



**County of Hanover**

**Board Meeting: August 27, 2014**

**Subject:** Award Presentation to the Hanover County Sheriff's Office for achieving state accreditation through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission.

**Summary of Agenda Item:** Sheriff Charles Jett of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office and Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) Board Member will present the Certification of Accreditation to the Hanover County Sheriff's Office for its commitment to law enforcement excellence as evidenced by their successful completion of the certification process for the Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. This will be the fourth time the Hanover County Sheriff's Office has received this award since first achieving this status in 1998.

Virginia's accreditation program was started in the early 1990's, with the creation of a twelve member Commission of representatives from the Virginia Sheriffs' Association and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission provides law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth with an avenue for demonstrating that they meet nearly 200 accepted standards for efficient and effective agency operation. The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administers the program for VLEPSC.

To obtain accreditation, a law enforcement agency must meet all applicable program standards, maintain their accreditation files on an on-going basis and provide annual verifications of compliance as required by the Commission. On-site assessments by specially trained program assessors assure consistency and full compliance of all accredited agencies.

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office had their on-site assessment on January 27-29, 2014. The Sheriff's Office was found in compliance with all 187 standards applicable to the agency. Colonel Hines and members of his staff appeared before the Commission on May 15, 2014, when the Commission awarded the Sheriff's Office with their fourth Certificate of Accreditation.

**County Administrator's Recommended Board Motion:**

N/A