Ventilating and Air-conditioning (HVAC) system is working properly and is well-maintained. You should also determine if you can feasibly upgrade the building's filtration system as a means of protection from biological and some other airborne threats.

Improve Cyber Security: Protecting your data and information technology systems may require specialized expertise, but even the smallest business can be better prepared. Use anti-virus software and keep it up-to-date. Don't open email from unknown sources. Use hard-to-guess passwords. Protect your computer from Internet intruders by using firewalls. Back up your computer data and download security protection updates known as patches regularly. Subscribe to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security National Cyber Alert System, www.us-cert.gov, to receive free, timely alerts.

An investment in planning today will not only help protect your business investment and your livelihood, but will also support your employees, customers and stakeholders, the community, the local economy and even the country. Get ready now.





Stafford Crime Analysis History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had a crime analyst since 2003. This crime analysis capability has evolved as technology has grown.

Our Criminal Investigation Division has a dedicated crime analyst that reviews and tracks a wide variety of data from our various reporting programs and technology. Utilizing that data to send out awareness information, caution notes, crime trends, and BOLO flyers to the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. This information is pulled from not only our county, but neighboring jurisdictions through interagency cooperation and information sharing.

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office would then join the Global Shield Network, and further increase our information sharing and crime analysis capabilities.

Program Evaluation

Per the seventh core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has an intricate and fully functional crime analysis capability.

With the use of our RMS system, CAD system, SHIELD network program, Crime Stoppers partnership, ArcGIS program, Crime Mapping program, and several other programs, systems, and partnerships; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has an extensive ability to collect a plethora of crime analytics data. Utilizing this data to the fullest extent to be able to project predictive models and identify emerging crime patterns. The Sheriff's Office currently has one crime analyst who processes and analyzes this information daily to generate actionable intelligence for patrol operations, investigations, and strategic planning.

Our Crime Prevention Unit produces weekly crime bulletins, monthly statistical reports, and targeted analytical products that support both tactical and strategic decision-making. These reports are based on the information by our agency's crime analysts and the utilization of the above programs internally. These help to identify crime hotspots, temporal patterns, and series of related incidents that inform resource allocation and deployment strategies. Through collaborative partnerships with other law enforcement agencies and the integration of multiple data sources, we maintain comprehensive situational awareness of criminal activity and public safety trends across our jurisdiction.

Our analytics also support by sharing information and posts from other agencies and organizations such as wanted suspects, intelligence bulletins, and officer awareness information on reported dangerous individuals from other organizations.

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's office is proud of the accomplishments that our crime analyst has done through our agency. Some of these are:

- In 2024 our crime analyst created a total of 419 intelligence and officer safety awareness bulletins that was sent out to all sworn deputies, ensuring they were aware of concerns in and around our region.
- In 2023 our crime analyst got trained on how to use Crime View through ARC GIS systems. Utilizing this program has increased their ability to apply crime statistics onto a mapping overlay of our county, making it easier to visualize and present the information. These presentations have been given to three neighborhood HOA meetings in 2024, upon request, to present their crime statistics at their meetings.



Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

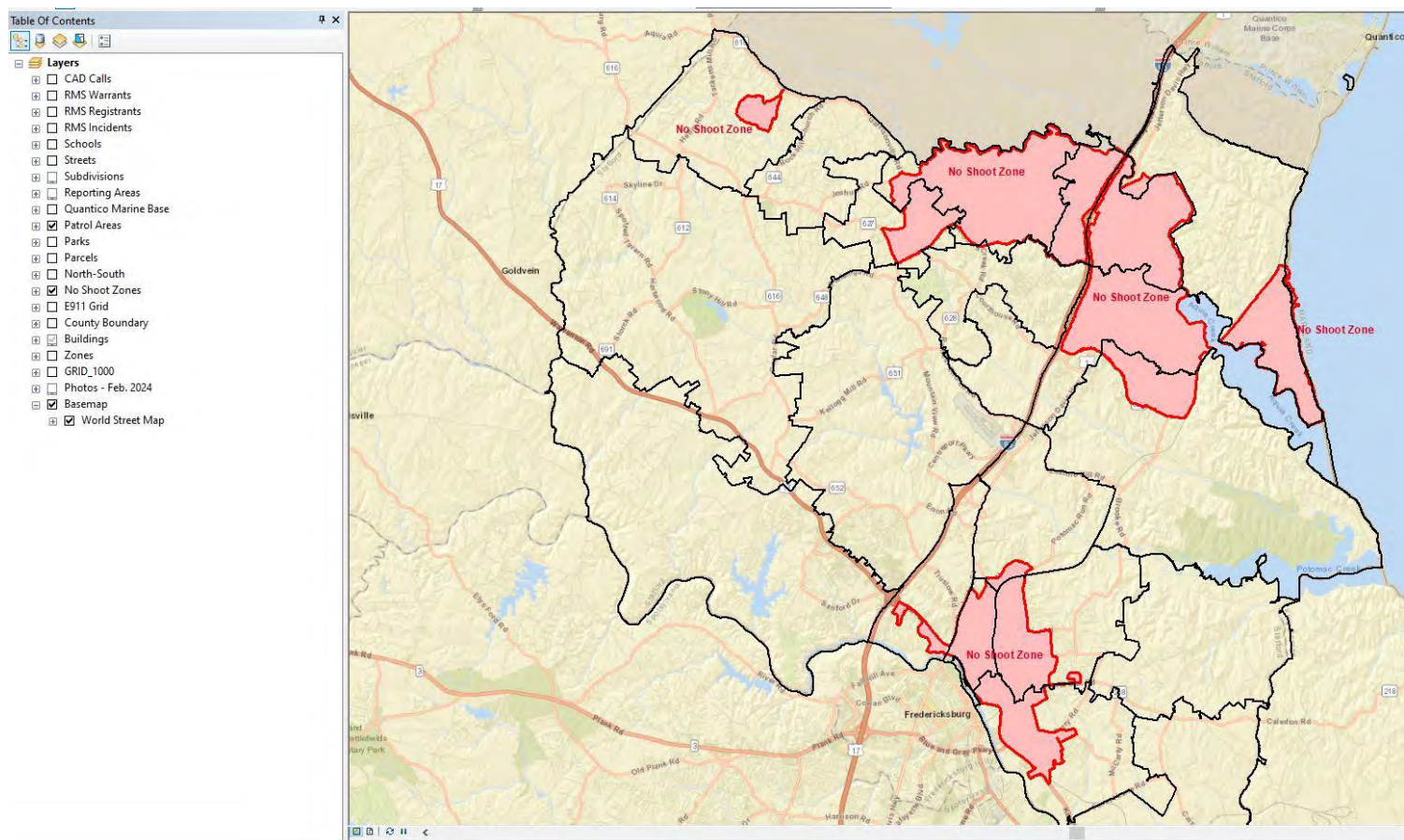
Increase the number of tools, resources, and members to better develop our crime analysis capabilities.

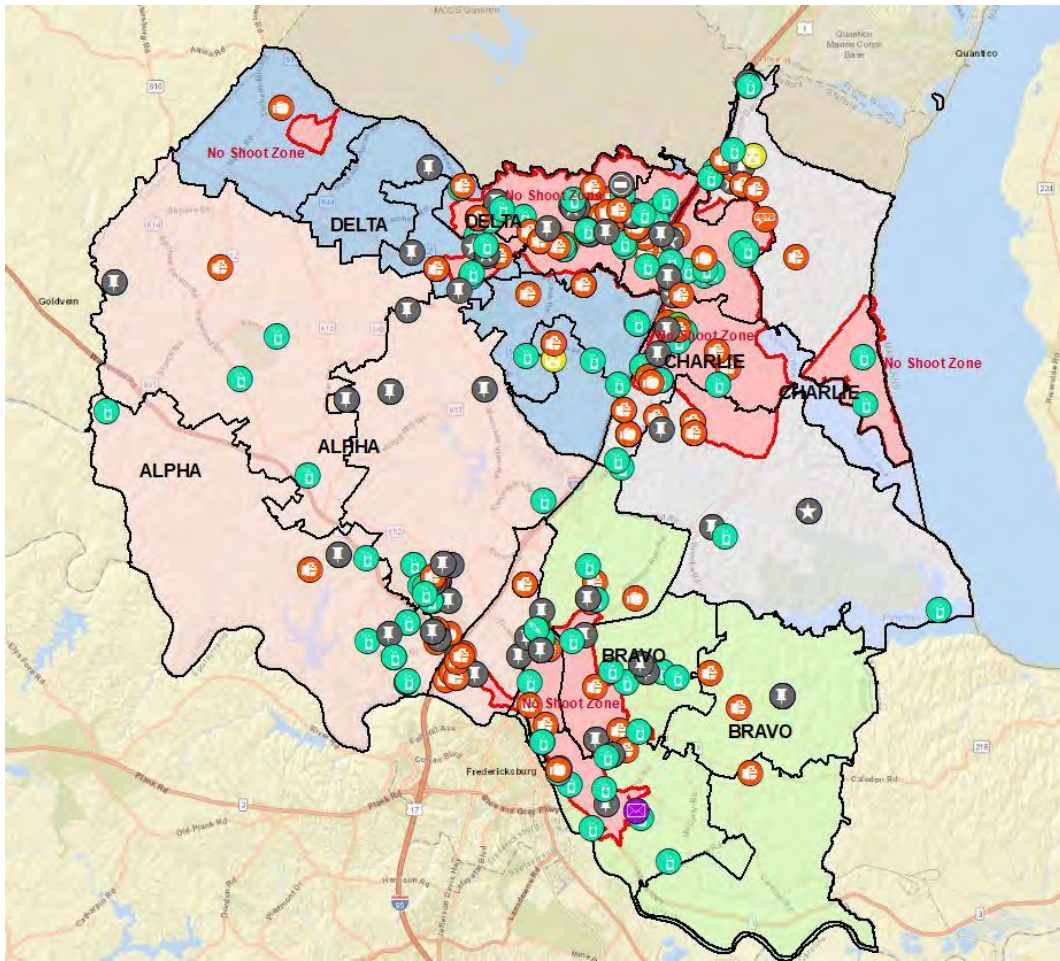
Objectives:

- Get a sworn deputy within the Crime Prevention Homeland Security unit to become a certified crime analyst. This is planned to be completed before 2027.
- Implement quarterly local crime analysis work groups with surrounding jurisdictions Crime Prevention Units to share best practices and intelligence on ongoing concerns. This is currently being designed, with a goal for full implementation before the end of summer 2025.
- Look into updating or utilizing more modern reporting programs compared to our RMS and CAD systems to be better able to pull from the data within them. This is currently underway with a proposed budget assessment to be concluded before the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had a crime analyst since 2003 when it was created. Since then, the position has been filled. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office seeks to not only maintain a crime analyst but increase the number going forward.





