

***Annual Report – 2019***

The Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers (VPCS), first incorporated by the State of Virginia in 1982, continued its longstanding contribution in helping make the Virginia Peninsula Community a safer place to live and work. This private, citizen- based program obtains anonymously provided information to help law enforcement solve crimes, make arrests, recover stolen property and seize illegal drugs. This private program is funded through donations by corporations, small businesses, organizations and individuals. The VPCS partners with the Hampton Police Division, Newport News Police Department, James City County Police Department, Williamsburg Police Department, Poquoson Police Department, Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office, York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office and the print, TV, radio and social media to achieve its continued success. This report presents a summary of the activities, contributions, and success of this all-volunteer, citizen-based, charitable organization.

**The 37-Year Success Story Continues**

The primary mission of the VPCS is to provide a safe tool for citizens to anonymously report information concerning criminal activity to help law enforcement arrest wanted people and solve crimes. Callers remain anonymous, do not have to testify in court and could receive a cash reward of up to $1,000 if their information results in an arrest, recovery of stolen property or weapons, or seizure of illegal drugs. This is achieved through the use of the highly publicized and well-known 1-888-LOCK-U-UP telephone tip number and through the use of web and text tipping. The programs’ success is measured through a few statistics. In 2019, the seven law enforcement organizations partnering with the VPCS received 1,063 telephone and web/text calls, solved 115 cases, produced 90 arrests, recovered $92,015 in stolen property, cash recovered and seized illegal drugs. Thirteen weapons were seized or recovered. The VPCS approved rewards totaling $27,535. Many tipsters do not collect their approved reward. Since the tipster remains anonymous, there is no way for us to know their exact reasons. This past year 24.5% of the approved rewards were not collected by tipsters

VPCS’ financial position has improved over the past four years and is demonstrated by the following statistics. The statistics shown in red are improvements over past years.

◆ Total Cash and Resources increased from $102,941.41 in 2016 to

$114,198.24 in 2019.

◆ Deposits decreased from $36,215.51 in 2016 to $28,803.29 in

2019.

◆ Expenditures increased from $12,766.75 in 2016 to $17,375.32 in

2019, but did not increase from 2018.

◆ Rewards approved increased from $27,471.50 in 2016 to

$27,535.00 in 2019.

◆ Percentage of rewards paid to rewards approved decreased from 84.6% in 2016 to 75.5% in 2019

Over the past 16-year period, this year’s total value of recovered stolen property and cash and seized illegal drugs was a record $92,015 for the program.

**VPCS Ninth Annual Salute to Law Enforcement**

The VPCS’s Ninth Annual Salute to Law Enforcement luncheon recognizing one law enforcement officer and one civilian from each jurisdiction covered by the Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers was held on June 21 at the Marriott Newport News City Center. The opening address was given by Williamsburg Police Chief Sean Dunn. The **Headline sponsors** were **Langley Federal Credit Union, BayPort Credit Union** and **Daily Press.** **Chief/Sheriff Sponsors** were **Adams Outdoor Advertising, Walmart**, and **Navy Federal Credit Union. Back the Blue sponsors** were **1st Advantage Federal Credit Union** and

**Newport News Shipbuilding**. **Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers, Inc. sponsor** was **Old Point National Bank.**  The **Gold Sponsor** was **Canon Virginia, Inc**. The **Silver Sponsor** was **Cozzy’s Comedy Club**. This event was chaired by VPCS’ Vice President Rich Biege.

