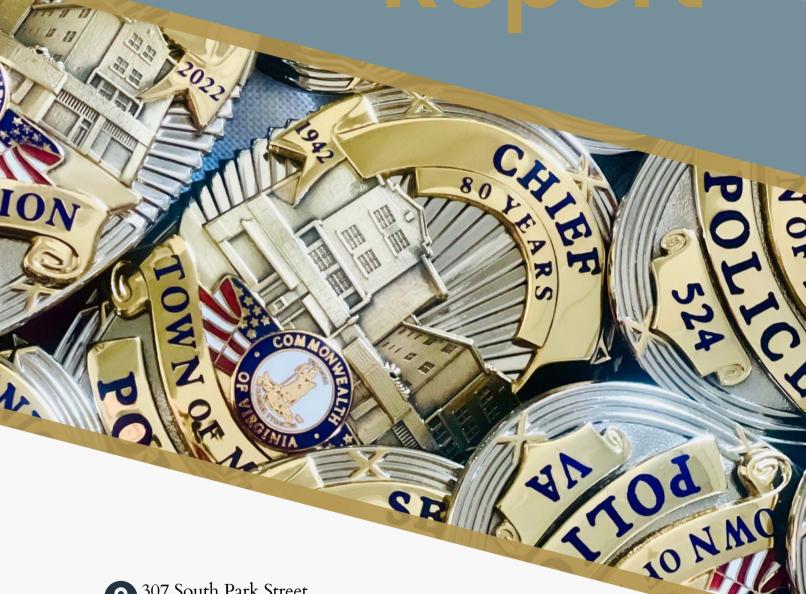


2022-2023

Annua Report



307 South Park Street Marion, Virginia 24354



marionva.org/policedepartment



Overcoming

challenges for a better future.



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OUR MISSION

"The mission of the Town of Marion Police Department is to enhance the quality of life of our residents, by providing police services in a spirit of shared responsibility."

VISION

The Marion Police Department delivers core law enforcement services, in a relational tone, and with a professional character consistent with the expectations of our community. We are a genuine and legitimate contributor to the safety and security of our citizens, and thereby a vital part of our shared and flourishing society

VALUES

The Town of Marion Police Department is responsible for protecting constitutional guarantees and impartially enforcing the law. We believe that integrity is the basis of public trust and that honesty and equality in the delivery of police services is essential. We commit ourselves to upholding these values and to fostering cooperation and respect within our community, and the department itself.

PRINCIPLES

- 1. The essence of policing should remain an analog endeavor.
- 2. Wisdom makes for better policing than worldview
- 3. Irenic policing genuinely contributes to a flourishing society.
- 4. Core competency is vital.
- 5. Legitimate policing is community shaped.

A LETTER FROM CHIEF JOHN P. CLAIR

As the Chief of Police of the Town of Marion Police Department let me be the first to say this to our elected leaders, residents and guests – Thank You.

I can't begin to express how appreciative we are to serve this community, at this moment. This agency doesn't merely have a mission, or simply adhere to values and principles. We have all those things, and far more. We have a vision for the future, which casts us as a genuine and legitimate contributor to the safety and security of our citizens, and thereby a vital part of our shared and flourishing society. Simply, our goal is to be your partner in overcoming the challenges we face, and build a better future for everyone who calls Marion home. Yet, no matter how articulately this philosophy is expressed, we know that we shall be known by our fruits. This report is designed to inform you of those fruits.



In the details of this report, you will see highlighted the acts of our officers, and their commitment to serving you. We're not going to attempt to dazzle you with empty statistics, although there are some important categories displayed. Rather, we want you to see us for who we want to be – trusted, empathic, and engaged. We take the health and welfare of each and every member of this jurisdiction seriously, in fact, we've dedicated our professional lives to the effort.

This dedication has led the men and women of this agency, to test their personal and professional resolve to ensure we provide a full range of service with the highest possible ideals. Your police department has embraced the leading concepts encapsulated by contemporary professional policing, implemented them consistently, and then continued on an unending cycle of growth and improvement. Our commitment to this process is what ensures we continue to be a best-in-class police department, populated by committed professionals, and we stay deeply connected to the people we serve – You.

Respectfully, John P. Clair



2022 - 2023 Organizational Overview

We are dedicated to providing the highest quality of service in a consistent manner that emphasizes effectiveness, efficiency, and innovation. We are dedicated to empower our employees to take risks, expand horizons, and always pursue excellence.