Stafford County Sheriff's Office

INCIDENT REPORT

Rpt. # Call # Rpt. Area	Rpt. Date Rpt. Time Rpt. Day	From Date From Time From Day	IBR Code	Offense	Disposition
2012000444 2012006042 043185	2012/01/16 00:00 2 - MON.	2012/01/16 12:53 2 - MON.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012000444 2012006042 043185	2012/01/16 00:00 2 - MON.	2012/01/16 12:53 2 - MON.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012000605 2012008135 043130	2012/01/21 00:00 7 - SAT.	2012/01/21 22:40 7 - SAT.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012000605 2012008135 043130	2012/01/21 00:00 7 - SAT.	2012/01/21 22:40 7 - SAT.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012000605 2012008135 043130	2012/01/21 00:00 7 - SAT.	2012/01/21 22:40 7 - SAT.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012000605 2012008135 043130	2012/01/21 00:00 7 - SAT.	2012/01/21 22:40 7 - SAT.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012001255 2012015969 043180	2012/02/11 00:00 7 - SAT.	2012/02/09 01:00 5 - THU.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	N.A.
2012001712 2012021934 043185	2012/02/27 00:00 2 - MON.	2012/02/27 20:30 2 - MON.	N.A.	[REDACTED]	CLOSED ARREST

Printed February 15, 2023

**STAFFORD
COUNTY
SHERIFF'S
OFFICE**



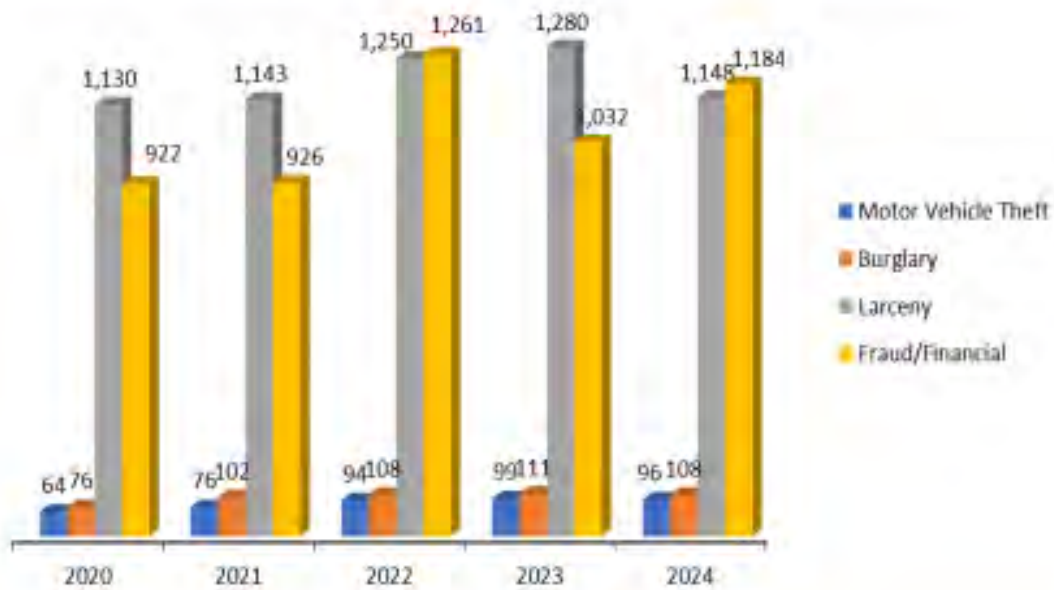
ANNUAL REPORT



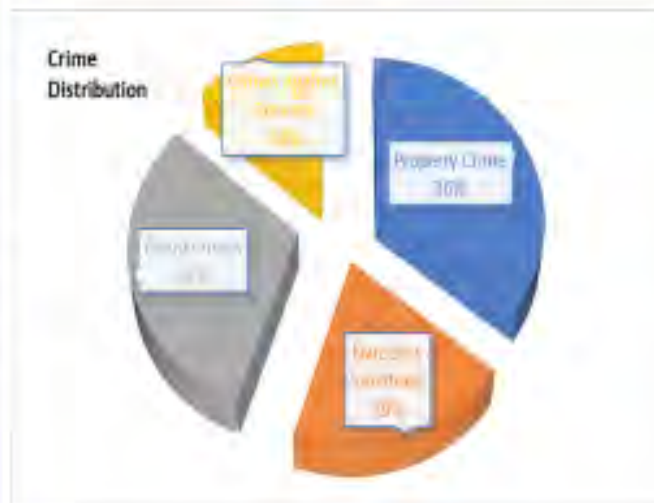
Dedicated, innovative people, working with the community, to serve and protect Stafford County while using the best tools and technology available.

Crime Statistics

The following pages provide statistics that reflect different activities handled by the Sheriff's Office in Calendar Year 2024. Fraud Crimes saw the biggest change from 2023 to 2024 with an increase of approximately .8%. Crimes Against Persons dropped 4%. The other two areas that saw decreases were Crimes Against Property, which decreased 2%, and Narcotics Violations, which decreased approximately 7%.



The chart on the right summarizes the major crimes reported in Calendar Year 2024. Property Crimes made up the largest percentage of all major crimes in 2024 at 36% but decreased in the number of crimes by 2%. Fraud Crimes increased in the number of crimes from 2023 to 2024 by 5%. Narcotics Crimes decreased by 7%. Crimes against Person equaled 14% of the overall crime and increased in the number of crimes by 4%.



Core 8

A comprehensive school safety audit process conducted by trained members of a local school safety team



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Stafford School Safety History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has always had a relationship of cooperation with our county public schools. A shared desire for safety and security of our students is always the utmost. Sharing a security mindset and making sure that others also have the training and experience to provide productive and efficient safety to our schools.

The Stafford County Public Schools' Department of Safety & Security has had a long-standing memorandum of understanding with the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. This MOU has been updated accordingly and is our main way of creating a smooth and seamless process of handling security audits. The last update was in March 2025.

Program Evaluation

Per the eighth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit conducts comprehensive and detailed school safety audit processes alongside our public schools. These audits are conducted in alignment with Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) requirements and best practices for school safety. The last audit that was done is in 2024, which the Stafford County Sheriff's Office assisted.

Our juvenile services unit provides detailed documentation of all security infrastructure, including access points, camera systems, and communication equipment. We regularly review and update emergency response plans for each school facility, incorporating lessons learned from both local and national incidents. Our Crime Prevention Homeland Security has provided specialized training to school staff on emergency procedures, threat assessment, to school staff and even transportation staff.

The Sheriff's Office maintains a proactive stance on identifying and addressing potential security vulnerabilities. Our partnership includes annual full-scale active shooter training, regular emergency drills, and ongoing evaluation of security protocols. This is all done in partnership with the Stafford County Public Schools' Department of Safety & Security.

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office and the Stafford County Public Schools have long worked together, leading to several accomplishments. Some of these are:

- In 2024 the Stafford County Sheriff's Office increased its number of School Resource Officers and School Protection Officers, filling all the high schools and a majority of middle schools with a uniformed presence. This increased the Juvenile Sources Unit in the Sheriff's Office with five new deputy positions and one new supervisor position. This was a concerted effort by the Sheriff's Office to support the public schools with a wider filling of the public schools within the jurisdiction.
- In 2024 the Sheriff's Office continued its partnership with the Stafford County Public Schools in the efforts of safety and security by supporting the annual graduations of the high schools in the jurisdiction. With an approximation of 2,200 graduating students, the graduations were attended by an approximate 27,500 people. Due to this, the Sheriff's Office provided 13 deputies on two days to provide both security and traffic support for these graduation events. As a result, this partnership between the Sheriff's Office and Public Schools resulted in no major concerns or incidents during both events.

Core 8

A comprehensive school safety audit process conducted by trained members of a local school safety team



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase the participation of between Sheriff's Office and Public Schools.

Objectives:

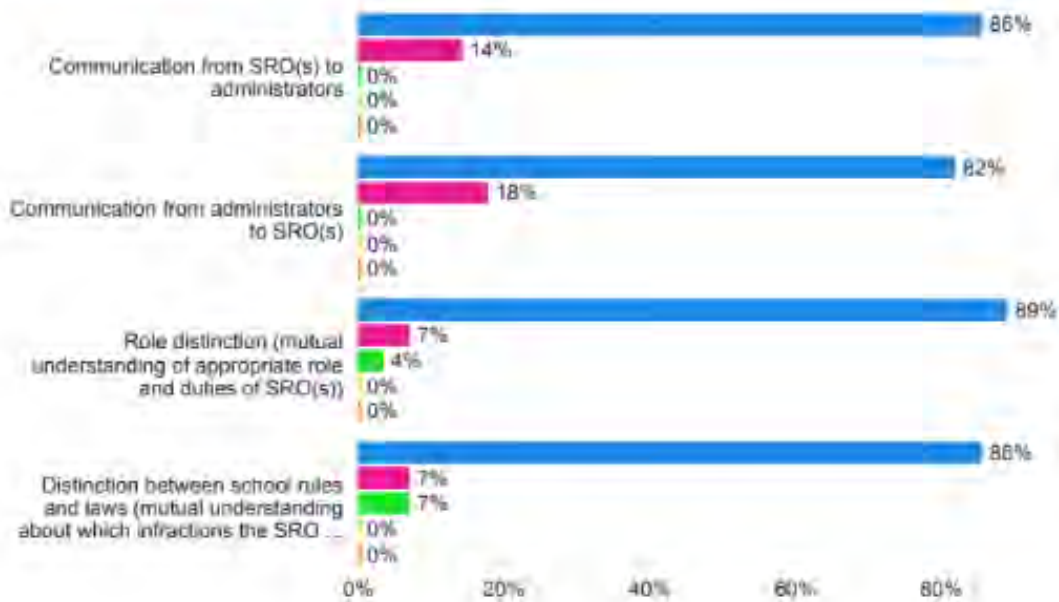
- Increase collaboration of public and community events between the Sheriff's Office and Public Schools from 2024. Increasing communication between the Crime Prevention Unit and school's Community Outreach Team.
- Add 1-2 new School Resource Officer positions to the Sheriff's Office Juvenile Services Unit between now and 2027.
- Increase involvement from the Sheriff's Office and the Public School's security and safety team on individual school security audits. This is currently being looked into and is planned to be accomplished and utilized for the 2026 school year.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has always had a relationship with the security and safety of the Stafford County Public Schools and has continuously grown this partnership.

Please rate each of the following areas related to your school/law enforcement partnership.

