

J. Sargeant Reynolds Crime Prevention Newsletter



Spring 2007 Semester Edition



Message from Chief Wheeler



As another semester begins, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of some of the services provided by our department.

Escort/Shuttle Service

Our department provides escort services to students, faculty, staff and guests who would like to be accompanied when walking to their vehicles. This service is available on all campuses during regular hours of operation.

The Downtown Campus also offers shuttle services to and from the college's satellite parking lots. The shuttle van oper-

ates Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 AM—1:00 PM and 5:00 PM—10:00 PM. The van makes the "tour" approximately every 15 minutes.

We also encourage all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to take an active role in their own safety and security while on campus. Everyone can help maintain a safer environment at the college by following the guidelines listed below:

- Walk in well-lighted and well-traveled areas after dark. Walk with a friend or call campus police for an escort.
- Keep yourself informed. Check campus e-mail and bulletin boards for campus alert notices, which pertain to specific security conditions on campus. Take advantage of informational and crime prevention programs sponsored on campus.

- Never study alone in an isolated area of a campus building.
- Lock your car and secure valuables when using campus-parking facilities.
- Become familiar with emergency exits and the locations of fire alarms and fire extinguishers.
- Lock offices when not present and do not loan your keys to anyone.
- Immediately report all suspicious persons, vehicles, or activities to Campus Police & Security.
- Immediately report all crimes, security-related problems and hazardous condition to Campus Police & Security.

We wish everyone a safe and happy semester!

Chief Wheeler

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JSRCC Police Department hosts another "Blue Light Special" Event

On January 8–11 the Department of Police & Security Services welcomed students back to campus by hosting a "Blue Light Special" event on each of Reynolds three campuses.

Students were greeted from 7:30 AM–8:30 AM and 4:30

PM–5:30 PM with fresh warm Krsipy Krema doughnuts and hot coffee.

Over the four day span, the department served 82 dozen doughnuts and 1,068 cups of coffee!



Sergeant K. Houchens greeting students with a smile!

Date Rape Drugs: What You Need to Know!

Information taken from <http://www.radford.edu/%7epolice/newsletter.pdf>



(Left) Original Rohypnol pills and packaging (Above) The new Rohypnol tablet includes a dye that makes the drug visible if slipped into a drink.

We've all heard the term "date rape drugs" and they have been making headlines across the country for years. Date rape drugs are used to assist in helping an attacker sexually assault a victim by rendering them unconscious, unable to resist assaults and unable to remember what happened. The most common used are GHB, Rohypnol and Ketamine. These drugs are often colorless, odorless and undetectable in your drink.

One of the simplest ways to prevent yourself from

falling victim to this is to attend social gatherings in a group and know the address where you are going in case something does happen, when you call the police you can give them your location. Stay together and always have a designated driver to watch over your group. This person shouldn't leave you alone or allow you to be by yourself if you have been drinking. If you go to a gathering alone, be sure to carry your cell phone and know where you are.

If you are drinking anything, even if it's just water, never leave your drink unattended.

It only takes a split second for someone to slip something into your drink. Always pour your own drink, do not accept drinks from others.

In the event of a sexual assault, go to the hospital or local police immediately. Remember that you are not to bathe, urinate or change your clothes because of the risk of destroying evidence. If you have any question or wish to speak to a counselor, remember you can call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE.

Appointment of Professor Sarah Jessie to Law Enforcement Committee

In 2004, the General Assembly directed the Crime Commission to conduct an in depth study of the impact of crimes on college and university campuses in the Commonwealth, as well as the practices and workload of the police and security departments responsible for handling these issues.

As a result of this two year study, there were 27 "best practices" and recommended legislation that were brought forward, including the establishment of a position at the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to oversee

these "best practices" and to develop minimum standards for campus police/security officers within the Commonwealth.

This position at DCJS was recently filled and work is already underway to begin the establishment and implementation of these "best practices" by the appointment of a committee made up of leaders in the law enforcement arena from across the state. JSRCC is proud to announce that Sarah Jessie, the Program Head of the Criminal Justice program for the College has been appointed to this committee.

This is extremely important as this committee will be responsible for drafting the policies and procedures that will mandate the minimum hiring and standards for campus police and security departments of all colleges and universities within the Commonwealth. Sarah has a tremendous amount of knowledge of the criminal justice system, as well as many years of practical experience as a police officer and investigator for the Henrico County Police Department. Please join us in congratulating Sarah for her recent appointment to this important committee of leaders!



Harassing Phone Calls

Harassing phone calls can be annoying and sometimes scary and they are against the law. Here are a few tips to help you know what to do if you are ever the victim of harassing phone calls:

- Know your telephone provider's "Call Trap" feature. This features traps the last incoming call at the phone

company so that law enforcement agencies can get this information if needed.

- If you have caller i.d. service, write down the number when you receive the call.
- Do not show emotion to the caller; showing anger or that you are scared only encourages repeat calls.

- Not answering or turning your phone off may end the problem—especially if it's random number.