Office of the Chief of Police:

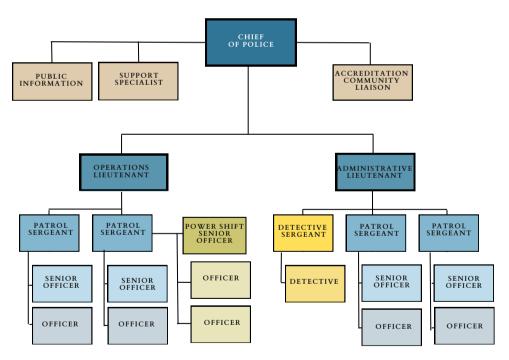
The Marion Police Department is commanded by the Chief of Police. During calendar year 2020, the Marion Police Department was authorized 21 sworn police officers and 1 civilian personnel to provide law enforcement services to the Town of Marion, Virginia.

Patrol Division:

The Backbone of Our Department. Our patrol division is the foundation of our department. Each of the four patrol shifts is led by a sergeant who is responsible for guiding the shift to achieve its goals and objectives.

Criminal Investigations:

The Criminal Investigation Division is responsible for investigating serious felony and certain misdemeanor cases that occur within the town. A Detective is usually assigned to look into incidents that were initially reported to patrol officers. Detectives have the expertise and resources necessary to conduct a thorough investigation and successfully identify suspects, make arrests, and prosecute cases.



MEET THE TEAM

CHIEF OF POLICE - JOHN P. CLAIR

ADMINISTRATIVE LIEUTENANT - RUSTY HAMM
OPERATIONS LIEUTENANT - KEVIN TESTERMAN
DETECTIVE SERGEANT - RAYMOND THOMAS
SERGEANT - APRIL MORGAN
SERGEANT - APRIL MORGAN
SERGEANT - JOHN ATLOR
SERGEANT - JOHN ATLOR
SERGEANT - JEFF HORN
MASTER OFFICER - ACCREDITATION/COMMUNITY LIAISON - AMBER EADES
MASTER OFFICER - REITH FINNEY
SENIOR OFFICER - BEN DILLOW
SENIOR OFFICER - MASON WAGONER
PATROL OFFICER - DEARGELO BROWN
PATROL OFFICER - DALTON PENNINGTON
PATROL OFFICER - JOHN BLEVINS
PATROL OFFICER - MILTON MEDLEN
PATROL OFFICER - TYLER HAYES NON - SWORN PROGRAM SUPPORT SPECIALIST - LEE ANNE HAMM PUBLIC INFORMATION - KENNETH HEATH

2022 - 2023 Town Demographics



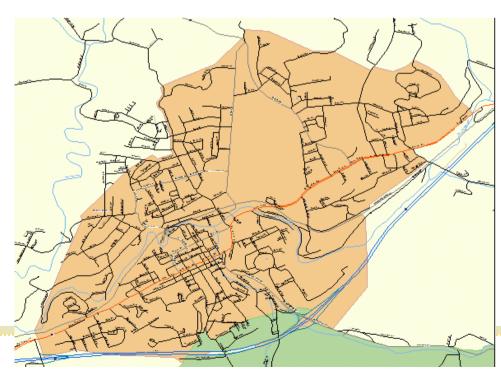
TOWN OF MARION, VIRGINIA 36°50′N 81°31′W

5,559 RESIDENTS SERVED 4.2 SQUARE MILES PATROLLED

46 MEDIAN AGE OF RESIDENTS

8.4%
African
American
Caucasian

1.6%
Hispanic

\$31,544 Median Household Income 





Aheart for SERVICE..

Public safety is a significance element in a flourishing community. A thriving community is built upon the foundation of public safety and the ability for residents to live without fear. While thousands of law enforcement officers work tirelessly to serve and protect, the citizens also play a crucial role in the welfare of their community.

Building stronger bonds between communities and law enforcement: The Marion Police Department is committed to fostering stronger connections between law enforcement and local communities. Our officers are actively involved in a variety of community events, such as church gatherings, sports events, and holiday celebrations. Through these interactions, we aim to engage in meaningful dialogue with community members, build trust, and increase our cultural competencies.

"WE ARE COMMITTED TO BUILDING TRUST WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY"

















Hunter Education Course

When....
Saturday, August 13th, 2022
8:00 - 3:00pm
Location..
Marion Police Department

Marion Police Department 307 South Park Street, Marion, Virginia Register at...

> After you register, you can pick up your book at Marion Police Department. We look forward to seeing you there...

