

**Farmville Police Department**  
**State of Department Annual Report**  
**2020**



**Chief A. Q. Ellington Sr.**

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## Message from the Chief

Dear Farmville Community,



On behalf of the men and women of the Farmville Police Department, I would like to invite you to look at our 2020 Annual Report to learn more about your police department. The Farmville Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency that provides 24-hour a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year public protection and service to our community. The Farmville Police Department is comprised of 27 sworn officers and 2 civilian employees.

I am honored to serve as your Chief of Police in Farmville, Virginia. I am extremely proud of the incredible accomplishments and dedication of our officers. Our officers are committed to protecting and serving the citizens of Farmville.

It is a privilege to lead these talented and professional officers. The Farmville Police Department takes pride in working together with citizens and community organizations to ensure that our town is a safe place to live, work and enjoy the unique opportunities and events that Farmville has to offer.

2020 will certainly be a year we will “*All*” remember forever, as the COVID 19 pandemic introduced itself to the United States of America, and throughout the world. Our everyday lives and normal routines were quickly turned inside out. So much has changed in a short period of time – the world around us, our neighborhoods, gathering spaces, the places we work and call home. Life during COVID-19 has sparked fear, frustration, and anxiety all around. Our Governor would issue Executive Orders declaring a State of Emergency, mandating stay at home orders and the wearing of masks. Businesses were shut down, and essential living products would become scarce. I quickly became overwhelmed by the unquestionable strength and character of our community. Like many organizations on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were encouraged by the outpouring of support we have received. The messages of gratitude, acts of generosity and words of encouragement are powerful affirmations for our team of dedicated police officers and staff.

The accomplishments we continue to make each year solidifies our Mission, “To provide a safe and secure community through excellence in public service”. I am very proud to be a member of this agency and will continue to work toward our goal of being the premier law enforcement agency in the region.

Serving you, I am,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Q. Ellington Sr.", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chief A. Q. “Andy” Ellington Sr.

## ***Vision, Mission, Goals and Core Values***

### **Vision:**

To maintain a close working relationship with the citizens, businesses, Longwood University, and other law enforcement agencies to provide professional and unbiased service to the community. This department will constantly pursue advanced technologies while improving our quality of training, and demonstrating innovation and operational flexibility

### **Mission:**

*“To Provide a Safe and Secure Community through Excellence in Public Service”.*

### **Goals:**

*To increase citizen safety and perception of safety*

*To be the premier law enforcement agency of this region*

*To establish, maintain, and enhance community partnerships.*

**Core Values:** *Integrity, Community Safety, Service, and Quality.*

### **VLEPSC ACCREDITED AGENCY**

The Farmville Police Department’s commitment to law enforcement excellence is evidenced by their successful completion of the certification process for the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. All accreditation programs are designed to measure and confirm compliance of the participating agency with the professional standards in whatever discipline or profession they are involved. It is one of the only means by which citizens and government leaders can be assured that an agency is maintaining the high-performance marks to which the community has a right. The Town of Farmville has demonstrated their commitment to professionalism and their willingness to be measured by and compared to the best in the profession. Virginia’s program was started in the early 1990’s, with the creation of a twelve-member Commission of representatives from the Virginia Sheriff’s Association and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. The VLEPSC 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 Farmville Police Department is currently working on its eighth year as a state accredited Agency.

## Organization and Structure

The Farmville Police Department employs 27 sworn officers and two civilian employees. The Farmville Police Department is located at 116 North Main Street in the Town of Farmville, Virginia. The Farmville Police Department provides 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, professional Law Enforcement Services to the citizens of the Town of Farmville. Administrative offices are open Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The Farmville Police Department is led by Chief A. Q. “Andy” Ellington Sr. Chief Ellington is celebrating 31 years of Law Enforcement service to this wonderful community. Chief Ellington Joined the Farmville Police Department in 1989 as a patrolman and has since worked in every supervisory role within the Department. Chief Ellington was appointed to the Chiefs Position in October 2016.



William H. “Bill” Hogan serves as Deputy Chief of Police—Captain—responsible for daily activities of the agency and reports directly to the Chief of Police. The Assistant Chief is second-in-command and has responsibility for and authority over operations, administration, and training for the agency. The Assistant Chief of Police serves as the Acting Chief of Police in the absence of the Chief of Police.



