



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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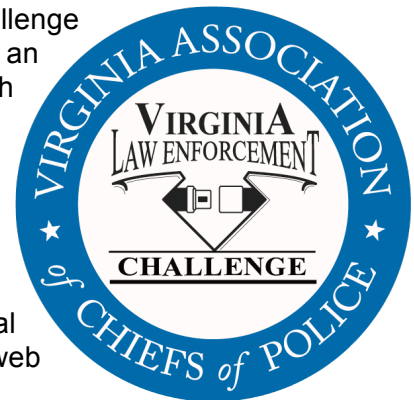
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2009 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards Presented August 9 at VACP Annual Conference in Fairfax County

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) on August 9, 2010 presented the 2009 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge awards for the best traffic safety programs in the state. The awards luncheon was held during the VACP's 85th Annual Training Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Reston, VA.

Celebrating its twenty-first year in Virginia, the Law Enforcement Challenge program promotes professionalism in traffic safety enforcement and encourages agencies to share best practices and programs with each other. The awards are based on entries prepared by the participating agencies that highlight their traffic safety activities in the past calendar year. The Virginia Challenge is held in cooperation with the National Law Enforcement Challenge Awards, presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). This year, a record sixty Virginia agencies entered the state and national competitions! Forty-four will receive state awards and nine will receive national awards. National Challenge award winners have been announced by the IACP on their web site at <http://www.theiacp.org/awards/NLEC>.



For the 2009 Challenge, the VACP decided to hold a separate state judging process for the first time in many years, rather than simply ranking agencies in their state Challenge categories based on their National Challenge scores. We believe that this state-specific judging process provides a more accurate assessment of the traffic safety programs of Virginia agencies because they are judged only against their colleagues in the state and not against agencies from other states with different laws and resources. Competition was very stiff this year due to the record level of participation and the judges were very impressed with the submissions. Four judges spent three long days carefully reviewing the entries and providing feedback to the agencies that they can use when putting together their 2010 submissions. The Virginia Highway Safety Committee certified the results of the judging.

Agencies were presented with first, second and third place awards in each category at the luncheon in August, as well as special awards for outstanding enforcement and education efforts in the areas of occupant protection, impaired driving, speed awareness, child passenger safety, underage alcohol awareness and many more. Additionally, the winners were announced for the best first-time entry, or "Rookie of the Year"; for the most outstanding traffic safety program in Virginia in 2009 regardless of agency size or type, the "Commonwealth Award"; and, for the 2009 Traffic Safety Officer of the Year.

The Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards program is supported by a grant from the Virginia Highway Safety Office. Additional information about the Law Enforcement Challenge program can be found online at <http://www.smartsafeandsober.org/programs/LEC>.

(more)

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The winners of the 2009 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge are as follows:

MUNICIPAL POLICE	
Municipal 1: 1-10 Officers	Place
New Market Police Department	1
West Point Police Department	2
Berryville Police Department	3
Municipal 2: 11-25 Officers	Place
Ashland Police Department	1
Bedford Police Department	2
Norton Police Department	3
Municipal 3: 26-50 Officers	Place
Culpeper Police Department	1
Front Royal Police Department	2
South Boston Police Department	3
Municipal 4: 51-75 Officers	Place
Christiansburg Police Department	1
Martinsville Police Department	2
Herndon Police Department	3
Municipal 5: 76-125 Officers	Place
Albemarle County Police Department	1
Harrisonburg Police Department	2
James City County Police Department	3
Municipal 6: 126-300 Officers	Place
Lynchburg Police Department	1
Roanoke City Police Department	2
Danville Police Department	3
Municipal 7: 301-450 Officers	Place
Arlington County Police Department	1
Newport News Police Department	2
Chesapeake Police Department	3
Municipal 8: 451-700 Officers	Place
Henrico County Division of Police	1
Chesterfield County Police Department	2
Municipal 9: 701+ Officers	Place
Virginia Beach Police Department	1
Fairfax County Police Department	2
Richmond Police Department	3
MILITARY POLICE	
	Place
Fort Lee Police	1

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UNIVERSITY POLICE		Place
University of Richmond Police Department		1
Virginia Tech Police Department		2

SHERIFF'S OFFICES		
Sheriff 1: 1-10 Deputies		Place
Craig County Sheriff's Office		1
Sheriff 2: 11-25 Deputies		Place
New Kent County Sheriff's Office		1
Sheriff 3: 26-50 Deputies		Place
Wythe County Sheriff's Office		1
Smyth County Sheriff's Office		2
Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office		3
Sheriff 4: 51-75 Deputies		Place
Augusta County Sheriff's Office		1
Amherst County Sheriff's Office		2
Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Office		3 (tie)
Washington County Sheriff's Office		3 (tie)
Sheriff 5: 76-125 Deputies		Place
Fauquier County Sheriff's Office		1
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office		2
Sheriff 6: 126-300 Deputies		Place
Hanover County Sheriff's Office		1
Stafford County Sheriff's Office		2
Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office		3
Sheriff 7: 301-450 Deputies		Place
-- no entries in this category --		--
Sheriff 8: 451-700 Deputies		Place
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office		1

STATE ASSOCIATIONS (National Challenge Only)		Place
Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police		1

SPECIAL AWARDS	
"Rookie of the Year" Award	Amherst County Sheriff's Office
Speed Awareness Award	Albemarle County Police Department
Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Award	Culpeper Police Department
Underage Alcohol Awareness Award	Fairfax County Police Department
Child Passenger Safety Award	Lynchburg Police Department
Occupant Protection Award	New Kent County Sheriff's Office

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SPECIAL AWARDS, cont.	
Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Award	Stafford County Sheriff's Office
Impaired Driving Award	Virginia Beach Police Department
Technology Award	Virginia Beach Police Department
Commonwealth Award	Lynchburg Police Department
Officer of the Year Award	Sgt. Peter Mainzer, Albemarle County Police Department

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PHOTOS: <http://photos.vachiefs.org/Law-Enforcement-Challenge/2009-vlec/>

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police is a statewide organization of federal, state and local police chiefs and law enforcement executives dedicated to improving the professionalism of police agencies in Virginia. The Association was founded in 1926 and has more than 600 members. The Association provides annual training programs for law enforcement executives, directs a statewide traffic safety program for law enforcement, produces Freedom of Information Act guidelines for law enforcement and lobbies for law enforcement interests at the state and federal level.