Very Good Good Acceptable Poor Very Poor



SROs are required professional development. What ongoing training would most benefit SRO(s) would most

Back to school 2023-2024

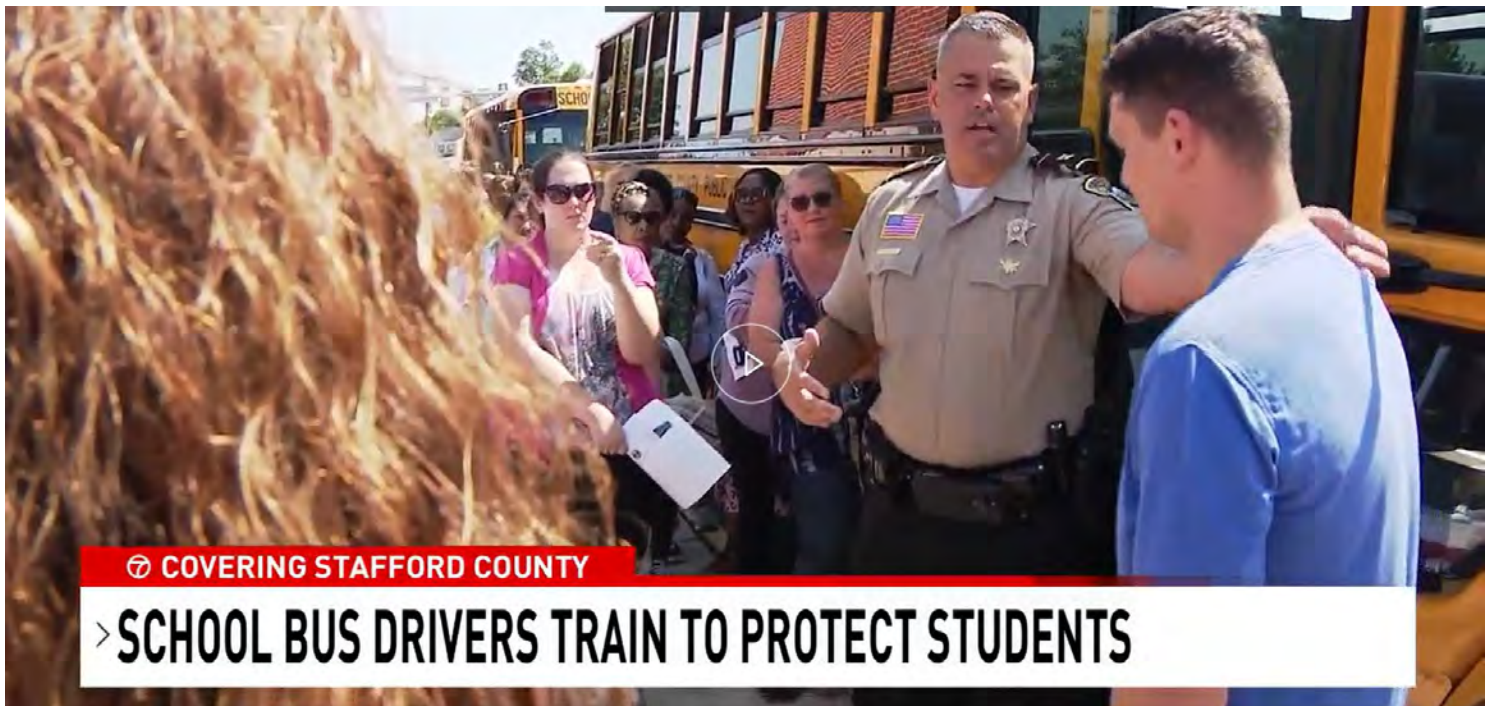




SRO's alongside the Stafford County Public School's Transportation and Safety Team worked together to make a hidden in plain sight video for bus drivers to increase awareness of possible easy to miss concerns.









Business Watch History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has continued to have a dedicated partnership with the businesses in our community. Both with commercial retail and smaller local businesses; we have sought to increase the relationships with the Sheriff's Office and the owners, managers, staff and employees of our business partners. This has formed into our Business Watch program that launched in 2020.

With our integration into the Global Shield Network, this has increased in efficiency and effectiveness with our communication, training, and proactive crime prevention.

Recently, we have started to utilize 3D printing technology to employ physical tools, such as skimmer detectors. Providing this to business watch partners and utilizing them ourselves to assess and check for skimmers at our businesses.

Program Evaluation

Per the ninth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit has an established and well-maintained Business Watch program. This is a part of our SHIELD program that is the umbrella that covers all our Watch programs. As of the end of 2024, we have 261 business partnerships within our county that are connected to the Business Watch program.

Our Business Watch program conducts quarterly meetings with our business partners to go over recent crime trends that affect them, as well as hearing from them on what issues and concerns they are each facing in their respective locations. In 2024 these meetings were attended on average by 5-9 of our larger retailers in the county with their Loss Prevention Officers.

The program also conducts security assessments upon request, normally through direct email contact with the Crime Prevention Unit. These security assessments involve doing walk throughs utilizing CPTED principals to provide informed crime prevention strategies and suggestions for the requesting business.

Our Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit also organized and directed out National Night Out event; which is one of the biggest events in our county. This is done at our largest business area, Stafford Marketplace. This is from a partnership with one of our local Target stores that let us utilize their parking lot for the event. Bringing awareness to vendors and businesses, both in the NNO venue itself and outside by its location.

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office included the business community in Stafford County in many of our endeavors. As such, we have had many accomplishments. Some of which are:

- In 2024 we created a branch of business watch called Hotel Watch that is made up of 28 hotels and motels in Stafford County. This was an effort to help focus on the persistent criminal activity that frequents those areas. This partnership provided a better way for hotel/motel owner, managers, and employees a liaison with the Sheriff's Office to handle questions and concerns outside of emergency calls.
- In 2025 the Stafford County Sheriff's Office in partnership with Target retail store loss prevention were provided with skimmer checking 3D printable files to create an unlimited number of plastic devices that go into card readers and can check for skimmers. These have been distributed to our patrol deputies and Crime Prevention and Homeland Security to allow for checks of local businesses for these skimmers.



Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase the partnerships of Business Watch and our local business community.

Objectives:

- Get an additional deputy assigned to the Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit by 2026. Assigning them to Business Watch as a primary role for that deputy position.
- Planning to create a program to do monthly checks of local businesses to check for skimmers and create a sign-up form to be able to offer to the business community. This is being discussed currently and planned to coincide with a full deputy position in 2026 into the Crime Prevention Homeland Security Unit.
- Increase the number of business partnerships and create a way of updating/upkeeping the contacts for those businesses. Given the high turn over rate of some businesses management, it can be difficult to know when these businesses have change in management. Our plan is to do an audit of our current emails for businesses, to be finished by August 2025. Then create or identify a management program to utilize by the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has continuously partnered with our local businesses since the inception of Business Watch and continues to do so going forward.

What is Business Watch?

Our community is made up of a multitude of businesses, both large and small, that are an integral part of Stafford County. The [SCSO Shield](#) program is the platform we use to connect our different Watch programs, such as [Worship Watch](#) and [Neighborhood Watch](#). Within this is the Business Watch program; with the goal of ensuring the safety and security of the Stafford County business community. Business Watch takes the "neighbor looking out for neighbors" concept to the commercial level. It is a partnership that focuses on the exchange of information between businesses, the Sheriff's Office, and other organizations that represent business interests. The Business Watch philosophy is straightforward - Take control of what happens in your business community and lessen your chances of becoming a victim.

A sub-group within Business Watch is also our [Hotel Watch](#). This is a watch program that follows the same approach as Business Watch but with a more detailed focus on the many hotels and motels within our community. With the nature of these establishments providing temporary lodging to both citizens of our community and visitors; we have found that a more connected and communicative partnership for these businesses and the Sheriff's Office yields a safer and more welcoming community to those that stay within our county.

What You Can Expect

When you join Business Watch, you become a partner in the SCSO Shield program. This means you will be notified, as you see fit, for any and all information and alerts that come from the Sheriff's Office, focusing on our business community. In addition, there are several security-oriented opportunities offered to you as a partner. These include but are not limited to:

- Crime trends around businesses
- Upcoming events in the business community
- Security assessments upon request
- Active Shooter/Critical Incident/Staff Security training upon request
- Monthly bulletins focused on our business community

What You Can Do As A SHIELD Partner

Designed as a partnership, the SCSO Shield program and Business Watch is a mutual exchange of communication and trust. Your participation is vital to make this an effective and efficient resource. As a partner, here are some things you can do to help accomplish this goal.

- Report any and all suspicious activity, individuals, or vehicles
- Check your business to ensure it is as secure and safe as possible, with a focus on larceny deterrence
- Explain to staff and members how the program works and encourage the same reporting and vigilance of suspicious activity
- Communicate with the Business Liaison to set up security assessments and up to date training
- Keep one another and our community safe

How To Start

To become a partner with Business Watch, follow the steps below to sign up for SCSO Shield program:

1. [Click to become a partner](#)
2. Select Business Watch as one of your programs.
3. Feel free to reach out to Deputy Shannon for any assistance or support.



Deputy Frank Shannon
Crime Prevention Unit
fshannon@staffordcountyvva.gov
540-658-4706



BUSINESS WATCH

**We partner with the
Stafford County Sheriff's Office
and report all suspicious and criminal activity.**

**EMERGENCY Dial 9-1-1 Report suspicious activity to:
(540) 658-4400 or TEXT 274-637: Stafford+Tip**

CRIME ALERT

BE AWARE of GIFT CARD scams!

**If you have been asked to purchase
gift cards and provide the numbers
over the phone then you may be the
victim of a crime!**



**Please report this to the Stafford
County Sheriff's Office.**

(540) 658-4400



Victim/Witness Service Program History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had a victim services policy written into our general orders since 2000. The purpose of the policy is to establish guidelines responsibilities, and procedures for crime victim assistance.

A victim/witness assistance program was put into effect with the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney in 2018.

This focus on victim assistance and services has only increased by our partnership with Empowerhouse in 1989. A regional domestic violence advocacy group that has been around for 48 years. With a vast majority of our victim services leaning towards domestic violence and spousal crime, having an advocate at the Sheriff's Office has proven to be an amazing resource to our deputies and victims that deal with the need for victim/witness services. We have had a colocation office in our agency building since 2018.

Program Evaluation

Per the tenth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office maintains a comprehensive Victim/Witness Assistance Program that provides essential support and advocacy for crime victims and witnesses that we encounter on an almost daily basis. In 2024, Empowerhouse reported 6,570 individuals affected by domestic violence and were provided services or advocates. With 750 being voluntary screenings conducted on scene with victims by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office.

To this end, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a cooperative agreement with the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney to create a Victim/Witness Assistance Program; created in January 2000 and last amended in July 2018. This agreement is intended to ensure that victims of crime will receive information about services available to them and that they are made aware of their rights as victims. These procedures are also designed to encourage the cooperation of victims with law enforcement, prosecution, and the criminal justice process.

From this program, the Sheriff's Office will provide crime victims a material listing of specific rights afforded to them, provide information crucial to rendering services to victims, and will assist in the return of property held as evidence at the discretion of authorized Sheriff's Office and Commonwealths Attorney Office personnel.

The program also partners with the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault (RCASA) in and addition program for sexual assault victim assistance; thus adding a more robust capability of provide services and support to victims of crimes related to that specificity. This cooperative agreement was signed and established in February of 2018.

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office also provides a resource guide on our website that victims can find that list several different phone numbers for a large amount of services and resources.



An on-site victim/witness services program or an organized referral process to programs in neighboring jurisdictions.