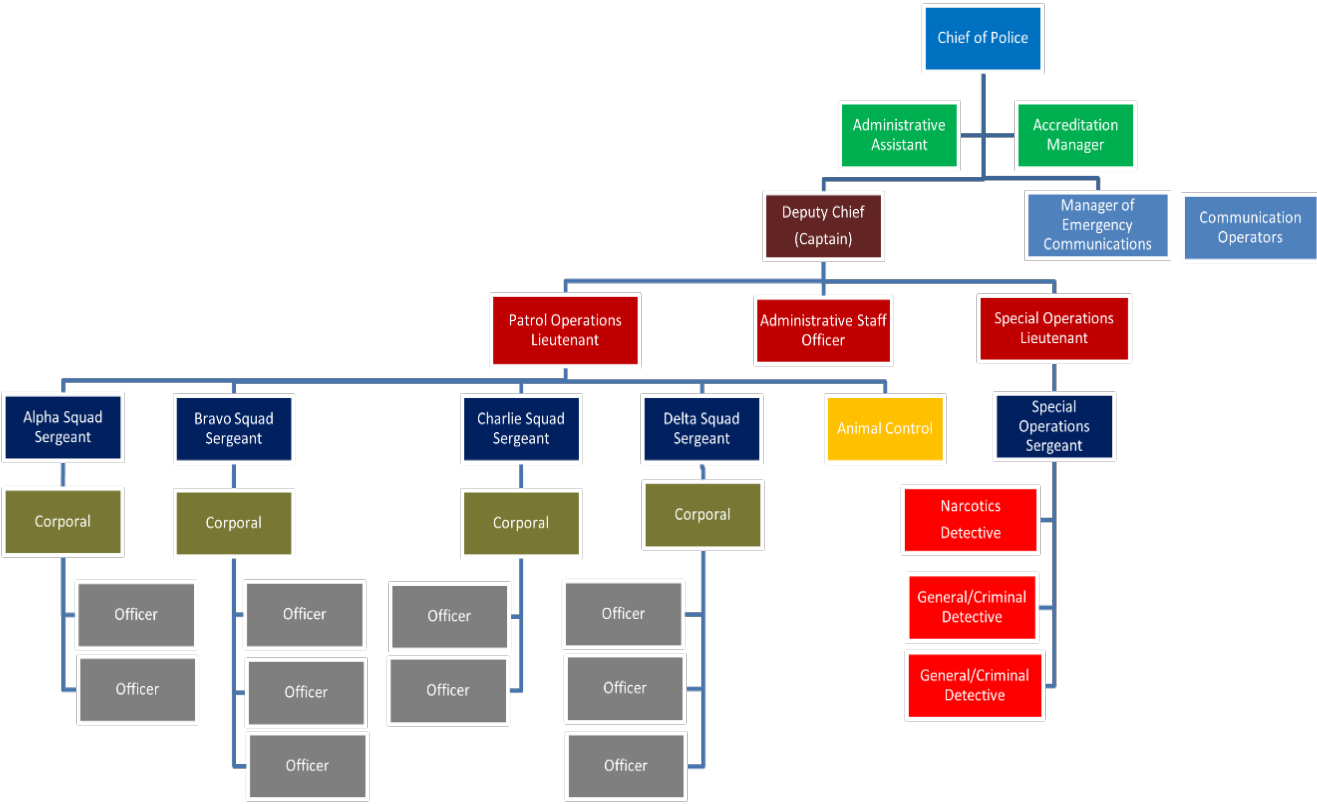
Lt. Bobby Ragland serves as Patrol Division Commander – Lieutenant—responsible for and has authority over, all activities of the patrol operations of the agency. The Patrol Lieutenant delegates authority to supervisory staff and coordinates uniformed law enforcement services, crowd control response, and critical incident response of the agency. The Patrol Lieutenant reports directly to the Deputy Chief of Police.



Lt. Chris Moss serves as Special Operations Division Commander – Lieutenant—responsible for, and has authority over, all activities of the Special Operations Division of the agency. The Special Operations Lieutenant delegates authority to supervisory staff and coordinates the activities of the Criminal Investigations Section, Narcotics Investigations Section, Emergency Planning, Crime Prevention, and the Evidence Room. The Special Operations Lieutenant reports directly to the Deputy Chief of Police.



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## Agency Awards and Accomplishments



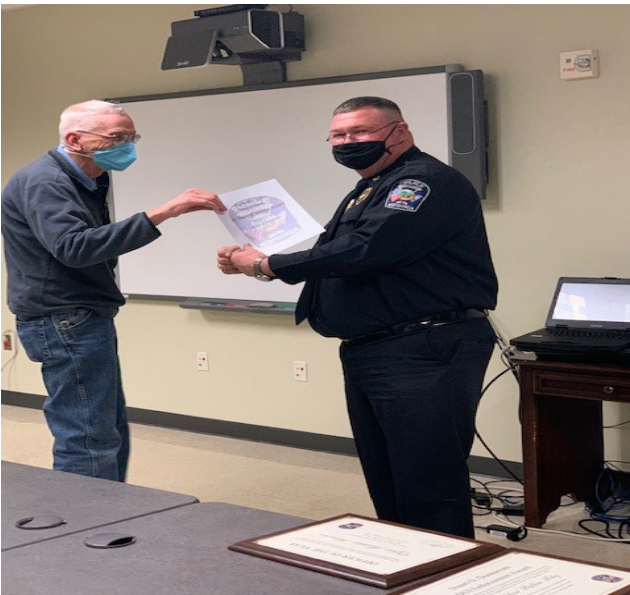
Officer Dalton Foley, for the second consecutive year received The D.U.I. Enforcement Award named in honor, and in memory, of former Farmville Police Chief Stuart O. Dunnivant. The award recognizes the department member who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the prevention, detection, and enforcement of the driving under the influence laws, and for ensuring the safety of the general public by removing impaired drivers from the streets of the Town of Farmville.



Detective Sammy Entrekin was recognized for 10 years of service.



Sergeant/Detective David Ragland was recognized for 10 years of service.



Officer Johnny Garrett was recognized for 25 years of service.

## FISCAL YEAR 2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



During the COVID 19 Pandemic the Farmville Police Department worked vigorously to reduce the exposure of its officers. Federal Funding was allotted, and the Farmville Police Department was able to secure over \$200,000.00 in COVID-19 funding that would allow for the purchase and installation of Mobile Data Terminals. The MDT's basically turn each patrol car into an officer's office, allowing them to receive calls for service electronically and to complete reports inside their vehicle.



For the past 3 years, FPD has been working on a capital expenditure project to update our current radio system from analog to the new digital P-25 communications system for Law Enforcement, to include our 911 Communications Center. This project comes with a hefty price tag to exceed \$750,000.00. This year we were awarded a grant for \$82,000.00 to cover the purchase of 24 mobile radios for our cruisers. Our goal this year is to acquire additional grant funding to allow us to secure the purchase of 32 handheld radios. We are optimistic that this entire project can be completed through grant applications.