The law enforcement officers and civilians recognized were:

**York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office**

Law Enforcement Officer: Lt. Alan Sadler

Civilian: Kenny Elliot

**Hampton Police Division**

Law Enforcement Officer: Patrol Officer Dylan J. Everett

Civilian: Karyn B. Lawrence

**Newport News Police Department**

Law Enforcement Officer: Central Precinct Investigations Unit

Civilian: Jasen McCormick

**Williamsburg Police Department**

Law Enforcement Officer: Officer Ben Smith

**Poquoson Police Department**

Law Enforcement Officer: Sgt. Ty D. Farrington

**James City County Police Department**

Law Enforcement Officer: Master Officer Brandon Frantz

Civilian: Amy Jacobson

**Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office**

Law Enforcement Officer: Criminal Investigations Division

Civilian: Melissa Sawyer

**Eighteenth Annual Greater Hampton Roads**

**Regional Crime Lines, Inc. Top Cop Dinner and Awards**

The 19th Annual Top Cop Dinner and Awards was held at the Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel in Portsmouth on October 12, 2019. This event honors a law enforcement officer from each of the law enforcement agencies partnering with the 15 jurisdictions covered by the seven Crime Line, Crime Solvers and Crime Stoppers programs in Hampton Roads. The officers from the seven law enforcement agencies partnering with the Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers were: Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office’s Investigator Jason Schnuur; Hampton Police Division’s Senior Corporal Scott W. Anderson; James City County Police Department’s MPO James “Jim” Miller; Newport News Police Department’s Officer Taylor. R. Powell; Williamsburg Police Department’s Officer Heather Ziegler; York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office’s Master Deputy Kekoa-Dearhart.

Major Ron Montgomery of the York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office received the GHRRCL’s 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award for his 40-years of service. Marie Caulford of the Williamsburg Police Department received the Decker Outstanding Civilian Award.

**Program Outreach**

The VPCS maintains a speaker’s bureau to provide presentations to clubs, organizations, home owner associations, companies, institutions and other venues. This past year a presentation describing the program was given to one Williamsburg group.

**Fund Raising Event**

A fund-raising event was held on February 19, 2019 at Cozzy’s Comedy Club in Newport News. The event was sold out at a cost of $10 per ticket. A total of $1,138.00 was raised at this event. VPCS Director Rick Pittinger was the event’s Emcee. The 2020 event is scheduled for February 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Cozzy’s Comedy Club in Newport News.

**Interfacing with Other Programs**

The Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers partners with six Crime Line/Solvers programs in Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk and Isle of Wight-Smithfield-Windsor. This regional initiative meets monthly to work on regional Crime Stoppers’ issues. The VPCS President Jay Mathieu and one law enforcement official, Brandon Maynard of the NNPD, were the VPCS’s representatives to this regional group. The GHRRCL’s primary fund-raising activity is hosting the annual Greater Hampton Roads Regional Top Cop Dinner and Awards event. In 2019, this regional initiative provided the VPCS program with a significant portion of funds for the P3 software program used by Hampton Police Division, Newport News Police Department and the James City County Police Department to track Crime Stopper’s information.

**Major Corporate and Business Sponsors**

impact on the community. The corporations and businesses were: **Adams Outdoor Advertising, BayPort Credit Union, Canon Virginia, Inc., Coliseum Central BID, Daily Press, 1st Advantage Federal Credit Union, Dominion Energy Virginia , Langley Federal Credit Union, Mission Barbecue, Navy Federal Credit Union, Newport News Shipbuilding, Old Point National Bank,** The corporate and business community supported the VPCS with financial and in-kind contributions to ensure the continued successful **Top Guard Security, Towne Bank, Walmart, and Cozzy’s Comedy Club.**

**Election of Officer for 2020 – 2021**

The officers for the 2020 – 2021 time period were elected at the November Board of Director’s meeting. The officers are: President – Jay Mathieu of Langley Federal Credit Union; Vice President for Marketing - Rich Biege who is retired Army: Secretary – Jorge Gonzalez of BayPort Credit Union; and Suzie Bartlome of Old Point National Bank. The position of Vice President for Administration remains vacant.

