



For Immediate Release
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HPD Receives Significant Donations to Spread Holiday Cheer this Season

Harrisonburg, VA – This week, the Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) received several special assignments to spread holiday cheer throughout the community.

Members of HPD's SWAT team contributed approximately \$1,000 and partnered with Harrisonburg City Public Schools to provide gifts to five families within the community. Those gifts were delivered to the children and families yesterday with Santa leading the convoy to each home.

In addition, a local community member, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated \$10,000 to give to people in the community. It was the donor's wish to reach as many people as possible within our community and for the officers with HPD to have the opportunity to positively interact with those recipients. To make that happen, officers conducted traffic stops, surprised people at work, and worked to assist those in need by giving \$100 with each interaction.

"It was a very neat experience to interact with members of the community in a positive way," explained Captain Tom Hoover. "We were able to touch so many lives and that would not have been possible without the help of the generous donor."

The giving spirit doesn't stop there. Tonight, HPD will partner with our local Boys and Girls Club and Child Protective Services to treat about 28 kids to a shopping experience at the Valley Mall and complimentary dinner donated by Country Cookin. The kids will have a chance to meet Santa, shop with an HPD officer, and have dinner.

Hoover added, "This didn't only impact those who received the money and gifts, this had a significant impact on the officers who saw and heard so many stories of the needs within the community they serve. It was a moving day for many people."

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