## 2020 Police Officer of the Year Award



The Officer of the year status was awarded to Officer Mathew McMillian. This award is presented to an officer who has been voted upon by the Command Staff. Nominations for this award are submitted by officers to the Chief of Police in writing. Submissions include factors supporting the nomination such as community Involvement, commitment to the agency, superior performance with a specific difficult task and/or a complete and consistent body of work throughout the year that exceeds normal expectations. Submissions are reviewed by command Staff to determine which officer has exhibited excellence in their position and has gone above and beyond the call of duty. This is the third highest award the department can bestow on a member and is accompanied by a uniform pin that may be worn throughout the year. The Officer of the Year recipient will also be the Department's nominee to receive the VFW Law Enforcement Award.

Officer McMillian has been with the department for three and half years and has excelled as a young officer. During the past year Officer McMillian surpassed his in-service training and put an outstanding effort into every aspect of his job. He was active in handling calls for service and initiating traffic stops. Officer McMillian was number one in the Department for; calls for service answered, reports written, fingerprints obtained, and most summons issued. He displays a desire to learn and brings a positive attitude to work daily. His efforts were shown best when he took the extra responsibility of investigating more complex crimes. In January 2020, officer McMillian began investigating a series of burglaries, where a local resident was entering the homes of college girls while they were out of town and leaving disturbing messages. Officer McMillian identified a suspect, executed search warrants, that resulted in a swift arrest and conviction of the suspect.

Officer McMillian is now serving a temporary special assignment with the Piedmont Regional Gang and Narcotics Task Force. With each mission assigned, Officer McMillian works towards carrying out the mission of the Farmville Police Department, "To provide a safe and secure community through excellence in public service."

## Community Outreach

We continue to offer more than 25 community policing programs yearly.

“Operation Blue Christmas” has become an annual tradition for the Farmville Police Department. This life altering experience joins the department with local businesses to bring the Holidays to children and their families who may not otherwise have the opportunity. Local businesses make financial donations that allow police officers to shop with children during the holiday season. Taco Bell/Long John Silver’s once again opened their doors and partnered with FPD to provide food for the children and their immediate family members. Officers and members of the department’s Advisory Board accompanied 10 children during this year’s event. This provides positive reinforcement to the children and opens trust with youth within our community. Although Covid-19 crashed many parties in 2020, FPD was fortunate to be able to bring Christmas to 10 precious children.





## National Night Out

*Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, we had to cancel our annual National Night out event for 2020. We look forward to returning to the streets in 2021 to share fellowship, food, and fun with the citizens we serve.*



## **Patrol Division Report- 2020**

### **Commanded by Lieutenant Bobby Ragland**

During the year 2020 (Jan1-Dec31) the Farmville Police Department saw moderate change in its patrol staffing. One officer left patrol and one officer was hired to replace that officer, leaving the patrol staffing numbers with all shifts fully staffed as of December 31, 2020. Those numbers will change as we move into 2021.

Farmville PD continued its emphasis on community policing despite the effects of the coronavirus, as programs like DARE and Blue Christmas continued to be strong and important community outreach projects. Officers went the extra mile in community service as well, with one officer organizing an impromptu parade along with fire and EMS staff for several children and officers purchased freeze pops and handed them out to children in the community to foster and continue good relations with community members. Despite the cancellation of many events such as the Citizen's Police Academy, summer programs, and National Night Out due to the pandemic, community policing efforts were still a major focus in 2020.

Members of the Farmville Police Department handled 5414 calls for service during the year. Officers worked 71 reportable traffic crashes and made 2,391 traffic stops. Officers wrote over 1300 traffic summonses and made 258 arrests. Officers called in 3,467 area checks during the year. They also handled 78 ECO/TDO calls during the year as well as writing 561 parking tickets during a year in which parking downtown was made free to shoppers for a good portion of the year and the overflow of vehicles trying to occupy limited parking spaces was lessened by the fact that college students were out most of the first part of the year. Over \$10,000.00 was collected from parking fines.

The status of the fleet was maintained with overall mechanic fees down due to the influx of newer vehicles into the fleet over the last few years. Officers and detectives logged over 259,000 miles in the fleet during this past year. We were able to continue with our speed and alcohol grants, using the extra funding to increase our presence on the roadways and purchase new radar units and preliminary breath test units. We upgraded our body worn camera system's hard drive this past year as well, continuing to ensure that we can use our cameras to document our actions. We also were able to use our FANGS grant to focus on firearms education, safety, and enforcement during the first 9 months of 2020. 2020 also saw the purchase of new MDT computers and accessories in our fleet, helping to continue the trend of making today's technology available to the officers and allowing them to better serve and protect their community. The computers will be installed and in use in early 2021.

# 2020 Reportable Motor Vehicle Crash Report



<u>Year</u>	<u># of Crashes</u>	<u>Damages</u>
<b>2020</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>\$523,850.00</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>\$1,019,450.00</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>\$910,570.00</b>