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office commitment to victim/witness services has shown several accomplishments, such as:

- In 2024, Crime Prevention's Worship Watch program held a meeting with faith leaders from around the county to detail and teach about Empowerhouse. This meeting had 27 individuals present, representing approximately 21 houses of worship. Susan Sigmon, the Empowerhouse advocate and liaison with the Sheriff's Office, was the speaker at the event. She detailed to faith leaders and representatives about Empowerhouse and how they could use their services, provide information to victims that they see, and better partner with their faith communities. Several faith leaders at the meeting admitted they had received complaints in the past from congregants about domestic abuse, and did not have the resources then to direct them like they did after the meeting.
- In 2024 the Stafford County Sheriff's Office and Stafford Fire/Rescue were supporting a local community event to support those without permanent housing. Stafford Fire/Rescue provided a wellness van where they could do basic medical checkups. During one checkup, a young woman got in and claimed to want a medical checkup, while her boyfriend stayed outside talking to a Sheriff's Office representative handing out free clothes. The woman admitted to Fire/Rescue that she was only allowed to leave her boyfriend's sight for medical checkups and that she was afraid, being abused, and not from the area. Sheriff's Office contacted Empowerhouse who set up a way to meet the woman the next day and get her services.

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Get deeper data and analytics from partnership organizations and use this information to enhance current methods of providing services.

Objectives:

- Set up annual meeting and workshop with Empowerhouse to go over yearly statistics, growing this to include court services, commonwealth attorney's office, and other stakeholders. This is in discussion and planning to have a first meeting at the start of 2026 to go over 2025's information.
- Design a study/survey on the effectiveness of the program and/or its impact on those that utilize these services. This objective is planned to be discussed before the end of the year and designed at the start of 2026.
- Work with local jurisdiction's law enforcement agencies to collaborate on data and statistics to present a regional view on the utilization of victim/witness services to be shared amongst all participating entities. This is currently being discussed and is planned to be moved to the start of 2026 after objective ones meeting to gather the information from Stafford County specifically.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are no gaps in service identified. Since the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has started its partnership with victim/witness services it has continued to utilize and grow those efforts; and plans to do so going forward.



Community Resource Guide

Legal Services/Resources:

Stafford Sheriff's Office 1225 Courthouse Road Stafford, VA 22554	Law Enforcement	911 (Emergency) (540) 658-4400 (Non-Emergency)
Commonwealth's Attorney Eric Olsen 1245 Courthouse Road Stafford, VA 22554	Criminal Prosecution	(540) 658-8780

Victim's Rights/Assistance:

Depending on the unique circumstances of your case, as a victim, you may be entitled to certain rights, assistance and protections including: Confidentiality of personal information, Protection, Financial Assistance, Notice of Court Hearings and Courtroom Assistance during your case, Input during the Trial Process and other Post Trial Assistance and Notices. Employers may not take adverse action against employees attending Court who are the victims of crimes per Virginia Code 40.1-28.7:2. For additional information and assistance concerning your rights, please contact the Commonwealth Attorney Office Victim Witness Program

Victim Witness Program	Assists Victims of Crimes	(540) 658-4301
Court Services Unit	Domestic, Juvenile and Custody Matters	(540) 658-8770
Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund	Compensation for Victims of Crimes	1 (800) 552-4007
Magistrate's Office	Protective Orders/Misdemeanor Warrants	(540) 659-2968
Vinelink	Inmate Release Information for Victims	1 (800) 467-4943 vinelink.com



Domestic Abuse

+ **Counseling**

- **Victims Services**

Empowerhouse (RCDV)	Adult and Juvenile Domestic Violence Resources/Services/Shelter	(540) 373-9372 / (877) 734-7238 / (540) 373-9373 (Hotline)
Loisann's Hope House	Emergency Housing Women/Children	(540) 371-0831
Victim Witness Assistance Program	Commonwealth Attorney's Office	(540) 658-4301 (Stafford)
Haven Shelter and Services, Inc	Domestic Violence Shelter	(804) 333-5370
Yet Stand, Inc.	Sexual Assault Victim Support	(571) 393-1693 yetstand@gmail.com www.yetstand.org

+ **Child Services**



Victim's Rights/Assistance/Support

Depending on the unique circumstances of your case, as a victim, you may be entitled to certain rights, assistance and protections including: Confidentiality of personal information, Protection, Financial Assistance, Notice of Court Hearings and Courtroom Assistance during your case, Input during the Trial Process and other Post Trial Assistance and Notices. Employers may not take adverse action against employees attending Court who are the victims of crimes per Virginia Code 40.1-28.7:2. For additional information and assistance concerning your rights, please contact the Commonwealth Attorney's Office Victim Witness Program.

- **Services**

Victim Witness Program	Assists Victims of Crimes	(540) 658-4301
Court Services Unit	Domestic, Juvenile and Custody Matters	(540) 658-8770
Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund	Compensation for Victims of Crimes	1 (800) 552-4007
Magistrate's Office	Protective Orders/Misdemeanor Warrants	(540) 659-2968
Vinelink	Inmate Release Information for Victims	1 (800) 467-4943 www.vinelink.com
Legal Services of NOVA	Legal Services	(703) 778-6800
Rappahannock Legal Services	Free Legal and Civil Assistance to Low Income Individuals and Families	(540) 371-1105

+ **Incarceration Support**



Delinquency Prevention Program History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office always has the juveniles and their families that we serve as a pivotal focus on the public service we provide.

The Sheriff's Office also has established community partnerships with organizations like Stafford Junction, who focuses on at risk youths by providing after school support and activities. This partnership was made when they first formed in 2006. Through this partnership, the Sheriff's Office holds a baseball camp every summer for youths identified through this organization and supported by them. This has been held every year since 2011, except for one year during the COVID pandemic. It averages 30 juveniles from across the county.

In addition, since 1973 the Sheriff's Office has established a Cadet program and summer Junior Deputy Academy to show juveniles an in-depth look at the agency and law enforcement, while teaching life skills and positive character traits and values.

Program Evaluation

Per the tenth core requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has several invested programs and efforts in place to help prevent juvenile delinquency.

Our School Resource Officers take a vested interest in our juveniles that show a delinquent behavior, and has long since worked with the courts Juvenile Services Unit to ensure that every option is examined and looked into about ways to prevent future delinquent activity of behavior. These consultation meetings happen whenever a specific behavior or law enforcement action has been taken with a juvenile that will involve the Juvenile Services Unit. Constantly learning new strategies and techniques nationwide that is being demonstrated and employed to assist with these efforts.

Our Cadet Program is one such program that focuses on young men and women to give an opportunity to experience law enforcement first hand. Led by Sheriff's Deputies, the program allows youths to train and work in a wide range of law enforcement procedures. The program is designed to help build character and train for civic responsibilities. We currently have 21 cadets active in the program.

We also provide a Junior Deputy Academy, which is a one-week summer time experience for rising 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th graders, culminating in a graduation event. The program is an experience at seeing all the different aspects of our agency and what law enforcement is. The program, much like the Cadet Program, is designed to help build positive character traits and show civic responsibilities. The graduation is a way for those attending to come together with their families in an exciting day to celebrate together. This program has been in effect since its creation in 2015.

Additionally, we have a dedicated and certified group of D.A.R.E. officers who are focused on drug awareness and prevention education on a regular basis. We currently have three D.A.R.E. certified deputies. This is brought together during our annual D.A.R.E. Day event with approximately 2,300 students graduating the program annually. This is in partnership with several community organizations who sponsor the event and that focus on delinquent behavior determent, such as: *CVS Caremark Distribution Center, Mission BBQ, Bill Carroll, B101.5, Walmart, Local Services LLC, Stafford County Fire & Rescue and The Office of Emergency Management, Bojangles (Stafford and Spotsylvania), Rappahannock Regional Jail, Wawa (#8677 & #0688) and Virginia Department of Transportation.*



Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office efforts to assist with at-risk youths and delinquency prevention as produced several accomplishments, such as:

- A juvenile who was identified and introduced to the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Cadet Program successfully completed the program. As a result, this juvenile then went into multi-media design and information school and in 2022 joined the Stafford County Sheriff's Office as our Public Information Officer. They identified the program as being a primary motivator to push and better their life and direction.
- In 2024, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office held its annual D.A.R.E. Day. With a vast amount of coordination between multiple agencies and organizations, the event had 2,449 students, and several hundred chaperones at the event, with 17 school buses shuttling those attending the event at Pratt Park. This also included 53 exhibitors setting up displays, games, and other functions for those attending, including a large rock-climbing wall. With the coordinated effort, 4 lost children were relocated to their chaperone and the event had no major incidents or injuries to those attending. Our Traffic Safety Unit assisted and were able to transition all the buses and students in a way that did not negatively impact the county's traffic flow.

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Establish a community based and county wide taskforce for the support of at-risk youths.

Objectives:

- Set up a community advocacy group made up of community organizations that do work within the juvenile delinquency support wheelhouse. This is currently underway and is planned to launched before the start of the 2026 school year.
- Establish a more defined cooperation and partnership with the Rappahannock Regional Juvenile Detention Center and have pre-set meetings with same on a regular basis. This is planned to be done before the end of 2025.
- Establish a community access program to free clothing, hygiene products, and resources in partnership with the Stafford County Public Schools McKenny-Vento program and Clothing Closet. This is being discussed currently for implementation and is planned to roll out before the start of the 2026 school year with badge access to the clothing closet for deputies.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

The only gap in service would be during the COVID pandemic where aspects of our programs were limited due to the pandemic. Since the creation of these programs and partnerships, the Sheriff's Office has always had some aspect of delinquency prevention and continues to plan to do so.



Sheriff
David P. Decatur

Chief Deputy
C. Shawn Kirmritz

Major
R. Jason Dembowski

Public Safety Center
Ford T. Humphrey Building

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 189
Stafford, VA 22555

Physical Address:
1225 Courthouse Rd.
Stafford, VA 22554

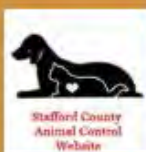
Information:
540-658-4450
info@staffordcountyva.gov

[Employee E-mail](#)

[Employee Area](#)

[Search Website](#)

 [Stafford Alert](#)



STAFFORD
Virginia
Stafford County, VA
[Official Website](#)



Cadet Program



The Stafford County Sheriff's Office Cadet Program is designed specifically for young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20 who may be interested in a career in law enforcement. Since 1973, the Stafford Sheriff's Office has offered young men and women an opportunity to experience law enforcement first hand through its Cadet Program.

Lead by Sheriff's Deputies, the program allows youth to train and work in a wide range of law enforcement procedures. The goal of the program is to help interested individuals cultivate a better understanding of the profession and enable them to make an informed decision about pursuing a law enforcement career. The program is designed to help build character, train for civic responsibilities, and educate and help prepare the participants for a career in law enforcement.

In assisting young people with their goals, we create a better community and law enforcement relationship, as well as a better understanding between our youth and the community.

Activities include

Training – Cadets receive training in a wide range of law enforcement procedures such as traffic control, crowd control, crime prevention, investigative techniques and court procedures.

Career – Cadets learn about career opportunities in law enforcement at the local, state and federal levels.

