

NEWS RELEASE

COLONEL DAVID R. HINES, SHERIFF

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Contact: Captain Michael J. Trice 365-6292, 389-4501, mjtrice@co.hanover.va.us

During the holiday season, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office is taking extra steps to protect citizens and visitors in Hanover's retail areas.

Starting November 26 and continuing through December 31, the Uniform Patrol Division will be supplemented by several other units in the daily delivery of services to high-traffic areas. The intent is to establish a strong presence aimed at deterring criminal activity, efficiently controlling the flow of traffic, quickly responding to calls for service and identifying and apprehending violators.

The increased uniform presence will include Reserve Deputies, trained volunteer law enforcement officers, who will conduct patrols during the peak shopping hours. In addition, all of the Sheriff's D.A.R.E. and School Resource Officers will be re-assigned from their school duties during the Christmas break to patrol the retail corridors. These officers will be patrolling in vehicles and on foot.

Hanover Fire and EMS, in a combined effort between the Volunteer and Career Fire-EMS personnel, will be working between calls and while completing reports in ten shopping centers throughout the County, providing an extra layer of comfort for citizens and extra eyes for the Sheriff's Office.

And for the 11th year, the Sheriff's Office will count on the services of approximately 50 dedicated Hanover citizens who make up the *Courtesy Patrol*. These citizens, adorned in fluorescent green vests emblazoned with "Hanover Volunteer Courtesy Patrol," will be visible in shopping centers from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. They will be equipped with cell phones and note pads and will serve as additional eyes and ears of the Sheriff's Office, as well as ambassadors to citizens and visitors.

"The Sheriff's Office will be putting additional resources in our retail areas to ensure businesses and their customers are not hampered by crime. We are also fortunate to have volunteers to enhance our visibility and assist our citizens," said Colonel David R. Hines.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Courtesy Patrol program is encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Office at (804) 365-6110.

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