

*Harrisonburg*  
VIRGINIA



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For Immediate Release  
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## HPD Welcomes Explorers to Full Duty

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) welcomes youth within its explorers program to full duty.

The Harrisonburg Police Department explorers participated in a ceremony on Thursday, March 23 to receive their badges, officially joining the department. Chief Monticelli, a large group of officers from HPD and family members of the explorers had the privilege of seeing the explorers pin on an official badge.

The badge signifies the confidence that HPD has in these young people and carries a sense of duty and responsibility to the department and the community. The explorers are young adults who have an interest in law enforcement as a possible career path. The program allows them to participate in many training opportunities and activities conducted throughout the year at HPD.

Exploring is sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America and allows young people to work with various career fields in order to further their decision making process for the future. HPD explorers work hard in the classroom studying topics such as patrol procedures, first aid, criminology, and evidence collection.

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The classroom comes alive during role playing scenarios while assisting HPD officers during training, ride-alongs with patrol officers, and various community events. The department benefits by helping to develop possible future employees and the explorers gain self-confidence skills, communication techniques, and knowledge of specialty units of law enforcement.

“Each of these young people demonstrates the honesty, integrity, and dedication that HPD demands of its own employees,” said the Explorers Group Leader, Officer Mike Gangloff. There are currently five outstanding members of HPD's Explorer group:

- Brent Berry - Harrisonburg High School, Senior
- Beth Hoover - Broadway High School, Junior
- Jasmine Neal - Harrisonburg High School, Junior
- Brooks Pollard - Turner Ashby High School, Junior
- Stephanie Tolliver - Harrisonburg High School, Junior



Pictured above (left to right): Explorer Berry, Explorer Tolliver, Explorer Neal, Explorer Hoover, Explorer Pollard and Master Police Officer Mike Gangloff.

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