Community Service – Cadets will be involved in civic events, crime prevention displays, traffic control and with personnel in the Sheriff's Office for a variety of non-enforcement related tasks.

Ride-Alongs – Upon completion of a training period, qualified Cadets may ride on a patrol with deputies and observe law enforcement work first hand.

Special Star Force Cadets



The Sheriff's Office developed the Sheriff's Special Star Force (SSSF) Cadet Program. This program was the first of its kind in Virginia, and possibly the first of its kind in the nation. The SSSF is designed for young people with intellectual challenges, ages 13-22. Cadets experience various duties of a law enforcement officer in a safe and hazard free environment. The SSSF Program is intended to be both an educational and community service based program.

Limited space. To check program availability, contact Captain Carey at scarey@staffordcountyva.gov

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Sheriff
David P. Decatur

Chief Deputy
C. Shawn Kimnitz

Major
R. Jason Dembowski

Public Safety Center
Ford T. Humphrey Building

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 189
Stafford, VA 22555

Physical Address:
1225 Courthouse Rd.
Stafford, VA 22554

Information:
540-658-4450
info@staffordcountyva.gov

[Employee E-mail](#)

[Employee Area](#)

[Search Website](#)



Junior Deputy Academy

Stafford County Sheriff's Office Junior Deputy Academy (JDA) FAQ's

What is the Junior Deputy Academy?

The Stafford Sheriff's Junior Deputy Academy is designed for children who have an avid interest in Law Enforcement and are eager to learn more from the deputies who work in their community.

The academy is designed to provide a basic understanding of what deputies do through educational hands-on activities and experiences along with classroom presentations. This program focuses on the Stafford County Sheriff's Office core values; Professionalism, Fairness, Compassion and Integrity, encouraging each participant to continue to practice these values long after they 'graduate' from the program.



When is the next JDA?

Elementary Session - June 2nd through June 6th

Middle School Session - June 9th through June 13th

Who can apply to participate in JDA?

All rising 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th graders who reside in Stafford County may apply. There are limited seats available. Not all who apply will be selected to participate.

How does the selection process work?

Each applicant is asked to write a short explanation, no more than 150 words, as to why they would like to participate in JDA which is uploaded during the application process. We then ask selected members of the Sheriff's Office and Stafford County Public Schools to assist with reviewing each application to determine if they meet the eligibility criteria. Ultimately, the available seats are filled by eligible applicants using a blind randomized selection process.

How many seats are there?

Currently we have less than 50 seats available for each week of JDA.

Core 12

Local law enforcement agency must either be accredited or seeking accreditation from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) or a nationally recognized program such as the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Stafford County Accreditation History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office was first accredited in 1999 with the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standard Commission (VLEPSC).

Since that time, our agency has consistently met and exceeded VLEPSC's rigorous standards across all operational aspects.

The accreditation process serves as a blueprint for professional excellence, risk management, and continuous improvement across all divisions. Through ongoing self-assessment and external review, we maintain the highest standards of law enforcement service delivery to our community.

Program Evaluation

Per the twelfth core requirements of community safety elements, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office maintains a positive Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) accreditation status, demonstrating our commitment to professional excellence and adherence to internationally recognized law enforcement standards. In May of 2024, the Sheriff's Office was reaccredited by VLEPSC marking its seventh accreditation since 1999.

Our dedicated Accreditation Unit ensures continuous compliance with over 180 applicable standards, encompassing all aspects of law enforcement operations including use of force, training, investigations, evidence handling, and community engagement. Through systematic policy review, comprehensive documentation, and regular mock assessments, we maintain operational readiness for reaccreditation cycles.

The Sheriff's Office utilizes PowerDMS for policy management and training, ensuring all personnel have immediate access to current policies and procedures that align with VLEPSC standards. Our proactive approach to standards compliance includes monthly file maintenance, quarterly standard reviews, and annual mock assessments to identify and address any potential compliance issues before they arise

Program Accomplishments

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has always sought to be above and beyond when it comes to law enforcement standards, as such here are some accomplishments.

- As an organization accredited through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission since 1999, we as an agency have year after year shown our commitment to excellence for our community through VLEPSC for twenty-six years without any demerits or discrepancies in that track record during its seven accreditation audits.
- In 2024, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office was awarded first place in the Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police for its outstanding traffic safety programs. This award was in part accomplished by the rigorous efforts to ensure that the traffic safety standards the Sheriff's Office adheres to is at or above the VLEPSC standards.

Core 12

Local law enforcement agency must either be accredited or seeking accreditation from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) or a nationally recognized program such as the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase effectiveness with VLEPSC principals or standard as it pertains to the Stafford County Sheriff's Office

Objectives:

- Create innovative approaches to standards compliance that exceed basic requirements. The goal is to find a new method, technology, or practical application of a VLEPSC principal to be a focus on for the 2026 year.
- Each year after, selecting a new principal or standard and looking into this method to accomplish at least one improvement. Before the end of 2026, this new standard will be identified and ideas towards its improvement laid out before implementation for that year.
- Looking into offering an assistance program for other agencies seeking accreditation through VLEPSC. Several of our programs have been asked about by other agencies on how we do things. To that end, planning to nominate an interagency deputy by the end of 2025 to act as a liaison for other agencies wanting assistance for working towards accreditation compliance.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

Since its accreditation in 1999, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has not had a gap in its accreditation. The Sheriff's Office plans to continue this going forward as an agency.



Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission

Process & Procedures

Mission, Goals, and Benefits

Bylaws

Commission

Accredited Agencies

Accredited Agencies

88



Stafford County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff David P. "DP" Decatur Jr.
Accredited: 1999-03-01
Accreditation Manager: [Captain David Stout](#)
Status: Reaccredited -7th Award
Next Assessment: by Mar 2028

Stafford Sheriff's Office Receives Certification in Use of Force Standards



By Public Information Officer Sarah Maroney
January 25, 2021

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce our agency has been certified in meeting the use of force standards outlined in the Executive Order on Safe Policing (E.O. 13929).

The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) has reviewed the Sheriff's Office's policies on use of force and certified the policies adhere to all federal, state, and local laws as well as ban the use of chokeholds except in deadly force situations. The certification demonstrates the Stafford County Sheriff's Office's commitment to professionalism and to delivering the highest quality law enforcement services. The certification also allows the Sheriff's Office to be eligible to receive federal grant funding.

The Executive Order on Safe Policing was issued on June 16, 2020 with a goal to ensure law enforcement agencies continue to provide transparent, safe, and accountable delivery of services to communities. Independent credentialing bodies, such as VLEPSC, were established in each state to certify agencies that meet the use of force standards set forth in the Executive Order.

Optional 1

Have an established TRIAD program to support senior adults.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford Spotsylvania Fredericksburg TRIAD History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has been a committed partner in the TRIAD initiative, an alliance among law enforcement, senior citizens, and community groups to reduce crimes against senior adults.

This started in 1995 where the Sheriff's Office created its own TRIAD program.

In 2008, this program merged with the Spotsylvania TRIAD to form a unified alliance, which later expanded to include Fredericksburg.

Current participating agencies include:

- Stafford County Sheriff's Office
- Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office
- Fredericksburg Police Department

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Offices first optional requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has an established TRIAD program to support crime prevention efforts that target crime affecting our senior adults.

The Sheriff's Office has been a committed partner in the TRIAD initiative, holding regularly meetings every other month with community stakeholders to assess safety concerns and provide education to senior residents. These meetings normally have approximately 12-14 attendees.

The Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg TRIAD does annual Senior Safety Day events in collaboration with local partners, including local senior living facilities, Department of Social Services, and the Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging, the most recent having been in March of 2025.

The Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg TRIAD also does targeted crime prevention outreach through workshops held quarterly on several topics such as:

- Fraud prevention
- Elder abuse awareness
- Personal safety for senior adults

Program Accomplishments

Through the efforts of our regional TRIAD, there have been many accomplishments. These include:

- In March of 2025 the Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg TRIAD held a senior adult expo event. From that event there were 48 vendors from various aspects of senior wellness in the region. With 206 senior adults attending.
- In November 2024 the Attorney General's Office re-ratified the Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg TRIAD, signed by their respective Sheriffs, Police Chief, and Attorney General Jason Miyares.



Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase presence and impact of TRIAD in the community.

Objectives:

- Enhance coordination with healthcare providers to address elder mental health needs in connection with public safety. To get healthcare provider or service representatives to become members of TRIAD and attend meetings. The objective is to get one representative by the end of 2025.
- Develop a list of local senior centers and senior living facilities to be able to schedule visits to discuss elder abuse and neglect training for staff and crime prevention education for seniors. The objective is to create the list by the end of 2025 and during the 2026 year, host four of these trainings.
- Redevelop and remake the Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg TRIAD website. Using new technology and new resources to create better understanding and education for those using the website. One key objective is for the website to have an outreach request option for neighborhoods, senior centers, or groups to request TRIAD to come out to them for classes, education, or assistance. This website is aimed to be designed and implemented before the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are have been no gaps in service since the inception of the Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg TRIAD. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office and associated agencies have redoubled their efforts with TRIAD since its re-ratification with the Attorney General's Office and plans to continue going forward.

Spotsylvania Stafford Fredericksburg TRIAD

Reducing the fear of crime and the criminal victimization of our older citizens, thereby improving the quality of their lives.

TRIAD was established in 1988 when three national organizations agreed that the elderly could better be protected by cooperative efforts. The relationship was cemented when the organizations – the **American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)**, **International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)**, and the **National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)** – signed a cooperative agreement. TRIAD partnership in Virginia, through the Office of the Attorney General, protects our growing elderly population. With the support of the local sheriffs, police chiefs, AARP, and other community services groups TRIAD works to keep older Virginians informed of their rights.

TRIAD in this area was created in the mid-1990's, first with the formation of separate Spotsylvania and Stafford TRIADs. After a number of years of each TRIAD providing information to seniors, a cooperative agreement was reached in 2008, and these TRIADS merged to form a stronger alliance. Since then, Fredericksburg has joined and formed what today is **The Spotsylvania Stafford Fredericksburg TRIAD**. A major purpose of TRIAD is to develop, expand and implement effective crime prevention and safety programs for older Virginians. TRIAD will involve the communities by implementing solutions to the seniors' needs, strengthening communication between law enforcement and senior communities, and educating seniors on local and state resources available in their community.



Office of Stafford County Sheriff - David "DP" Decatur, Sheriff · Follow

November 22, 2022 · 🌐

Thank you Deputy Curtis!



Harmony at Falls Run · Follow

November 21, 2022 · 🌐

With the holidays quickly approaching us, we thought it would be beneficial to be up to date on the current scams targeting seniors in our area. Deputy Curtis gave us a plethora of new information on how to be best protected in today's high tech world! We are now more educated and more vigilant than before! Thank you to the [Stafford County Sheriff Department](#) for this very helpful program!