2022 - 2023 Community Outreach









VALENTINES FOR SENIORS

In 2023, The Marion Police Department launched a Valentine's Day community engagement initiative to spread love and kindness. We invited the community to participate by crafting cards or contributing items like blankets and stuffed animals for residents at Francis Marion Manor Health & Rehabilitation.

On Valentine's Day, Officers delivered the cards and treats, including cupcakes, to bring joy to the facility. This initiative reflects the department's commitment to fostering a compassionate and caring community, encouraging positive impacts on the lives of those at Francis Marion Manor.

LET'S GO FISHING

The Marion Police Department, along with Marion Fire-EMS and the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, is pleased to report the success of the recent "Let's GO Fishing" event, bringing joy and camaraderie to the children of the community. We express heartfelt thanks to all participants and extend special appreciation to our community partners whose support contributed significantly to the event's success.

This collaboration reflects our commitment to unity and community engagement. We anticipate more events strengthening bonds between law enforcement, emergency services, and community members, making a positive impact. We are grateful for the collective efforts,











BLUE RIDGE JOB CORPS

The Marion Police Department has been filled with enriching interactions and community engagement. Chief Clair and Community Liaison Officer Amber Eades took part in a dynamic initiative at the Blue Ridge Job Corp Center, fostering open conversations with students about the officers' impactful work in the community.

The morning session marked the commencement of a valuable partnership between the center and Marion Police Department, initiating quarterly training sessions for both staff and students. The collaboration aligns with Blue Ridge Job Corps mission to build community partnerships, empowering students to become well-informed leaders and successful adults.

The excitement continued as Chief Clair and MPO Eades extended a warm welcome to Marion Blue Ridge Job Corps on Monday for their quarterly presentation. Later in the week, they actively engaged with young adults during the Fall Frolic, showcasing the law fit course and providing a glimpse into a sample police entry test. This hands-on experience not only highlighted the commitment of MPD to community involvement but also strengthened the connection between law enforcement and the youth in our community.

These initiatives exemplify Marion Police Departments dedication to fostering meaningful relationships, promoting education, and actively participating in events that contribute to the overall well-being of our community. As we reflect on this week's endeavors, we are proud to showcase the positive impact of our officers and look forward to further collaborative initiatives in the future.



















2022 - 2023 Community Outreach



FILL-THE-CRUISER WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The Marion Police Department continues its unwavering commitment to community support with the annual "Fill the Cruiser" event. This initiative, held each year before our National Night Out Event, aims to alleviate the financial burden on parents and provide essential school supplies to foster a successful academic year for local students. Through this collective effort, we not only support families but also contribute to the success of our dedicated teachers, ensuring they have the resources needed for a prosperous school year.

The heart of the "Fill the Cruiser" event lies in the collaboration between the Marion Police Department and the community. Generous donations of backpacks and various school supplies pour in, reflecting the strong bond between law enforcement and residents. This collective effort underscores our belief that confidence and education are pivotal in enhancing the overall well-being of our community. We are proud that our community's collaborative spirit is making a positive impact and changing lives.

At the Marion Police Department, we firmly believe that confidence and education can transform lives. The "Fill the Cruiser" initiative exemplifies our dedication to this belief, as we witness the tangible difference it makes in the lives of students, parents, and teachers alike. As we compile this annual report, we extend our gratitude to the Marion community for their continued support. Together, we are building a foundation for success, one supply-filled back pack at a time.

















NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out stands as a beacon of community spirit, aiming to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while reviving a true sense of unity. This annual event provides an exceptional opportunity to bring police and neighbors together in a positive and uplifting atmosphere. The Marion Police Department has actively participated in and hosted its own National Night Out event since 2019, transforming the Marion Town Pool into a hub of community engagement and camaraderie.

National Night Out serves as a catalyst for building stronger connections within the Marion community. By fostering positive interactions between law enforcement and residents, the event contributes to a sense of shared responsibility and mutual understanding. The Marion Police Department recognizes the significance of such initiatives in cultivating trust and cooperation, essential elements for creating a safer and more harmonious environment for everyone.

The success of Marion's National Night Out is made possible through the generous support of our community. From bicycle donations to school supplies, these contributions add an extra layer of joy and enrichment to the event. The Marion Police Department extends its sincere gratitude to all who have played a vital role in making National Night Out a wholesome and family-enriching experience

As we reflect on the past National Night Out celebrations, the Marion Police Department remains committed to fostering unity and positive relationships within the community. The event has become a highlight in our calendar, something we truly look forward to, symbolizing the collective effort to create a safer and more connected Marion. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the Marion residents, event partners, and all those who have contributed to the success of National Night Out, making it a cherished tradition that brings joy and togetherness to our town.











