



For Immediate Release
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HPD Announces Promotions and New Officers

Harrisonburg, Va. – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) has announced several promotions from within the department and is also welcoming six new officers.

These individuals will all be recognized during a ceremony on Thursday, May 10 at Thomas Harrison Middle School. The ceremony begins at 6:00 p.m. and the public is invited to attend.

The officer promotions come after a competitive process, where applicants were required to take a written test on police practices, supervision, and leadership applications.

“These promotions represent the highest quality employees that Harrisonburg has to offer,” explained Chief Steve Sellers. “The sworn candidates participated in a rigorous testing process which included simulated exercises with citizen participants as role players.”

Being promoted to Sergeant is Philip Wonderley. He came on with HPD in 2005 and was promoted to corporal in 2013. His specialties have included being a member in the Accident Reconstruction Team (ART), SWAT team, CHARGE unit, and as a certified firearms instructor. He received a meritorious service award in 2011, a meritorious service commendation and meritorious action commendation in 2017, and the Harrisonburg Police Foundation leadership award in 2018.

Being promoted to corporal are Megan Slater and Michael Gulino.

Corporal Slater joined the department in 2013. Along with four years of patrol work, she has served as a police training officer since 2016, is a certified general instructor, and has her evidence technician certification.

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Corporal Gulino joined HPD in 2007 after seven years with the New York City Police Department (NYPD). Corporal Gulino worked in patrol for four years then moved to investigations as a detective in 2011. He received an award of excellence from HPD in 2010 and 2011 as well as a distinguished service award from NYPD in 2001.

Along with the officer promotions, the ceremony will also recognize a civilian promotion. Cynthia Lowe is being promoted from records specialist to program support specialist. She has been with the department since 2015.

“Civilian employees are indispensable and perform mandatory administrative functions, which allow our police officers to stay on the street to serve the public,” Chief Sellers said.

Joining these veterans are six new officers who will be inducted into the department during the May 10 ceremony.

- Philip Davis
- Jacob Castellano
- Tyler Siever
- Joseph Kelczewski
- Charles Ray
- Matthew Ropp

The department would like to congratulate its three promoted officers and wish them good luck in their future leadership endeavors and extends a welcome to the six new officers who will be integral in the growth and development of the Harrisonburg Police Department as well.

Additional information about the Harrisonburg Police Department is always available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/police.

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