*Spotsylvania, Stafford,
and Fredericksburg*
TRIAD
Recharter

brought to you by:
Attorney General Jason Miyares

**An opportunity to hear from Attorney
General Jason Miyares, Local Sheriffs,
Police Chiefs, and Fire Chiefs**

**November 21st,
3:00PM - 4:30PM
RICHARD E. HOLBERT MEMORIAL BUILDING
9104 Courthouse Rd,
Spotsylvania Courthouse, VA 22553**



**Please
RSVP
Using
QR Code**

**You're invited to the Spotsylvania,
Stafford, and Fredericksburg TRIAD
Recharter Signing Ceremony! We
welcome you to connect, engage, and
participate in exciting events and
resources for senior citizens in
partnership with local law enforcement.
*Reducing Crime Against the Elderly***





Spotsylvania-Stafford-Fredericksburg TRIAD COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Office of the Attorney General

Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office

Fredericksburg Police
Department

Stafford Sheriff's Office

Stafford Fire and Rescue

PREAMBLE

Major polls indicate that crime and the fear of crime impact severely on older Americans. Recognizing the challenging situation presented by a rapidly increasing number of older persons in the country, we desire to identify and offer ways of dealing more effectively with the many problems faced by older citizens.

Because of the aging of the population and the increasing demands being placed on public safety agencies to meet the needs of older citizens, it is important that the area's leading public safety officials and service providers devote special attention to the needs of senior citizens.

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT

In light of the above, the **Office of the Attorney General, the Stafford Sheriff's Office, Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office, Fredericksburg Police Department, Stafford Fire and Rescue, and the Spotsylvania-Stafford-Fredericksburg TRIAD / S.A.L.T. Council** are determined to effect change. These agencies and organizations agree that the nation's older population has special needs with respect to victimization and fear of crime, perceived and actual loss, and the sense of being alone and unprotected. We agree that these needs can and should be met by law enforcement agencies and the area's leading premiere organizations of older citizens, working together at all levels of free societies.

We hereby commit to work together to enhance the quality of life of older persons. Our purpose is to heighten awareness among law enforcement practitioners of older persons' need for dignity and security and to focus our efforts on reducing criminal victimization through cooperative strategies, planning and programming. This initiative is designed to mobilize community resources to continually ascertain the needs and concerns of older citizens and to provide mechanisms for meeting those identified needs.

This sharing of resources is the first step in achieving an effective means of identifying available programs. This process will involve public safety practitioners, service providers and citizens of all ages in the development, implementation, and evaluation of acceptable solutions. Together, we will strive for a renewed sense of responsibility for the security and general well-being of older citizens through public awareness, training, and the provision of criminal justice services.

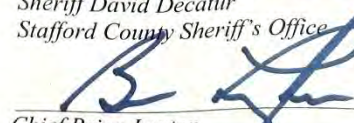
Therefore, by agreement, the **Spotsylvania-Stafford-Fredericksburg Virginia TRIAD** will initiate the appropriate actions to achieve these objectives.

ACCEPTED THIS 21st Day of November 2024



The Honorable Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General of Virginia


Sheriff David Decatur
Stafford County Sheriff's Office


Major Roger Harris
Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office


Chief Brian Layton
Fredericksburg Police Department


Chief Joseph Cardello
Stafford Fire and Rescue


Chief Jay Cullinan
Stafford Fire and Rescue



STAFFORD
SPOTSYLVANIA
FREDERICKSBURG

VIRGINIA
TRIAD

Seniors & Law
Enforcement
Together
(SALT)

Reducing
Crime
Against
the
Elderly

TRIAD SCAM TRAINING

Meet with
Spotsylvania,
Stafford, and
Fredericksburg law
enforcement
Tuesday, June 10th
at **10:00 AM**

Scam Awareness:

- Common Scams
- Scam Strategies
- Prevention Techniques
- Q&A Portion

Location:
Spotsylvania Sub-Station
137 Spotsylvania Mall
Fredericksburg, Va 22407



Presenters:
Sgt. Steven Curtis & Det. Sean Danyluk
of Stafford County Sheriff's Office

Optional 2

Have an active Worship Watch program to support faith and religious community.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Worship Watch History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had relationships with the faith community in our county for a long time. However, in 2020 we launched our Worship Watch program to formalize that dedication to the faith community.

While beginning with the same model as Neighborhood Watch for the faith community; the program evolved alongside the needs of the faith community to focus on being a resource hub for the houses of worship, focus on a Sheriff's Office liaison, and an emphasis on community engagement and support at their events.

This program is coordinated by a singular deputy as a primary duty focus alongside their other Crime Prevention Homeland Security roles and duties.

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Office's second optional requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a robust and involved Worship Watch program that supports our faith community in Stafford County.

The Worship Watch program has 117 houses of worship that have joined, including 3 Islamic Mosques, 3 Buddhist Temples, 1 Catholic Church, 1 Jewish Synagogue, and 109 various denominational and non-denominational Christian Churches.

The program has provided several safety and security assessments to multiple houses of worship. These assessments utilize CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principals and other established safety and security principals specific to houses of worship, to best provide recommendations on security measures. These assessments are normally followed up by various safety and security trainings, such as active shooter, suspicious person, de-escalation, and other. In 2024, the Worship Watch program conducted 13 safety and security assessments and 18 security training classes.

The program also holds quarterly Worship Watch meetings at the Sheriff's Office. These meetings go over hot topic issues based on crime prevention and also utilize 3-4 nonprofits to come and speak, giving them 30 minutes to share their resources with the various faith representatives. We have an average of 22 attendees, typically representing approximately 16 houses of worship.

Program Accomplishments

Through the dedicated focus on the faith community, the Worship Watch program has had many accomplishments. These include:

- In March of 2021 the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Worship Watch program received the Faithful Servant Award in Fairfax County, held by multiple houses of worship in that area. They hold an annual award ceremony to recognize first responders. These are awards for individuals or organizations that show exemplary commitment to faith communities in the area.
- In 2024, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Worship Watch program assisted in the coordination of local houses of worship and nonprofits to make a community program called Stafford R.I.S.E. (Rebuilding Integrity through Support and Encouragement). This program was designed to support those without permanent housing. In 2024, Stafford R.I.S.E. has helped 1022 individuals without permanent housing.

Optional 2

Have an active Worship Watch program to support faith and religious community.



**Stafford County
Sheriff's Office**

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase the connection with and support of house of worship security/safety teams.

Objectives:

- Develop a database where houses of worship can put their building plans, SOPs, trespass letter, and other information that they want the Sheriff's Office to have access to for emergencies. This model is projected to be designed by the end of 2025, with a 2026 launch expectation.
- Host a safety/security team conference where house of worship safety/security teams can come together and network; as well as having a focal training class/session for the event. This is an objective set to hosted in 2026, with a hosting location identified before the end of 2025.
- Redesign and redevelop our Worship Watch online PDF document. This document has been used with general suggestions and tips for securing a house of worship. This redesign is aimed to be finished before the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are have been no gaps in service since the inception of Worship Watch. It has been maintained by the Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit and is planned to continue doing so.



Worship Watch



What Is Worship Watch?

Our community is a proudly diverse one, made up of many people and many faiths. The true strength in this is how our differences have made us a stronger community as we come together to support one another. The [SCSO Shield](#) program is the platform we use to connect our many equally diverse Watch programs. Within these is the Worship Watch program that focuses on being a focal point for all worship organizations in the Stafford County community. It is a faith-based partnership, working hand in hand together to support, encourage, and look out for one another within the SCSO Shield program. As many are aware, crimes targeting places of worship such as vandalisms and larcenies are a prevalent problem. The goal of Worship Watch is to come together to deter these crimes through observation, communication and reporting any and all suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office.

What You Can Expect

When joining Worship Watch, you become a partner in the SCSO Shield program. This means you will be notified, as you see fit, for any and all information and alerts that come from the Sheriff's Office, focusing on our faith-based community. In addition, there are several security-oriented opportunities offered to our worship community. These include but are not limited to:

- Crime trends at or around our worship groups
- Scam notifications based on our area, especially targeting our worship groups
- Upcoming events in the worship community
- Volunteer opportunities in the community
- Security assessments upon request
- Active Shooter/Critical Incident/Staff Security training upon request
- Monthly bulletins focused on our worship groups

What You Can Do As A SHIELD Partner

Designed as a partnership, the relationship between the SCSO Shield program and Worship Watch members is a mutual exchange of communication and trust. Your participation is vital to make this an effective and efficient resource. As a partner, here are some things you can do to help accomplish this goal:

- Report any and all suspicious activity, individuals, or vehicles
- Check your worship center to ensure it is as secure and safe as possible, with a focus on vandalism deterrence
- Explain to staff and members how the program works and encourage the same reporting and vigilance of suspicious activity
- Communicate with the Worship Watch Liaison to set up security assessments and up to date training
- Keep one another and our community safe

How To Start

To become a partner with Worship Watch, follow the steps below to sign up for SCSO Shield program:

1. [Click to become a partner](#)
2. Select Worship Watch as one of your programs.
3. Feel free to reach out to Deputy Curtis for any assistance or support.



Office of Stafford County Sheriff - David "DP" Decatur, Sheriff · Follow

May 6, 2022 · 🌐

Deputy S.H. Curtis, Jr. and our Sheriff's Office Chaplain, Bishop Lacey participated in the National Day of Prayer yesterday in Fredericksburg. Thank you to Zion of Fr... See more



Sgt. Curtis at a faith-based panel discussion on community safety.



Sheriff Decatur at a multi-faith gathering event to pray over different parts of the community.



Stafford Sheriff's Office working with Stafford Public Schools and the faith community to introduce a new "adopt a school" program for houses of worship to adopt schools near them to support.



Sgt. Curtis teaching a faith-based private school classroom about the Sheriff's Office and how they use UAS capabilities to help locate missing persons.



Stafford Sheriff's Office joining with the Islamic Center of Stafford to celebrate Ramadan together.

Optional 3

Utilize and partner with National Night Out to create community support outreach.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford National Night Out History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has been hosting National Night Out events since 2010. That year, the agency organized a community gathering at Stafford Marketplace on August 3, 2010, as part of the nationwide initiative to foster police-community partnerships and promote neighborhood safety

Over time, the event has grown to become one of the county's largest community gatherings, attracting thousands of residents and numerous local businesses and organizations.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was moved from August to October in 2021, a change that has continued in subsequent years due to citizen request.

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Office's third optional requirement of community safety elements; partnering with the National Night Out program. Having done so since 2010, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has grown this event to be the largest on in the county, with 2024 having an approximate 3,500 citizens coming out to attend the main event.

During the 2024 National Night Out event, we had 147 exhibitors who signed up to have a spot at the event. These were a mixture of businesses, houses of worship, first responder organizations, federal organizations, restaurants, and more.

In addition, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office also visits multiple neighborhoods who host their own neighborhood focused National Night Out event. In 2024, there were 4 neighborhoods where these events were held. The Sheriff's Office provided deputies, police cruisers, K-9 demonstrations, UAS demonstrations, a McGruff mascot, and more to support each of their events.

Program Accomplishments

With the success of the National Night Out program across the nation, the one held by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has had many accomplishments.