2022 - 2023 Community Outreach







Trunk-or-treat

The Town of Marion, Virginia, embraced the spirit of Halloween with open arms as the Town hosted its highly anticipated "Annual Trunk-or-Treat" event. On a beautiful day filled with laughter, creativity, and community spirit, the town came together to celebrate this beloved tradition.

The love and support for the Marion Police Department were palpable throughout the event. Families, friends, and even four-legged companions flocked to the Trunk-or-Treat, showcasing the strong bond between the community and its dedicated law enforcement officers. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the MPD's commitment to fostering a safe and enjoyable environment for all.

The success of the Annual Trunk-or-Treat was a testament to the strong spirit of community partnership in Marion. Local businesses, organizations, and individuals came together to sponsor and participate in the event, contributing to its overall success. This collaborative effort reinforced the sense of unity that defines Marion as a community.

UNITED WAY "CELEBRITY BAGGING"

The "Celebrity Bagging" event at Marion Food City, organized by the United Way of Southwest Virginia, stands as a testament to their unwavering commitment and meticulous planning. Each year, this event consistently proves to be a success, offering significant assistance to our local communities here in southwest Virginia. The Marion Police Department takes pride in being an integral part of this impactful initiative. Our involvement serves as a demonstration of our dedication to supporting the wellbeing of the communities we serve. The collaboration with the United Way of Southwest Virginia underscores the effectiveness of collective efforts in making a positive difference in the lives of our fellow residents.

In reflecting on this annual tradition in our report, we extend our sincere appreciation to the United Way, volunteers, and all those who contribute to the success of the "Celebrity Bagging" event. Together, we continue to strengthen the bonds within our community and provide meaningful assistance to those in need. The Marion Police Department remains committed to actively participating in initiatives that uplift and empower the community we proudly serve.







nnual Report Feature: Marion Police Department's Involvement in "Celebrity

Salvation Army

In the spirit of giving, the bell-ringing season unfolds each November, extending its warmth until Christmas Eve when the iconic red kettles are carefully packed away. This crucial period relies heavily on the dedication of volunteers, as they become the linchpin between an empty kettle and one capable of raising approximately \$30 per hour. This amount translates to providing a family with two bags of groceries or sheltering an individual for a night.

The Marion Police Department is honored to be an integral part of this meaningful initiative, partnering with the Salvation Army to make a positive impact during the holiday season. Through our collaboration, we contribute to the collective effort of supporting families in need and providing essential shelter to those facing challenging circumstances.

In this annual report, we extend our gratitude to the volunteers, officers, and community members who join hands in the bell-ringing season, embodying the spirit of compassion and generosity. Together, we continue to make a difference in the lives of those who benefit from the Salvation Army's vital services.

















MAKING MEMORIES S'MORES



The Marion Police Department brought joy and warmth to the heart of the community during the town's "Merriest Marion" event by hosting a delightful evening of making s'mores. Against the backdrop of festive decorations and twinkling lights, officers and community members gathered downtown to indulge in the simple pleasures of crafting and enjoying these sweet treats. It was a heartwarming sight to see children and families come together, laughing and bonding over the crackling fire as they toasted marshmallows and assembled the perfect s'mores.

The event not only showcased the Marion Police Department's commitment to fostering positive interactions with the community but also highlighted the importance of creating memorable experiences for the town's residents. As the sweet aroma of melted chocolate and marshmallows filled the air, it became clear that the "Merriest Marion" event had succeeded in bringing joy and a sense of togetherness to all who participated. The Marion Police Department extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined in the festivities, making this evening truly special.

2022 - 2023 Community Outreach

SHOP WITH A HERO

The "Shop with a Hero" event is more than just a holiday shopping spree; it's an opportunity for children to connect with local heroes on a personal level. Fire Fighters, Police Officers, and Community Leaders come together to create an environment where meaningful relationships can flourish. The hope is that these interactions extend beyond the event, providing a foundation for ongoing mentorship and support.

The success of the Shop with a Hero Holiday Event is a testament to the generous support, time, and dedication of our collaborators. From helping select heroes and children to ensuring the seamless execution of the event, their contributions have been invaluable. The Marion community extends heartfelt thanks to all collaborators for their unwavering commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of these children and for creating an event that goes beyond the holiday season.

