



For Immediate Release
May 9, 2017

Contact:

Lieutenant Pete Ritchie
540-434-2314
hpd-pio@harrisonburgva.gov
www.harrisonburgva.gov/police

HPD Welcomes Change and Growth at Upcoming Ceremony

Harrisonburg, Va. – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) will welcome its newest officers and recognize those being promoted at a ceremony tomorrow.

On Wednesday, May 10, during an induction and promotional ceremony, the Harrisonburg Police Department will welcome seven new officers to the department. These officers have endured an 18 week training academy and are part of the 135th Basic Law Enforcement class, graduating from the Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Training Academy. The graduation from the training academy will take place on May 11.

Joining the department are patrol officers Pamela Diaz, Tyler Flick, Robert Hilley, Evan Keirce, Amie Raymann, and Mark Stutes. HPD's Auxiliary Officer, Ed Blackwell, has also completed the necessary training to be graduating as a level one auxiliary officer.

After graduation, the new recruits will participate in an additional five week, post academy training program prior to beginning their 16 week field training. These officers will be a great asset to the department and the community!

HPD will also welcome Officer David Morris to the Patrol Division. Morris comes to the department with previous law enforcement experience and is already a certified law enforcement officer.

The ceremony on May 10 will also be a promotional ceremony for several of HPD's newest supervisors. This ceremony is where the newly promoted officers will receive their new badges, displaying their new titles.

-MORE-

PRESS RELEASE: HPD WELCOMES CHANGE AND GROWTH AT UPCOMING CEREMONY
PAGE 2

Detective Susan Jewell and Officer Seth Luerssen have been promoted to corporal, Corporals Daniel Claxton and Chris Terrell have been promoted to sergeant, and Sergeants Jason Kidd and Todd Miller have been promoted to lieutenant. These officers boast impressive résumés and will certainly be assets to the department; not only with their experience, but their leadership.

“As the world of law enforcement changes, it is always important to change with it,” explained Police Chief Stephen Monticelli. “By promoting new leaders, HPD is able to expand on new ideas and better ways to be an effective police department, which ultimately makes Harrisonburg a safer place to work, live and visit!”

We hope that you will join us to welcome these new patrol officers and congratulate those who were recently promoted! The ceremony will be held tomorrow at Thomas Harrison Middle School, 1311 West Market Street, at 6:00 p.m.

Additional information is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/police.

###