Some of these are:

- The Stafford County Sheriff's Office 2023 National Night Out was attended by approximately 4,100 citizens. The largest that the Sheriff's Office had seen in its 15 years of hosting the event. This was pointed out by the County Board of Supervisors and presented a proclamation celebrating the success of the event.
- From utilization of Stafford Marketplace as the site of Stafford County's National Night Out, the partnership between the local businesses and the Stafford County Sheriff's Office grew. From that, the Target shopping center that is one of the sites that the Stafford National Night Out utilizes, started partnering with the Sheriff's Office during their Winter Toy Drive. Having been one of the locations of the annual toy drive for the last seven years and donating to the toy drive directly as well.

Optional 3

Utilize and partner with National Night Out to create community support outreach.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Optimize and expand the Stafford National Night Out event in Stafford County.

Objectives:

- With a large wait list of exhibitors who want to attend National Night Out, there are still several exhibitors who get a spot and end up not showing up, with no notice. To be able to best allow for all exhibitor spots to be filled, we are developing a policy that a no call, no show of an exhibitor puts them on notice. If a second no call, no show happens, they are given a one-year suspension to being an exhibitor during National Night Out. This is planned to be fleshed out and put in place before October 2025.
- Develop an increased digital social media campaign to promote more neighborhood involvement with the neighborhood National Night Out portion. The goal is to take the numbers from 2025 of neighborhood involvement and double those by 2026's National Night Out event.
- Find an option to increase announcements and music during National Night Out. With it being such a large event in a large area, exhibitors and citizens can't hear the DJ's announcements of performances or alerts above the noise of the crowds. Objective is to find a second DJ or find a way to broadcast across the entire event space. This is currently being looked into and planned to be accomplished and Utilized by October 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are have been no gaps in service since the start of Stafford County Sheriff's Office partnering with National Night Out and will continue to do so going forward.

Free to the Public

NATIONAL

NIGHT OUT

2024

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

October 1st

Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Stafford Marketplace







Optional 4

Utilize a Crime Solvers organization that supports agency crime prevention.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford Crime Solvers History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office in Virginia has been utilizing the Crime Solvers program since 2010, with that year having the first organized "Stafford Shredding Day" event to raise funds for the program.

Stafford Crime Solvers is a community-driven initiative designed to encourage public involvement in crime prevention. The program offers cash rewards of up to \$1,000 for information leading to arrests, recovery of stolen property, or seizure of illegal drugs. To date, the Stafford Crime Solvers have raised money and provide rewards for approximately 27 information. To maintain confidentiality, tipsters are assigned unique identification numbers and are not required to disclose their identities or testify in court.

They also host three Shred Events in the county at the Stafford County Sheriff's Office every year. In 2024, the Stafford Crime Solvers reported that they collected an average of 8,000 lbs of shredded material per shred event, with their annual being close to 30,000 lbs of shredded materials.

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Offices fourth optional requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a partnership with our Stafford Crime Solvers organization. This s run by a Board of Directors composed of Stafford County residents.

The Crime Solvers organization also mirrors the Sheriff's Office social media by posting missing person flyers, citizen information requests for help identifying perpetrators of crimes, events in the community, and other information. Assisting with community and Sheriff's Office interaction and awareness.

The Stafford Crime Solvers organization also is the largest component of the Stafford County Fair every year, being the ones to endorse and assist with its operation through their members volunteering to run the event. The Stafford County Fair is the third largest annual community event in the county.

Program Accomplishments

Through the efforts of the Crime Solvers organization, there have been accomplishments, such as:

- In 2025, the Stafford Crime Solvers did a drive to raised \$500 towards the national Law Enforcement United Ride during National Police Week.
- In 2023, the Stafford Crime Solvers endorsed and helped to set up, plan, and organize a holiday parade in Stafford County. This parade involved several community clubs, organizations, and businesses doing floats, with 9 floats making up the parade. It was attended by several hundred citizens in the community.

Optional 4

Utilize a Crime Solvers organization that supports agency crime prevention.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Modernize and revamp the Stafford Crime Stoppers program.

Objectives:

- With a website that is in need of being updated and modernized, the objective is to make a new website or redesign the old website. This is planned to be accomplished during 2026.
- Move from Motorola to the Navigate 360 text-a-tip program. This program greatly increases the ability to receive tips and information for Stafford Crime Solvers to reward. It also is one used by neighboring jurisdictions to Stafford, furthering partnerships. This objective is currently being looked into and is aimed to be accomplished by 2027, pending contract and budget considerations.
- Partner with Crime Solvers National Program. This parent organization provides resources and support with local Crime Stopper programs. This membership also reduces the cost of the Navigate 360 text-a-tip program that is currently being looked into by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. The date for this objective is in conjunction with the previous objective.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are has been only one year of a gap in service with Stafford Crime Solvers during the 2021-2022 timeframe due to a change in leadership and board members. The Stafford Crime Solvers plans to continue their operations and services going forward into the future.



Stafford Crime Solvers Stafford, Virginia

WELCOME TO THE STAFFORD CRIME SOLVERS WEBSITE

What is Crime Solvers?



What is Crime Solvers? Stafford County Crime Solvers is a community program geared toward public involvement in the fight against crime. Crime Solvers offers cash rewards up to \$1,000.00, and anonymity to people who provide information that results in the arrest or resolution of an unsolved crime, recovery of stolen property, or seizure of illegal drugs. When a call is received by Crime Solvers, a fact sheet is filled out with date, time and a brief summary of the caller's information. The call taker assigns the caller a number. This number is used in subsequent calls to Crime Solvers, and if and when any reward is paid to the caller. The caller is given a phone number and asked to call back after the Crime Solver Board of Directors reviews the case for a possible reward. If the

caller gives their name and phone number, that information is also logged, but is kept strictly confidential. (All callers remain anonymous, with no pressure to reveal their identity, while still collecting their rewards.) Confidentiality has played a key role in the success of Crime Solvers, and callers are not required to testify in court. If a caller's information results in the arrest or resolution of an unsolved case, the caller is given arrangements to receive his or her reward in CASH while preserving his or her anonymity.



Benefiting **Stafford County Crime Solvers**

Stafford Shredding

Drive-thru
style!!!

Join the Stafford County Crime Solvers
for a safe and secure way to dispose of documents!



Sat. April 12, 2025
9am - 11am (or until full)
Stafford County Sheriff's Office
(1225 Courthouse Rd. Stafford, 22554)

**LIMIT 100lbs PER
VEHICLE**


**EVENT
IS
RAIN
OR
SHINE!**



Contact **CRIME PREVENTION UNIT** with questions **540-658-4030**

Optional 5

Utilize a McGruff / safe house program for community functions and interactions.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford County Sheriff's Office McGruff History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has been utilizing a McGruff suit since 1994. In the years since then the Sheriff's Office has expanded this to have three fully functioning McGruff suits.

These have been housed and maintained by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Homeland Security Unit. They are operated primarily through the Sheriff's Office Cadet program as an opportunity for them to have an option to serve the community through that program.

These McGruff costumes are some of the key services at community events like D.A.R.E. Day, Stafford National Night Out, Stafford 4th of July, Stafford County Fair, and more. The McGruff costume have been used at these annual events almost every year (weather dependent) since each individual events inception. In 2024, the McGruff costume was used 34 times in that year at various events.

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Offices fifth optional requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has three actively used McGruff mascot outfits and attire.

These are made up of four components. The McGruff mascot head, the mascot gloves, the McGruff overcoat, and pants. These are heavily maintained after every event to make sure they are able to last as long as possible, with only a few needing repairs or patching up since their initial purchase in 1994.

This program is operated by the entire Sheriff's Office, predominately through the Cadet program. However, any and every Deputy or members is able to participate. This has opened up opportunities to those in the agency who don't normally get to be involved in community events to have a role. This helps foster more connection between Sheriff's Office employees and the community they serve.

The McGruff mascots have been utilized primarily at events with juveniles such as D.A.R.E. Day and First Responder Education Days in the community. These have been invaluable for changing juvenile perspectives of law enforcement. Countless times a juvenile who was apprehensive of approaching Stafford County Sheriff's Office Deputies, would approach once McGruff was at the event. Allowing for a bridge of connection that would otherwise be difficult to overcome without.

Program Accomplishments

The McGruff program has been utilized to amazing results. Some of these include:

- At National Night Out in 2023, the Public Schools held a mascot race between all the mascots of the High Schools and Middle Schools. The Sheriff's Office McGruff mascot was also entered into the race and won the competition. This was a highlight event for that National Night Out event.
- In 2025, Stafford County's D.A.R.E. Day was canceled due to rain. This event that normally has thousands of juveniles and chaperones that attend at Pratt Park. With no rain date planned, one school decided to hold smaller D.A.R.E. Day events for their school. They asked if a deputy could come out and attend the outside event; instead a deputy and the McGruff mascot was sent. With approximately 220 juveniles, the event was noted by teachers and staff as being successful because of the McGruff mascots participation.

Optional 5

Utilize a McGruff / safe house program for community functions and interactions.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Develop the mascot program to better connect with community functions and interactions.

Objectives:

- One of the older McGruff mascot heads needs to be patched up. The goal is to take this mascot head and alter it to be more German Shepherd similar. This mascot head will then be used with the official Stafford County Sheriff's Office Deputy uniform, making it a more focused mascot representing the Sheriff's Office. This is being designed currently and planned to be unveiled at the 2025 National Night Out event in October.
- Currently there is not a rotation cycle between the McGruff mascot outfits. Typically, the newer one being worn exceptionally more than the older ones. The objective is to make a tracking chart and be able to track the usage of each mascot outfit, setting up a rotation so that we can maximize the overall efficiency and durability of the suits. This tracking chart is planned to be organized and constructed by October 2025.
- With regional events or multi-jurisdictional events, other agencies utilize similar mascot outfits. To better expand connection with community's at functions and with interactions, developing a multi-jurisdictional outreach group will allow for us to multiply the amount of law enforcement mascot usages at these large events. This outreach group is currently being discussed and planned to hold an initial meeting before the end of 2025.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There have been no gaps in service since the first purchase of the McGruff mascot outfit. This has only grown and expanded since then, and is planned to continue to do so.





Optional 6

Utilize a D.A.R.E. school-based law-related education program.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford D.A.R.E. History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. program began in 2001 and has continued to grow and become even better for the last 24 years.

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office first ever D.A.R.E. Day was held at Winding Creek Elementary School in 2001. It was a celebratory event to bring the acclaimed program into the Stafford County Public Schools; a collective effort of both the Sheriff's Office and its partnership with the schools.

With an average graduating class of approximately 2,300 students; we have had approximately 54,000 to 57,000 students graduate the D.A.R.E. program in Stafford County. This graduation is held at Pratt Park annually with over 3,000 participants on average.

What began as a single-school celebration has grown to cover all 17 elementary schools in Stafford County.

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Offices sixth optional requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has an established D.A.R.E. school-based educational program.