**2018 Community Impact Statistics**

The Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers, in partnership with the seven jurisdiction’s law enforcement agencies, continued a high level of achievement in helping make our neighborhoods and businesses safer places to live and work. This table illustrates the total level of activity in 2019 by jurisdiction for eight categories.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Jurisdiction/**  **Category** | **Hampton** | **Newport News** | **Williamsburg** | **Poquoson** | **James City County** | **Gloucester County** | **York County** | **Totals** |
| **Number of Tips Received** | **435** | **424** | **9** | **0** | **77** | **21** | **42** | **1,063** |
| **Number of Cases Solved** | **16** | **74** | **1** | **0** | **20** | **2** | **2** | **115** |
| **Number of Arrests** | **26** | **46** | **1** | **0** | **13** | **2** | **2** | **90** |
| **Value of Stolen Property /cash Recovered** | **$23,200** | **$42,635** | **0** | **0** | **$17,400** | **0** | **0** | **$83,235** |
| **Value if Illegal Drugs Seized** | **$370** | **$6,910** | **0** | **0** | **$1,500** | **0** | **0** | **$8,780** |
| **Weapons Seized** | **3** | **2** | **0** | **0** | **8** | **0** | **0** | **13** |
| **Number of Rewards Approved** | **17** | **43** | **1** | **0** | **12** | **2** | **2** | **77** |
| **Dollar Value of Rewards Approved** | **$5,425** | **$16,070** | **$210** | **0** | **$4,630** | **$1,000** | **$200** | **$27,535** |

**10 - Year Statistics Summary**

This chart illustrates the success statistics over the past 10-years. The average for Dollar Value of Stolen Property Recovered, Cash Recovered, and illegal drugs seized is a 9-year average due to unavailability of data for 2017.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Performance**  **Category**  **Year** | **Number of Calls** | **Number of Cases Solved** | **Number of Arrests** | **Dollar Value of  Stolen Property & Illegal Drugs Recovered** | **Rewards Approved** |
| 2010 | 936 | 202 | 86 | $55,308 | $40,059. |
| 2011 | 917 | 133 | 136 | $27,418 | $29,505 |
| 2012 | 994 | 108 | 105 | $ 6,155 | $30,845 |
| 2013 | 909 | 138 | 128 | $35,122 | $31,338 |
| 2014 | 964 | 131 | 113 | $51,334 | $27,575 |
| 2015 | 1,046 | 96 | 92 | $75,680 | $24,146 |
| 2016 | 1,052 | 137 | 85 | $68,445 | $27,462 |
| 2017 | 1,020 | 98 | 96 | \* | $29,774 |
| 2018 | 2,238 | 102 | 70 | $72,068 | $24,154 |
| 2019 | 2,612 | 115 | 90 | $92,015 | $27,535 |
| 10-Year Average | 1,069 | 160 | 101 | \*\*$53,727 | $29,239 |

\* Actual data not available for this dollar value for the year 2017

\*\*Nine-year average excludes erroneous 2017 data

**Directors and Officers in 2018**

Jay Mathieu President Langley Federal Credit Union

Rich Biege Vice President-Marketing Retired US Army

Jorge Gonzalez Vice President-Administration BayPort Credit Union

Fred Kern Secretary Retired NASA

Susie Bartlome Treasurer Old Point National Bank

Sherry Cassell Director Retired Equidata

Dawn Joyner Director Retired US Army Civil Service

Mike Minarik Director Resigned Dec. 2019

Rick Pittinger Director Retired US Navy

Brian Richards Director Walmart

Robert Szukelewicz Director Newport News Shipbuilding

Jim West Director Citizen, Kingsmill PD

Amanda Wroten Director Newport News Police Foundation

**Law Enforcement Coordinators**

William Adams Gloucester County Sheriff’s Office

Lesa Barnett James City County Police Department

Adam R. Stephens Poquoson Police Department

Brandon Maynard Newport News Police Department

Scott Rose Williamsburg Police Department

Ben Smith Williamsburg Police Department

Michael Cooper York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office

Ashley Jenrette Hampton Police Division

Amanda Moreland Hampton Police Division

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