



HARRISONBURG | VA FRIENDLY BY NATURE



For Immediate Release –

Contact: Harrisonburg Police Department
Sergeant Chris Monahan
540.434.2314
HPD-PIO@harrisonburgva.gov

HPD announces 15 promotions of sergeants, lieutenants, captains

Next phase of leaders chosen to continue carrying police department into future

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg Police Department recently conducted promotions for a number of department leaders who are focused on HPD’s mission of partnering with our community to reduce crime, solve problems and improve quality of life.

Captain Carl Cline III

Capt. Carl Cline joined the Harrisonburg Police Department on Jan. 6, 2002. He was promoted to Corporal in October 2005 where he supervised a Patrol Squad and was then transferred to the Bike Unit Supervisor in August 2007.

In September of 2008, Cline was promoted to Sergeant in the Patrol Division. In June 2011, he was transferred to the K-9 Unit as the Unit’s supervisor. He was promoted to Lieutenant in January 2016, and was promoted to Captain this July, and now serves as the Administrative Bureau Commander.

He has received a Distinguished Ac-



tion Award, Distinguished Service Commendation, Meritorious Service Award, Life Saving Medal, and was named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, among numerous other accomplishments.

Sergeant Wesley Douglas

Sgt. Wesley Douglas joined the Harrisonburg Police Department on Jan. 2, 2015. He was promoted to Corporal in June 2019, and was promoted to Sergeant this April.

Prior to joining the police force, he served as a U.S. Army Infantry Officer, Special Forces Group training, from 1999 to 2008, and as U.S. Army National Guard Assistant Training NCO from 2011 to 2014.

An avid cyclist, he first visited the Harrisonburg area in 2013 for the Alpine Loop Gran Fondo Bike Race, moving to the area from Alabama after his wife obtained a teaching job in Elkton and after the end of



his military orders. He completed the Basic Law Enforcement Officer Academy in May 2015, and PTO training with an upgrade to POII in January 2016. He has two daughters.

Sergeant Scott Drugo

Sgt. Scott Drugo joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in August 2003, and is an Intelligence Officer and Gang Task Force Supervisor for HPD.

He was promoted to Corporal in June 2014, and was promoted to Sergeant this April. He presently serves in the Virginia Army National Guard, with 21 years of service as a Combat Engineer and Public Affairs Officer, holding the rank of Major.

He has served the department in a number of capacities, including as Patrol Officer, Police Bicycle Officer, Field Training Officer, SWAT Member, Civil Disturbance Unit Team Leader,



Crisis Intervention Team Instructor, Honor Guard Team Supervisor, Crash Team Investigation Member, Forensic Evidence Team Member, Patrol Supervisor, and Public Information Officer, among other roles.

Lieutenant Charles Grubbs

Lt. Charles Grubbs joined the Harrisonburg Police Department on April 13, 2003. He was promoted to Investigator in November 2010, to Corporal in May 2011, to Sergeant in April 2013 and to Lieutenant this July.

He has received a Meritorious Service Award, the Medal of Valor, Franklin M. Kreml Leadership Award and has been named a JMU Distinguished Community Partner and an On the Road Collaborative Community Partner.

His professional experience includes that of Crisis Negotiations Commander, Peer Support Director,



Crisis Intervention Instructor, Certified Crime Prevention Specialist and more.

He also served on the Board of Directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Sergeant Michael Gulino

Sgt. Michael Gulino joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in July 2007, and is Investigations Supervisor for the department.

He was promoted to Investigator in November 2011, to Corporal in April 2018, and to Sergeant this April. He has received the Award of Excellence from the department twice, in 2010 and 2011, and previously received the Distinguished Service Award from the New York City Police Department in 2001.

He has a wealth of professional experience and certifications, having obtained a degree in Criminal Justice and taken part in training



in Restorative Justice, Child Abuse Investigation, Advanced Forensic Interviewing, Evidence Technician Training, Police Ethics, Mountain Bike School, Crisis Intervention and much more.

Captain Jason Kidd

Capt. Jason Kidd joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in August 2003.

He was promoted to POII in March 2004, to Investigator in September 2007, to Corporal in September 2008, to Sergeant over Personnel Development in April 2011, to Sergeant over CID in January 2012, to Lieutenant over Patrol in April 2017, and to Captain over Special Operations this July.

He received the Bronze Award of Valor in July 2006, the Meritorious Action Award in November 2006, the Meritorious Service Award in January 2009, the Employee Excellence Award in February 2009, the Award



of Excellence in March 2009, and was nominated for HPD Supervisor of the Year in January 2017.

He also serves as a Spanish Interpreter for HPD.

Sergeant Seth Luerssen

Sergeant Seth Luerssen joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in July 2007.

He was promoted to POII in May 2008, to MPO in July 2012, to Career Officer Tier 2 in July 2016, to Corporal in March 2017, and to Sergeant this April.

He has received the Life Saving Award, the Meritorious Service Award in 2017 and the Nine Year Safe Driving Award in 2017. He also was nominated for Officer of the Year in 2013, 2015 and 2016.

He is a Distinguished Honor Graduate of the 114th Basic Law Enforcement



Class CSCJTA, and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute PTO Academy and the FBI Supervisor Leadership Institute, along with being a Driver and Firearms Instructor for the department.

Sergeant Daniel Long

Sergeant Daniel Long joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in August 2006.

He was promoted to Master Police Officer in August 2011, to Corporal in March 2015, assigned to RUSH DTF in 2017 and was promoted to Drug Task Force Sergeant this April.