## Location of Highest Occurrence of Crashes

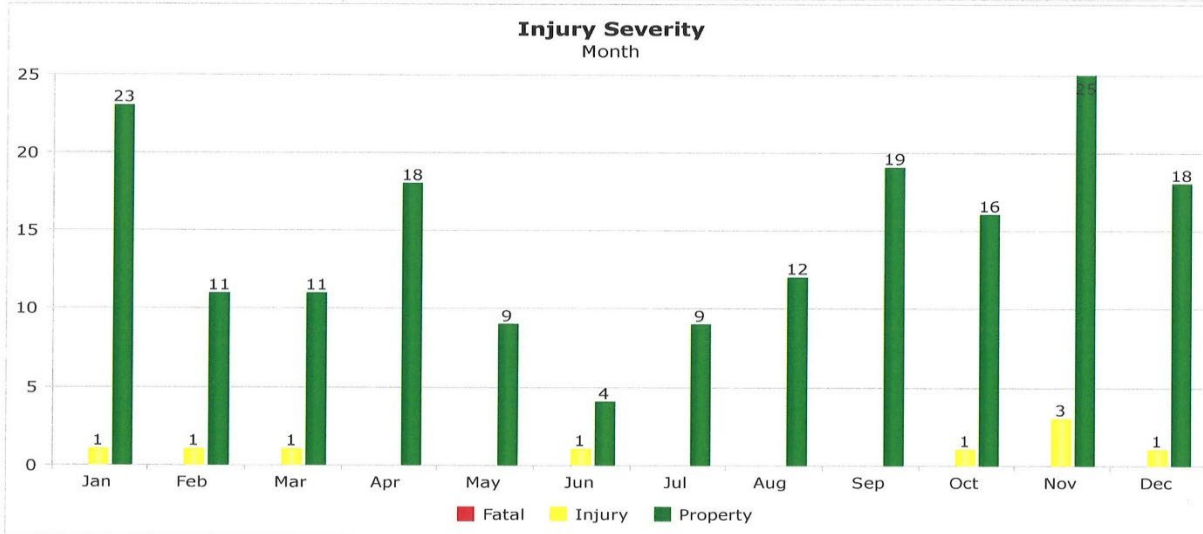
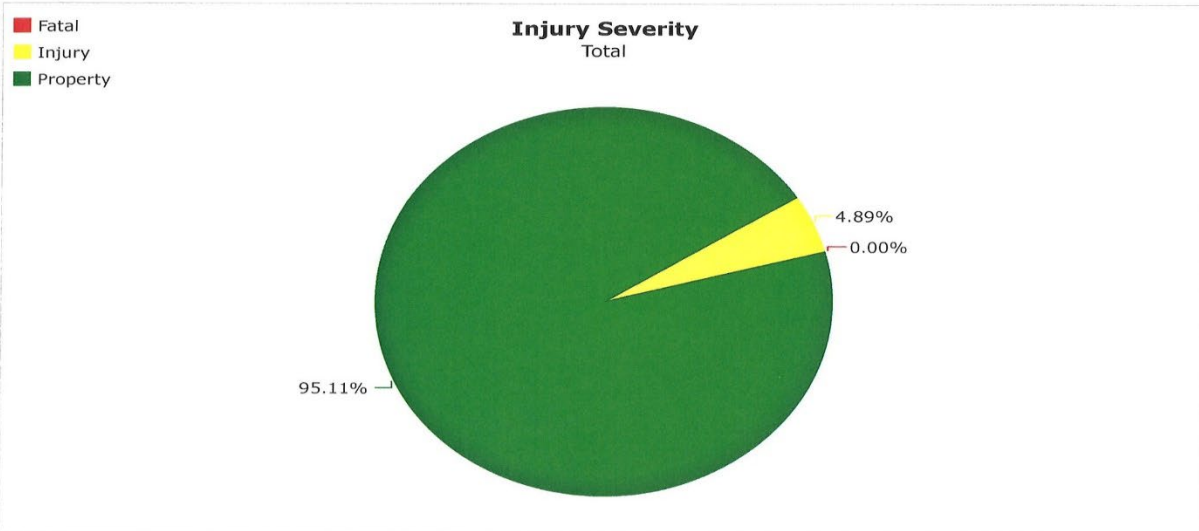
East Third Street and Milnwood Road	5
South Main Street and Clark Street	5
Main and Third Street	3
South Main and Perry Drive	2
Main and Second	2
Second and Virginia Streets	2
High and Oak	0
High and Griffin Blvd	0