Remember that there is a difference between annoying, harassing, and threatening calls. Contact your local authorities to report the calls and they will advise what steps should be taken next.



Introduction to Our New Police Officers

Officer Robert Combs comes from a local law enforcement agency where he served as a patrol officer for a number of years. Prior to law enforcement, he was in a light armored reconnaissance unit for the U.S. Marine Corps stationed at marine corps base Quantico. He is also finishing his Administration of Justice degree here at Reynolds and plans to continue his education at a four-year university. Officer Combs will be assigned as Lead Officer at the Western Campus.

Rod Davis comes to us from the Stafford County Sheriff's Office, where he was the Criminal Investigations Captain. He retired in 2004 after 30 years of law enforcement service. Just prior to coming to work at Reynolds, he was the In-Service Training Coordinator at Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy. He is currently assigned as the department's Professional Standards Officer at the Parham Road Campus.

Foster Miles comes from the Goochland County Sheriff's Office where he served as a Corporal and as a member of their Rescue Team. He is a graduate of Virginia State University where he majored in Administration of Justice. He will be assigned to the Parham Campus as a police officer.



Officer Davis, Officer Combs & Officer Miles (L-R)

College Safety Day Set for April 5th

As part of the celebration of Community College Month, the Department of Police & Security Services will host College Safety Day on April 5th.

Nationally acclaimed speaker Gordon Graham will be the keynote speaker presenting a program full of helpful advice on managing our risks and how well-designed, up-to-date systems of operation can work with customer service, accountability, and integrity to enhance our day-to-day business. Presented

with insight and humor, his program will include, "Why Things Go Right-Why Things Go Wrong", "Ethical Decision Making", "Five Concurrent Themes to Success" and "Excellence in Customer Service".

Graham is a 32-year veteran of California Law Enforcement. He is a practicing attorney specializing in fire department/fire fighter legal issues and holds teaching credentials from California State University and a Master's Degree in Safety and

Systems Management from the University of Southern California.

The program will be presented in one morning and one afternoon session. Registration will be limited so mark you calendars now and watch for additional information!

J. Sargeant Reynolds
Community College



Officer of the Semester: Elizabeth Adams

Security Officer Elizabeth Adams came to Reynolds in October of 2006 and is primarily stationed at the Parham Road Campus.

Before joining the Reynolds team, Officer Adams worked as a medical records clerk/medical assistant at Riker's Island Correctional Facility in New York. She was also a school safety officer for the

Board of Education and a security officer for Command Company in New York. She values her roots in law enforcement from the police/security and school level and enjoyed her experience in a correctional facility.

"I love the versatility and responsibility here," says Officer Adams. "I especially enjoy interacting with interesting and

ambitious people on campus, young and old alike!"

In her spare time, Officer Adams enjoys helping other people, cooking, sewing, playing handball, spending quality time with her family and listening to her seven beautiful grandchildren sing church songs and play instruments.



Officer Adams

We will feature one officer profile in each newsletter.



Spring 2007 Semester Edition

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Our Mission

The J. Sargeant Reynolds Police Department will provide a safe and secure environment for students, faculty and staff to ensure a productive learning environment. This will be accomplished through community based crime prevention practices and following the guiding principles and values of the college.

Our Vision

We will strive to conduct ourselves in the most professional manner possible, safeguarding the lives and property of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Our vision is to afford the college community the best opportunities to learn, teach and prosper in a safe, productive educational environment.

We're on the web!

<http://www.jsr.vccs.edu/security/>

Introduction to our Police Lieutenant, Craig Branch

The J. Sargeant Reynolds Department of Police & Security Services would like to welcome our recently hired Police Commander, Lieutenant Craig Branch.

Lieutenant Branch has over 13 years of law enforcement experience. He began his law enforcement career as a Special Police Officer commissioned by the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Department. Prior to coming to Reynolds, he worked for the Virginia State University Police Department (VSU).

While at VSU, he served as a community policing officer, field training officer, special events coordinator, shift supervisor, shift commander and commander of a drug and alcohol

enforcement unit including a narcotics canine.

Lieutenant Branch was also with the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department where he served as a police supervisor. He has a B.S. Degree in Physical Education and Recreation Management from VSU, and is currently working on his Masters degree in Criminal Justice.

The lieutenant is a General Instructor at the police academy where he teaches gang awareness, community policing, and crime prevention. He is also an active member of the F.O.P. (Fraternal Order of Police), IACLEA (International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators), NOBLE (National Organization

of Black Law Enforcement Executives), VCPA (Virginia Crime Prevention Association), VGIA (Virginia Gang Investigators Association), CUPI (College and University Police Investigators Association), and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

In his spare time, Lieutenant Branch enjoys playing with his American Bull Dog, Brutus, collecting model police cars, and listening to jazz.

His goals for the college include helping with its continued growth, ensure that the officers under his command provide professional quality service, and making J. Sargeant Reynolds the safest college in the Commonwealth.



Lieutenant Branch