**VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE**

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**2016 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards Announced**

**For Best Traffic Safety Programs in Virginia in 2015**

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge awards for the best traffic safety programs in the state in 2015. The awards luncheon took place during the VACP’s 91st Annual Training Conference on Tuesday, September 20 at the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, VA.

Celebrating its twenty-seventh year in Virginia, the Law Enforcement Challenge program promotes professionalism in traffic safety enforcement and encourages agencies to share best practices and programs with each other. The awards are based on entries prepared by the participating agencies that highlight their traffic safety education and enforcement activities in occupant protection, impaired driving and speed over the past calendar year. Judges award points to the agencies in the six areas that comprise a comprehensive traffic safety program: problem identification, policies, planning, training of officers, public information and education, enforcement, and an evaluation of the outcomes of the agency’s efforts.

The Virginia agencies listed below were presented with their Virginia Challenge first, second and third place awards in each category at the state awards luncheon, as well as special awards for outstanding enforcement and education efforts in the areas of occupant protection, impaired driving, speed awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, distracted driving, technology, bicycle/pedestrian safety, and motorcycle safety. **Additionally, the VACP presented Westmoreland County Sheriff’s Office with the “Commonwealth Award” for the most outstanding traffic safety program in Virginia in 2015, regardless of agency size or type.**

The Virginia Challenge is held in cooperation with the National Law Enforcement Challenge Awards, which are presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) — *see* [*http://www.theiacp.org/NLEC*](http://www.theiacp.org/NLEC). **This year, thirty Virginia agencies entered the Challenge, of which eleven were selected to receive national awards — the most of any state in the nation!** The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police was also selected for recognition in the National Challenge for its commitment to highway safety andwill receive **the State Association/Governors Highway Safety Office Award.** National awards will be presented October 18 at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference in San Diego, CA.

*The Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards program is supported by a grant from the Virginia Highway Safety Office. Additional information about the Law Enforcement Challenge program can be found online at* [*http://www.smartsafeandsober.org/programs/LEC*](http://www.smartsafeandsober.org/programs/LEC)*.*

*The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police & Foundation is a statewide organization of federal, state and local police chiefs and law enforcement executives dedicated to improving the professionalism of police agencies in Virginia. The Association was founded in 1926 and has more than 600 members. For more information, visit* [*http://www.vachiefs.org*](http://www.vachiefs.org)*.*

The winners of the 2016 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge are as follows:

| **MUNICIPAL POLICE** |  |
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| **Municipal 1: 1-20 Officers** | **Place** |
| Saltville Police Department | 1 |
| **Municipal 2: 21-40 Officers** | **Place** |
| Ashland Police Department*IACP National Challenge Winner: 2nd place, Municipal 2 (21-50 Officers)* | 1 |
| Radford Police Department | 2 |
| Bedford Police Department | 3 |
| **Municipal 3: 41-55 Officers** | **Place** |
| Herndon Police Department | 1 |
| Culpeper Police Department | 2 |
| Colonial Heights Police Department | 3 |
| **Municipal 4: 56-125 Officers**  | **Place** |
| Harrisonburg Police Department | 1 |
| Christiansburg Police Department | 2 |
| Salem Police Department | 3 |
| **Municipal 5: 126-225 Officers**  | **Place** |
| Roanoke County Police Department*IACP National Challenge Winner: 2nd place, Municipal 4 (101-350 Officers)* | 1 |
| Lynchburg Police Department  | 2 |
| Albemarle County Police Department  | 3 |
| **Municipal 6: 226-400 Officers**  | **Place** |
| Roanoke Police Department*IACP National Challenge Winner: 3rd place, Municipal 4 (101-350 Officers)* | 1 |
| Arlington County Police Department*IACP National Challenge Winner: 3rd place, Municipal 5 (351 or More Officers)* | 2 |
| Chesapeake Police Department | 3 |
| **Municipal 7: 401-650 Officers**  | **Place** |
| Henrico County Division of Police*IACP National Challenge Winner: 1st place, Municipal 5 (351 or More Officers)* | 1 |
| **Municipal 8: 651 or More Officers**  | **Place** |
| Virginia Beach Police Department *IACP National Challenge Winner: 2nd place, Municipal 5 (351 or More Officers) & Bike/Ped Safety Award* | 1 |
| Fairfax County Police Department  | 2 |

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| **UNIVERSITY POLICE**  | **Place** |
| Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department | 1 |
| University of Richmond Police Department | 2 |

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| **SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**  | **Place** |
| Metro Washington Airports Authority Police Department *IACP National Challenge Winner: 1st place, Special Law Enforcement* | 1 |

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| **MILITARY POLICE**  | **Place** |
| Fort Eustis Police Department *IACP National Challenge Winner: 3rd place, Military* | 1 |
| Fort Lee Police Department | 2 |

| **SHERIFF’S OFFICES** |  |
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| **Sheriff 1: 1-20 Deputies**  | **Place** |
| *no entries* | -- |
| **Sheriff 2: 21-40 Deputies**  | **Place** |
| Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office *IACP National Challenge Winner: 1st place, Sheriff 1 (1-50 Deputies)* | 1 |
| New Kent County Sheriff's Office  | 2 |
| **Sheriff 3: 41-80 Deputies**  | **Place** |
| *no entries* | -- |
| **Sheriff 4: 81-160 Deputies** | **Place** |
| Gloucester County Sheriff's Office *IACP National Challenge Winner: 1st place, Sheriff 2 (51-150 Deputies)* | 1 |
| Fauquier County Sheriff's Office | 2 |
| **Sheriff 5: 161-300 Deputies**  | **Place** |
| Hanover County Sheriff's Office*IACP National Challenge Winner: 3rd place, Sheriff 3 (151 or More Deputies)* | 1 |
| Stafford County Sheriff's Office | 2 |
| **Sheriff 6: 301 or More Deputies**  | **Place** |
| *no entries* | -- |

| **SPECIAL AWARDS** |  |
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| Occupant Protection Award | Roanoke County Police Department |
| Impaired Driving Award | Ashland Police Department |
| Speed Awareness Award | Roanoke Police Department |
| Motorcycle Safety Award | Harrisonburg Police Department |
| Technology Award | Culpeper Police Department |
| Distracted Driving Award | Metro Washington Airports Authority Police Department |
| Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Award | Virginia Beach Police Department |
| Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Award | Fort Eustis Police |
| Traffic Incident Management | Fairfax County Police Department |
| Commonwealth Award | Westmoreland County Sheriff’s Office |