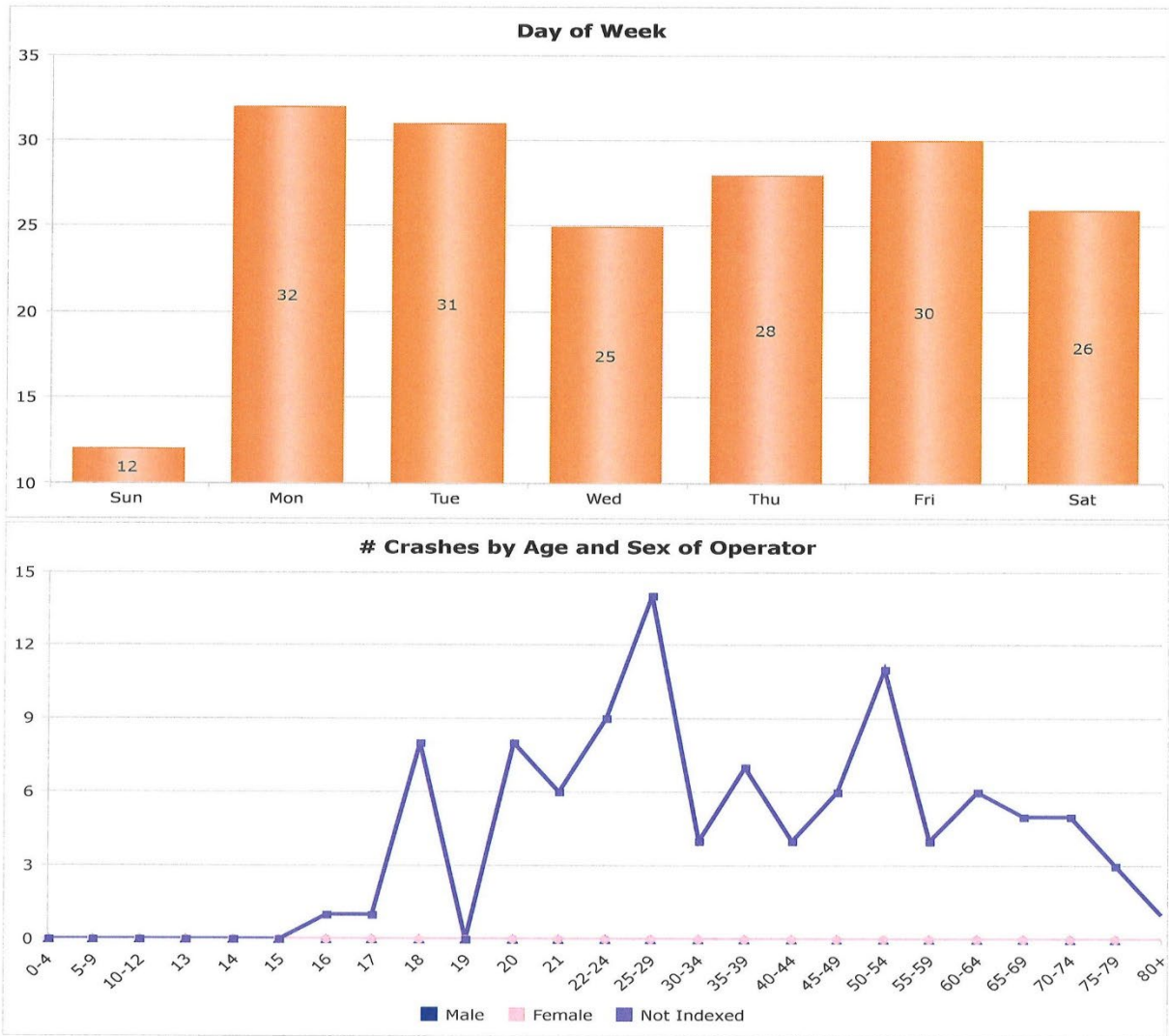
### **Note:**

A reportable crash are those crashes that result in damages of \$1500.00 or more and must be reported to DMV.

The total number of reportable crashes involving injuries in 2020 was thirteen (13).

**Total Number of Crashes Reported between 1/1/2020 and 12/31/2020 for [All Reporting Locations]: 184\*\***





# **Special Operations Report for 2020**

## **Commanded by Lieutenant Chris Moss**

2020, being a unique year, to say the least, ended with a total of 128 cases being worked by the Special Operations Division. The year started as normal with preparations being made for the many Community Relations Programs offered by our department. Applicants were recruited for the Citizens Police Academy and the class schedule was set. The Heartland Heroes Blood Drive date was planned, and preparations were made for National Night Out 2020. Dates were also blocked out for the Recreation Departments First Responder Camp, which is held each year in June.

Then the news of the Coronavirus broke. As January and February unfolded, the virus got closer and closer to us and on March 12, 2020, the Introductory night for the seventh Citizens Police Academy, we were told that the program would have to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

The Citizens Police Academy was not the only casualty of the pandemic and we learned a new way to do our jobs. Just when we thought it could not get any worse, the protests began, and we found ourselves planning for contingencies each week. As Summer faded, the virus still had not subsided, and more community policing plans were cancelled. We were fortunate enough to be able to hold our annual Blood Drive in September using strict COVID-19 protocols.

One positive gain from being confined by the pandemic was the organization of the evidence room. After some slight changes, we were able to complete the annual audit in less than one day, unlike previous years when it has taken as long as three days to complete. With the new records managements system and all evidence locations identified with a barcode, the process of checking off evidence was simple.

2020 did see a new program implemented where a Patrol Officer was given the opportunity to work alongside our Narcotic's Detective to gain experience in the field. The first to try this was Officer Dalen Coblentz. Officer Coblentz spent nearly six months working with Detective Paulette and investigating narcotics related offenses.

There was a slight drop in cases assigned to Special Operations dropping from 167 cases in 2019 to 128 cases in 2020. The clearance rate at the close of 2020 was an impressive 52%. The cases received are listed below by month:

<b>January</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>7</b>

**Total cases for 2020 – 128**

**Total cases for 2019 – 167**

**Clearance Rate at years' end – 52%**

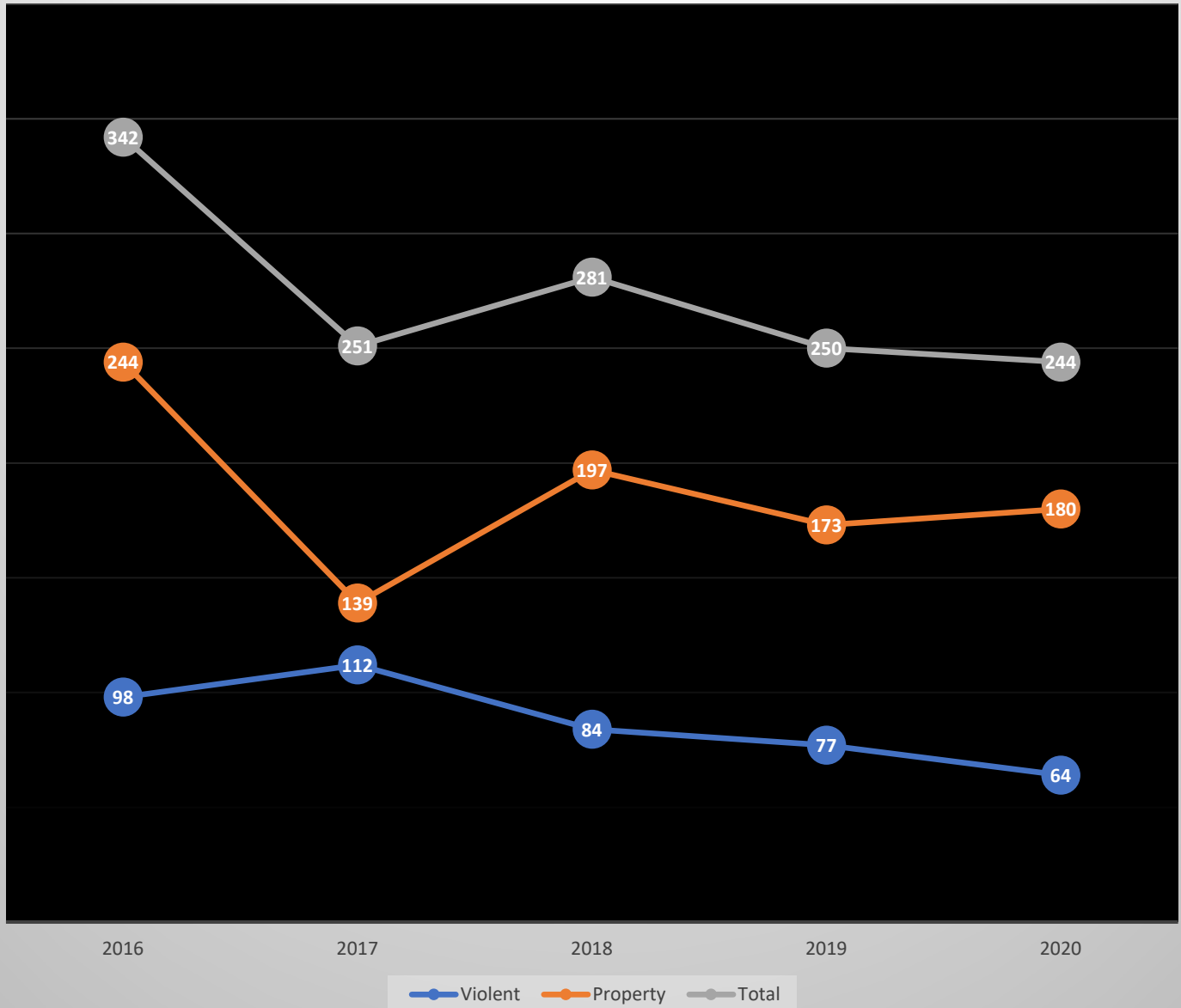
## Crime Numbers For The Past Five Year Period

