



NEWS RELEASE

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Sheriff's Office receives state and national recognition for traffic safety efforts

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office placed first in the 2008 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge and second in the National Law Enforcement Challenge for traffic safety initiatives. The Law Enforcement Challenge program promotes professionalism in traffic safety enforcement and encourages agencies to share their best practices and programs with other law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. Agencies compete with other jurisdictions that have similar sized organizations.

The Sheriff's Office was evaluated in several categories, including policies, officer training, incentives and recognition, public information and education, enforcement activity, and most importantly, results.

In 2008 a combination of effective programs resulted in a 14.5% reduction in crashes at Hanover's top ten locations, a 26.7% increase in DUI apprehensions, and a **64% DECREASE IN FATALITIES**.

The recognition of the traffic safety strategy in Hanover County reinforces the efforts of our officers and reassures the citizens that initiatives are underway and on-going to make our roads safer.

The real award will be lives saved.

The Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Award will be presented August 10, 2009, at the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police at their annual conference in Newport News. The National Law Enforcement Challenge Award will be presented October 10, 2009, at the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) annual conference in Denver, Colorado. The Sheriff's Office will not be attending the IACP conference in Colorado.

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