Currently the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a dedicated and certified group of D.A.R.E. officers, including one full time D.A.R.E. officer and two other D.A.R.E. certified deputies. They are focused on drug awareness and prevention education on a regular basis in and out of the public schools. This is brought together during our annual D.A.R.E. Day event with approximately 2,300 students graduating the program annually. This is in partnership with several community organizations who sponsor the event and that focus on delinquent behavior determent, such as: CVS Caremark Distribution Center, Mission BBQ, Bill Carroll, B101.5, Walmart, Local Services LLC, Stafford County Fire & Rescue and The Office of Emergency Management, Bojangles (Stafford and Spotsylvania), Rappahannock Regional Jail, Wawa (#8677 & #0688) and Virginia Department of Transportation.

Over its two-decade journey, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. program has become a cornerstone of youth engagement—empowering kids to make positive choices, showcasing career and recreational opportunities, and strengthening bonds between law enforcement and the community.

Program Accomplishments

During the Stafford Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. program existence, there has been many program accomplishments; such as:

- At the May 5, 2011 Sheriff's Office Awards Ceremony, two key figures in the D.A.R.E. program were honored. First Sergeant Nancy J. Morin and Deputy Tracy A. Scoggins each received a Letter of Commendation for organizing the first annual D.A.R.E. basketball game between the Sheriff's Office and Stafford County Public Schools. The game attracted approximately 1,500 attendees and raised over \$4,000 for the D.A.R.E. program, demonstrating both community engagement and fundraising success
- In 2024, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office held its annual D.A.R.E. Day. With a vast amount of coordination between the schools, the Sheriff's Office, and community organizations listed above, the event had 2,449 students, and several hundred chaperones at the event, with 17 school buses shuttling those attending the event at Pratt Park. This also included 53 exhibitors setting up displays, games, and other functions for those attending. These included martial arts studios, B101.5, cheerleading studios, remote control aircraft clubs, VDOT, YOVASO, animal hospitals, state parks, Stafford Fire/Rescue, Boy and Girl Scouts of America, heritage societies, Stafford Parks and Rec, YMCA, State Police, military, U.S. Secret Service, local nonprofits, sports leagues, Stafford Fire Marshals, stem camps, and more...

Optional 6

Utilize a D.A.R.E. school-based law-related education program.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

...With the coordinated effort, 4 lost children were relocated to their chaperone and the event had no major incidents or injuries to those attending. Our Traffic Safety Unit assisted and were able to transition all the buses and students in a way that did not negatively impact the county's traffic flow. The D.A.R.E. graduation is a part of D.A.R.E. Day.

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Utilize new technology and other supports to improve the coordination and organization of the D.A.R.E. program.

Objectives:

- Look into a program to switch from physical maps to digital maps for D.A.R.E. Day. Being able to hand out QR code or website maps instead of physical copies will cut down on time, manpower hours, and reduce or limit misplacement of the maps. This is currently being looked into and planned to be accomplished before the start of the 2026 school year.
- With one full time D.A.R.E. officer position and two other D.A.R.E. certificated deputies there is a lot of work between all the schools to be able to support effectively. With that, the objective is to have two additional D.A.R.E. certified deputies, with an objective time of the 2027 school year, depending on agency manpower limitations.
- With the 2025 D.A.R.E. Day rain cancelation, looking into organizing a systematic way of redundant options for individual school's D.A.R.E. graduation events. Looking at utilizing either online streaming/interactive options, or coming up with a request form for each school to utilize to request individual Sheriff's Office resources for their own separate D.A.R.E. Day backup events. This is currently being looked into with implementation set for the 2026 school year.

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There are have been no gaps in service since the inception of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. program. Having maintained a D.A.R.E. officer and conducted D.A.R.E. classes in the schools. This is planned to continue forward.

21st Annual
DARE DAY
Tuesday, May 21
(Event Time 9:45AM - 1:00PM)
PRATT PARK



Be a part of the celebration for our 5th grade D.A.R.E graduates. Showcase your business or organization as a healthy alternative to drugs and alcohol.

Exhibiting Ideas:

* Freebies/Coupons/
Informational Literature

* Interactive Games/Prizes

* Demonstrations/
Performances

* Apparatus/Equipment/
Live Animals

For more info. &
to register...
Scan below!



DARE Day is hosted annually by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Stafford County Public Schools, for all fifth graders that have completed the requirements of the D.A.R.E Program. These 2,000+ students, along with their chaperones and teachers, come eager to celebrate their graduation from the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program and enjoy a day jam-packed with FUN!





Optional 7

Utilize a crime prevention newsletter providing information to citizens.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Stafford Community Newsletter History

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office has been producing a community-based newsletter since 2005.

In 2005 the "Stafford Star" was released, supplemented by weekly and ad-hoc outreach emails, making the Sheriff's Office community communication program strong and continuous for nearly two decades.

In March of 2021, the "Stafford Star" was rebranded and turned into "Stafford Shield", and put out in individual newsletters as a part of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office Shield Program. This turned into individual Worship Watch, Business Watch, and Neighborhood Watch newsletters that are released monthly.

Program Evaluation

As the Stafford County Sheriff's Offices seventh optional requirement of community safety elements; the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a dedicated Crime Prevention newsletter providing important information to citizens.

This Sheriff's Office also regularly distributes weekly "Crime Reports" alongside the individual Shield newsletters. We send out one Crime Report every week. These are signed up for online at www.staffordshield.com where citizens can join and pick any number of selections from, Worship Watch, Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, Individual Shield Member, and Weekly Crime Report.

These Shield newsletters are sent out monthly, and are a mixture of relevant information on that particular watch program, safety and security tips and suggestions, recent concerns or criminal activity, and promotion of events relevant to that particular watch program.

Individual Shield alerts and community safety announcements are also sent out on a basis regulated by the severity of the alert and the subject matter. These can include recent criminal activity (often related to scams), happening now incidents, and/or national incidents shared across the Global Shield Network. They are sent out via email after signing up with SCSO Shield. Since the 2021 rebrand, there have been 386 informational literature sent out, with an approximate outreach of 68,300 citizens.

Program Accomplishments

With the success of the Shield program and newsletters, there have been many accomplishments; such as:

- In the Fiscal Year 2024 accomplishments report, Stafford County (via its broader digital services and communications teams, including the Stafford County Sheriff's Office) earned a 2023 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award for leveraging a digital ambassador and chatbot known as "Blu". This tool helps residents get responses to county-related questions, including where to get crime related information that are found in the newsletters, weekly crime reports, and Shield alerts.
- In 2022, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office was used as an example for its Stafford Shield program. This was done by the Virginia State Police Fusion Center who was introducing the Global Shield Network to Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office. The Stafford Sheriff's Office gave a detailed overview of the Shield program. From that, and VSP assistance, the Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office joined the Global Shield Network in 2024.

Optional 7

Utilize a crime prevention newsletter providing information to citizens.



Stafford County
Sheriff's Office

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Goals:

Increase newsletter awareness and outreach in the community through new technology and online marketing.

Objectives:

- Design a digital campaign to promote Stafford Shield on social media, aimed to increase sign up for newsletters that can be tracked. This is aimed to be accomplished before the Crime Prevention newsletter rollout that is planned before the start of the 2026 year. (See objective 2)
- Design a new format for the community monthly newsletters, planned to have an overall newsletter that goes out to all citizens, with break off links that go to the individual Shield programs specific newsletters. This is aimed to be accomplished before the start of the 2026 year.
- Increase Shield partnerships with local and regional area agencies to share information back and forth to increase the amount and variety of information in the newsletters. This is planned to be in conjunction with the digital campaign and see additional agency contract before the start of the 2026 year. (See objective 1)
- A weekly Shield meeting is currently being done by Virginia State Police, with Stafford Shield aiming to join before the launch of the new Crime Prevention Newsletter digital campaign before the start of the 2026 year. (See objective 1)

Analysis of Gaps in Services

There have been no gaps in service since the Stafford County Sheriff's Office first started putting out regular newsletters into the community. This is planned to continue going forward, and aimed to increase the variety and frequency of information.



[Web Version](#)

SCSO Shield Alert
- Armed Suspect Incident -
- CIA Headquarters, McLean, VA -

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office is aware and tracking an incident at the CIA Headquarters Building in McLean, Va. Open Source Media is reporting that an unknown individual has displayed a firearm in the direction of The CIA Headquarters Building.

Multiple Law Enforcement Agencies are on scene and conducting an investigation. At this time no shots have been fired and no injuries have been reported.

The subject is not in custody yet as Law Enforcement Officers are on scene trying to safely de-escalate the situation.

SCSO Shield will continue to monitor this on going situation and provide updates as appropriate.



Open Sources:

[Person makes threats at CIA headquarters, prompting heavy police presence: Officials](#)

[CIA headquarters swarmed by cops over 'man with a gun' as SWAT is called in just hours after JFK files were released - NewsBreak](#)

Worship Watch

January 2025 Newsletter



Sheriff's Office Winter Wonderland Success

The Stafford County Sheriff's Office and the Stafford County Public Schools want to say **THANK YOU** to everyone in the community who donated and made our Winter Wonderland experience and toy drive so successful.

Through your support and donations we were about to support over **300 families**, and over **600 children** who were identified by the public schools as being in need. Not to mention several other families and children who were identified through the support of many other organizations, including several houses of worship.

It is the compassion and love of our community being able to come together to support these families that shows that Stafford County is an amazing place to live. Thank you again to everyone who helped in any way to provide a wonderful winter experience to these families.



STAFFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE TRAINING

The training will begin with a power point presentation that should take approximately one hour. After a short break, the class will be broken into groups for hands on training at the following 6 stations. Please wear appropriate clothing for physical activity.

Station 1) Gunfire Drill (RUN) - Participants will be introduced to the sound of gunfire Via the VIRTA-300 firearms simulator at the Sheriff's Office.

Station 2) Barricade Drill (HIDE) - Participants will be put in an active shooter scenario and asked to barricade a door with provided office furniture and office items, turn off lights, silence phones, close windows, shades, and blinds avoid being seen from outside the room.

Station 3) Disarming Techniques - Instructor will provide instruction and demonstrations of disarming techniques for knives, pistols, and rifles. Participants will be given the opportunity to perform the techniques.

Station 4) Active Fighter Drill (FIGHT) - Participants will be put in an active shooter scenario and will be unable to barricade the door in time, being forced to confront a LEO posing as an active shooter and will take every effort to incapacitate or disrupt the actions of the shooter.

Station 5) Suspicious Person Description Drill - Participant will observe a roll-player who is pacing with a weapon. They will only be in view for 5-10 seconds. Participant should note the description of the subject and pass the information on to 911.

Station 6) Tactical Medical Skills - Participants will learn basic skills to assist anyone who is injured or in need of medical care until professional Emergency Medical Services arrive.



Date:

SEPTEMBER 26 FROM 12-4

Location:

**PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
1225 COURTHOUSE ROAD
STAFFORD, VA 22554**

Who:

**STAFFORD COUNTY EMPLOYEES &
VOLUNTEERS, SCPS STAFF, FAITH
LEADERS & STAFF**

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 40 PEOPLE

**To register for the course, please email
1st Sgt. J. Rakoczy at:
jrakoczy@staffordcountyva.gov**