<u>VIOLENT CRIMES</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Simple Assault	45	53	69	94	77
Aggravated Assault	14	15	9	08	11
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0
Rape	3	3	4	3	5
Forcible Fondling/Sodomy	2	3	2	2	1
Robbery	0	3	0	5	4
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>98</b>
<u>PROPERTY CRIMES</u>					
Burglary	3	17	18	22	14
Larceny	174	150	166	105	229
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	5	13	11	0
Arson	1	1	0	1	1
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>244</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>342</b>

- In a head-to-head comparison from last year, overall crime numbers were down by 42 offenses.
- Violent crime, which includes simple assault, for comparison was down by 13 offenses

- Using a four-year average of crime as a measurement for comparison, we find that the average for total crimes is 281.25. *In 2020 we are down 13% (percent) from the four-year average.*

### 5 Year Crime Trend Violent Crime and Serious Property Offenses



**Emergency Custody Orders**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Number of calls	52	59	82	65	68
Total Man-hours	384.5	389	632.5	521	512
Avg. hours per call	7.39	6.59	7.7	7.18	7.5

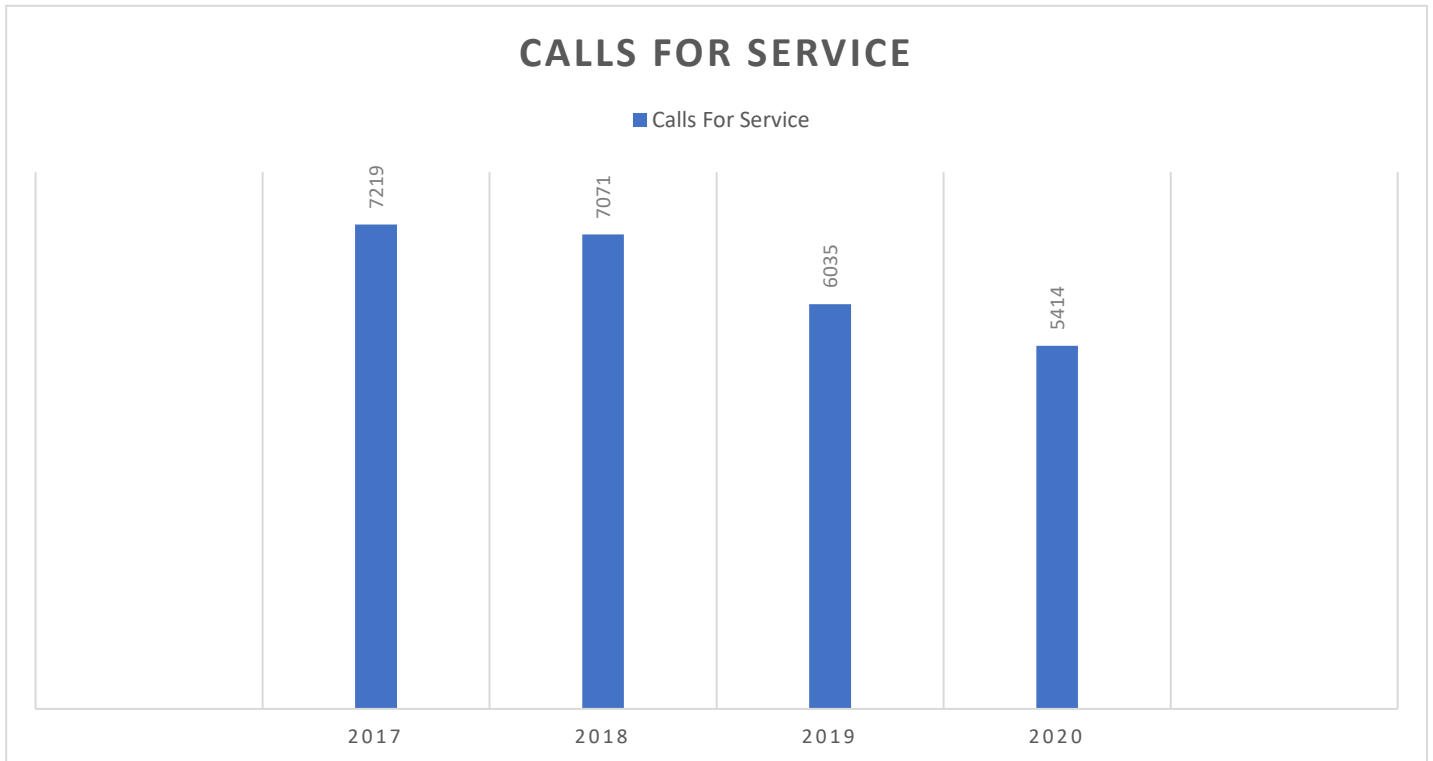
**Temporary Detention Orders (transports only/does not include Medical TDO)**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Number of calls	12	8	8	13	11
Total Man-hours	55.75	37	38.5	29	34.5
Avg. hours per call	4.65	4.63	4.81	2.23	3.84