He received the Award of Excellence in 2008, twice in 2009, and in 2010. He also received the Community Service Award in 2019.

His professional experience includes General Instructor, Driving Instructor, National PTO Academy, Gang Specialist, Methamphet-



amine Clan-Lab certification and Drug Task Force.

He was raised in Botswana, in southern Africa, before moving to Harrisonburg in 2003.

Sergeant David Morris

Sergeant David Morris joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in May 2007.

He was part of the Career Development Program in 2018 and was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in July 2020.

In addition to receiving the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Law Enforcement Award in 2013 for his efforts to reduce drunk driving, his professional experience includes Breath Op, CIT, Bike Certified, PTO/FTO and Gang Certification.

He previously served with the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office, where he served as a Jailer, Booking



Officer, Patrol Deputy, Patrol Corporal and in Investigation on the Gang Task Force.

He is a graduate of Harrisonburg High School.

Captain Rod Pollard

Capt. Rod Pollard joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in 1998, and has served in numerous leadership roles in his time with the department.

He was promoted to Sergeant over Patrol, Special Operations, K9 Unit in 2003; to Lieutenant over Patrol, Special Operations, Criminal Investigations in 2011; and to Captain over Patrol Operations this year.

He has been named Officer of the year, and received the Life Saving Award, Distinguished Action Award, Distinguished Service Award the Community Service Award twice. He also is a two-time recipient of the Medal of Valor, and was named Su-



pervisor of the Year.

His professional experience includes SWAT Operator for 20 years, Restorative Justice Coordinator, and numerous other experiences.

Lieutenant Phillip Read

Lt. Phillip Read joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in August 2009, having previously served as an Infantryman in the Virginia Army National Guard - being awarded the Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge and Army Achievement Medal through service in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He was promoted to Corporal in December 2012, to Sergeant in March 2015, and to Lieutenant this July.

He received the Medal of Valor in 2011, the Life Saving Award in 2017, the Award of Excellence in 2018, and was the Police Founda-



tion Supervisor of the Year in 2019.

He has a bachelor of science degree in Justice Studies, and a master of science degree in Criminal Justice/Public Administration.

Sergeant Brian Tusing

Sgt. Brian Tusing joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in August 2004.

He was promoted to Corporal in August 2014, and to Sergeant this April. Prior to joining HPD, he served as a U.S. Marine from 1997 to 2005 as an ES Sergeant.

He received the Life Saving Award in 2017, and a Meritorious Service Award.

His professional experience includes that of Community Action Team Supervisor in 2017, Gang Task Force Supervisor in 2019, as well as SWAT and Civil Disturbance experience. He is Bike Certified and has experience as



an Instructor for Firearms, Taser and Less Lethal.

He is a Broadway High School graduate, and received an associates degree from VA Polytech Institute/Va Tech.

Sergeant Wayne Westfall

Sergeant Wayne Westfall joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in July 1990, and again in July 2007.

He was promoted to Master Police Officer in 2012, to the Career Development Program in 2014, to Corporal in 2015 and to Operational Support Sergeant this April. He is a graduate of the Central Shenandoah Criminal justice Training Academy.

He has received an Employee Excellence Award in 2010, three letters of Commendable Performance in 2012, the Award of Excellence in 2013 and a Meritorious Service Award in 2017.

His professional experience includes



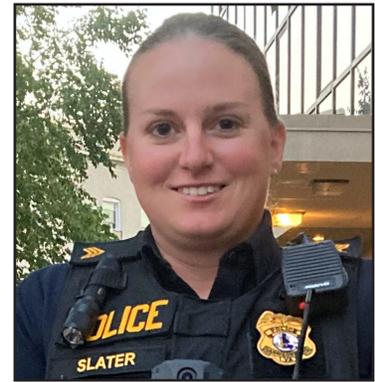
that of Motor Unit Officer, Bike Officer, Motor Carrier Inspector, Evidence Technician, SWAT member, Civil Disturbance Unit, Chemical Munitions Instructor, Crash Reconstructionist and General and Firearms Instructor.

Sergeant Megan Slater

Sgt. Megan Slater joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in December 2013.

She was upgraded to POII in September 2014, promoted to Corporal in April 2018, and to Sergeant this April. She was nominated for Rookie of the Year in 2014, and for Officer of the Year in 2015, and received the Harper Award in 2019.

She holds an applied science degree in Administration of Justice, a bachelor's in Criminal Justice/Human Services, and a master's in Criminal Justice, in addition to having graduated from the National Criminal Justice Command College.



Her professional experience includes that of a Patrol Training Officer, Honor Guard, Forensic Evidence Team, General Instructor and Driving Instructor. She also is a graduate of the Harrisonburg Citizen's Academy.

Sergeant Christopher Watson

Sgt. Christopher Watson joined the Harrisonburg Police Department in 2002.

He was promoted to Corporal in 2016, and to Sergeant this year. He has served on the Gang Unit, the Drug Task Force, and became a K9 handler in 2014.

He has received the Employee Excellence Award in 2003 a Meritorious Commendation in 2004, the Meritorious Action Award in 2005, the Award of Excellence in 2006, the HPD Meritorious Service Award in 2007, the Award of Excellence in 2008, the RUSH Drug Task Force Certificate of Appreciation in 2009, the Veterans



of Foreign Wars Officer of the Year Award and the Harrisonburg Police Foundation Officer of the Year Award in 2013, the Distinguished Service Award in 2017, and the Police Foundation Shojiki Award in 2020.



CITY OF HARRISONBURG
POLICE
DEPARTMENT

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The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 54,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.