



Hanover County Sheriff's Office
Colonel V. Stuart Cook, Sheriff



News Release

Contact Sergeant Michael J. Trice (804) 365-6230

08/19/2005

Investigator Hazen Dunfee with the Hanover County Sheriff's Office was recently presented with the 2005 Award for Public Service by the U.S. Attorney's Office Eastern District of Virginia for the role he played in a check fraud investigation that ultimately resulted in 75 federal indictments on 18 individuals. The investigation involved joint teamwork amongst the Hanover County Sheriff's Office, the Henrico County Police, the FBI, and the Secret Service.

Investigator Dunfee was assigned two cases involving the passing of bad checks with one of the checks being passed by a bank employee from the metro area. Several similar cases were discovered after contact was made with Investigators in Henrico County. The Secret Service and FBI were also contacted and it was discovered that the suspects originated in Baltimore, Maryland, and had been opening fraudulent business accounts, which were linked to legitimate accounts of bank employees, who were assisting in the crimes.

These crimes resulted in over \$250,000 in bad checks. All but one of the 18 individuals indicted were convicted.

"Investigator Dunfee did a great job in this case, which is just one example of the often complicated financial crimes that are investigated by the Sheriff's Office," said Sheriff V.S. Cook