546.5 total man-hours = 26% of 1 full-time employee

## Calls For Service Demands

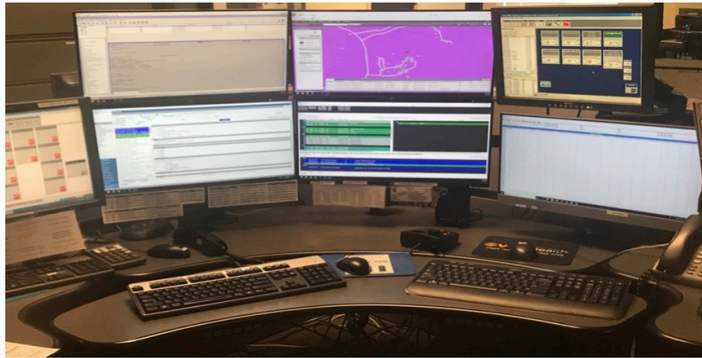
Answering calls for service is a major function of the agency. Call demand is a strong indication of the public need for police. Ultimately a goal of the agency is to show a reduction of calls for service combined with a reduction in overall crime numbers. While our overall crime numbers remain relatively steady, the demand for calls for service has decreased 22.5% from the previous three-year average.



# 2020 Annual Report

Created by Jackie B. Gilbert, Emergency Communications Manager

## FARMVILLE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS



The Farmville Emergency Communications Center is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the Farmville area. Our center answers 911 calls for the Town of Farmville, Prince Edward County, and southern Cumberland County. The center dispatches the Farmville Police Department, Hampden-Sydney Police Department, and Longwood Police Department in addition to three rescue squads, seven fire departments, and Public Works for the Town of Farmville. Currently, we have 17 full-time Communication Operators, an Emergency Communications Manager and 3 part-time Communications Operators on staff. All full-time operators work a permanent 12-hour shift that allows for every other weekend off.

## **2020 Telecommunicator of the Year**



During National Public Safety Telecommunications week each year beginning in 2017, our center presents a Telecommunicator of the Year award to a communications operator that has gone above and beyond his or her scope of duties. The award recipient is nominated by his or her co-workers because they have made or makes an exceptionally noteworthy contribution – thus positively impacting the telecommunications center in a significant way. This year, on April 15, 2020 Communications Operator Mike R. Driskill was selected as the Telecommunicator of the year. Mike was nominated by his co-workers for going above and beyond with updating rosters, accessible lists, and departmental forms that are used daily in the center. Without these accessible lists, it would delay crucial contact and while this task remains hidden and behind the scenes even more so than the normal responsibilities of a Communications Operator, it is greatly appreciated.

### **Text to 911**

*All PSAP's in Virginia, by law, had to be capable of receiving text messages on 911 by July 1, 2020. On June 9, 2020, the Farmville Emergency Communications Center became capable of receiving text messages on 9-1-1 and have received 33 text to 911 requests as of December 31, 2020. The ability to communicate with 911 by text will largely benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community ensuring equal and direct access to public safety.*

# Emergency Medical Dispatch

In July 2020, the Farmville Emergency Communications Center was awarded a grant from the Office of EMS that would cover 80% of the total cost of purchasing and implementing an emergency medical dispatch program. In August, we selected the Power phone Total Response EMD solution to provide instruction, certification, and quality assurance to Communication Operators as they give pre arrival instructions to callers. Emergency Medical Dispatch is a process used by operators to gather information, process requests for emergency medical assistance, and ensure that appropriate medical services are dispatched. Communications Operators will provide necessary medical pre-arrival instructions on all chief complaints to include providing CPR and childbirth instructions. Each Communications Operator achieved their EMD certification by completing online training, passing three online tests, and performing learned skills during a practical exercise while being evaluated by a power phone instructor. End user training is planned mid-February with implementation in May 2021.



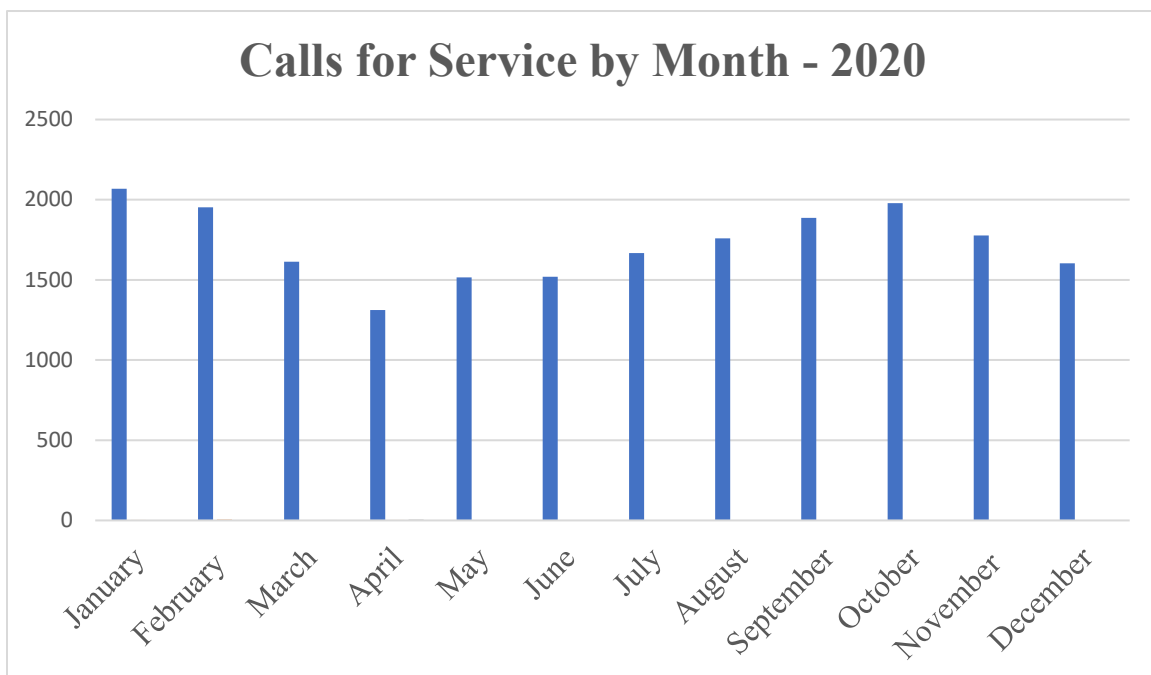
## COVID-19 and the 911 Center

Covid-19 has affected us all in one way or another. Call volumes dropped significantly in March and April, which we have attributed to citizens staying home due to the fear of the COVID-19 virus.

Questions such as “are you experiencing a fever, cough, or any shortness of breath?”, in addition to “have you been around anyone with COVID-19, or have you traveled out the country recently?” were incorporated to our routine call taking procedures and most continue to be asked today.

Communication Operators increased cleaning at the console, took their temperatures before coming on duty and prior to leaving and made sure not to come to work if they were sick. Everyone continues to do their best to stay safe and healthy.

Lastly, in early April, the health department began sharing addresses of those that have tested positive for covid-19 with local emergency managers. This gave us the ability to add a location note / alert in CAD at the specific address to prepare first responders in case of a call at the address.

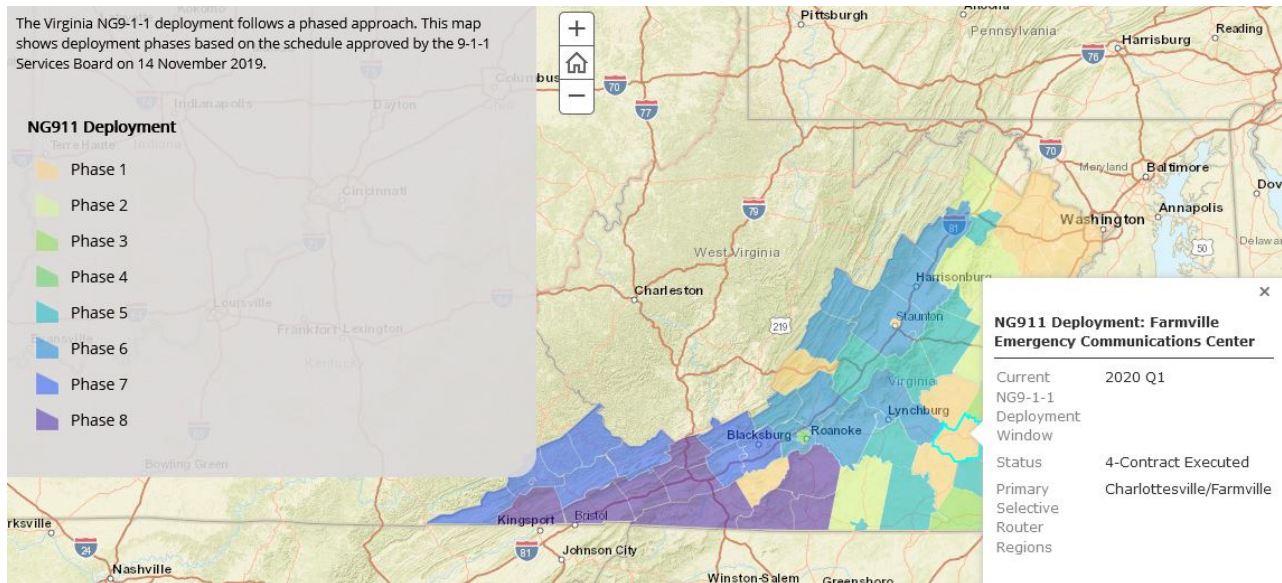


# Upcoming Projects for 2021

## Deployment to the EsiNet

The Farmville Emergency Communications Center is currently working with Century Link, AT&T, and VITA to migrate to the EsiNet. The 911 service provider has historically been the local exchange carrier that provides service to the area of the local 911 center. The infrastructure that the current 911 solution is based on is going away. Next generation 911 will require a complete upgrade of the 911 network to a shared IP network called an Emergency Services IP network, or EsiNet. The Emergency Communications Manager has been working with our local GIS technician and surrounding counties to ensure that when the EsiNet is deployed, calls will be routed to the correct PSAP. In addition to GIS, we have been participating in bi-weekly conference calls regarding equipment such as servers and routers to make the deployment a success. The Farmville PSAP is scheduled to deploy the EsiNet in April or May of 2021.

## Deployment Schedule of all PSAPs in Virginia





The current four Motorola radio consoles that are in use at the Farmville Emergency Communications Center are nearing end of life and soon will no longer be supported by the manufacturer. To ensure the 9-1-1 center can maintain constant communication with responders in the field, a radio upgrade to a digitally capable system will occur mid-year. This upgrade will ensure seamless, dependable communications and allow interoperability with other agencies and jurisdictions.