As we reflect on the Shop with a Hero Holiday Event in our annual report, we celebrate the joy, connections, and mentorship opportunities it has brought to Marion. The Marion Police Department, in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies and community partners, remains committed to initiatives that strengthen the bond between heroes and the children they inspire. Thank you to everyone who played a role in making this event a resounding success and contributing to the growth and well-being of the Marion community.





















2022 - 2023 Academy Graduates







Officer Michael Lester and Officer John Blevins



Officer DeAngelo Brown and Officer Milton Medlen

ACADEMY GRADUATES

The Marion Police Department is proud to recognize the outstanding achievements of three separate academy classes, each contributing to the department's commitment to excellence. Officers Dalton Pennington and Jordan Propst, distinguished members of their respective classes, demonstrated exceptional dedication during their training.

Officer Pennington, serving as the class President, was not only a leader but also a recipient of the prestigious Officer Michael Chandler award. This inaugural award recognizes outstanding integrity, character, leadership, and Officer Pennington's receipt of it reflects the high standards he embodies. The Marion Police Department takes great pride in Officer Pennington's accomplishments and the exemplary performance of both officers throughout their rigorous training, upholding the esteemed standards of our department.

In another noteworthy achievement, Officers Michael Lester and John Blevins recently graduated from the Southwest Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy. The Marion Police Department extends heartfelt congratulations to these officers, highlighting their dedication and commitment to excellence. As integral members of our law enforcement team, Officers Lester and Blevins exhibited commendable perseverance during their training, a quality that is acknowledged and appreciated. We anticipate their significant contributions to Marion's safety and well-being and are proud to have them as part of our team.

Lastly, Officers DeAngelo Brown and Milton Medlen have earned well-deserved congratulations for successfully completing their training at the Southwest Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy. The Marion Police Department commends their admirable dedication and commitment to excellence throughout the training process. As valued members of our law enforcement team, Officers Brown and Medlen exemplify unwavering perseverance, and their accomplishments are a source of pride for the department. We eagerly anticipate the positive impact they will make on the safety and well-being of the Marion community.

In conclusion, the professionalism and adherence to the highest standards in law enforcement displayed by Officers Pennington, Propst, Lester, Blevins, Brown, and Medlen mark them as indispensable assets to the Marion Police Department. Their achievements reflect the department's commitment to excellence, and we look forward to their continued contributions to the safety and well-being of our community.

2022 - 2023 Awards



Celebrating Excellence: Officer Tyler Hinchey Named Officer of the Year 2022



Celebrating Excellence: Officer Mason Wagoner Named Officer of the Year 2021

2021 - 2022 VFW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The Marion Police Department is thrilled to announce the well-deserved recognition of Officer Mason Wagoner and Senior Officer Tyler Hinchey as the Officer of the Year at the VFW's Annual Officer of the Year Award ceremony. Their exceptional dedication and unwavering commitment to serving and protecting the citizens of the Town of Marion have earned them this prestigious honor. Day after day, Officer Wagoner and Officer Hinchey go above and beyond the call of duty when they don their badges, exemplifying bravery and dedication in every aspect of their service. Their outstanding contributions to the safety and well-being of our community make us immensely proud to have them as a vital member of our team.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Officer Wagoner and Officer Hinchey for their tireless efforts in keeping our community safe. The Marion Police Department commends them for their exemplary service and the positive impact they have made on the lives of the citizens they serve.

Additionally, we express our thanks to the VFW for consistently hosting this meaningful event, recognizing the dedication and excellence of officers in our jurisdiction. Congratulations to all the outstanding recipients who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to their duty, contributing to the collective safety and prosperity of our community. Your achievements inspire us all.



Celebrating Excellence: Officer Mason Wagoner VACP Valor Award

2022 VACP VALOR AWARD

The Marion Police Department proudly announces that Senior Officer Mason Wagoner has been honored with the 2022 Valor Award by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police & Foundation. This esteemed award is bestowed upon law enforcement officers who display extraordinary heroism in the line of duty, facing imminent personal risk while engaged with an adversary.

The Valor Award stands as the highest recognition the Association bestows upon officers, underscoring Officer Wagoner's exceptional dedication and bravery in service.

2022 - 2023 Awards



Patrol Officer Pennington for receiving well-deserved recognition from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for outstanding service for 2021.



Patrol Officer Dalton Pennington and Officer Jordan Propst have been recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their outstanding service in 2022.

2021-2022 MADD AWARD

The Marion Police Department proudly congratulates Patrol Officer Pennington and Patrol Officer Propst for receiving well-deserved recognition from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). This prestigious award honors their outstanding service in reducing impaired driving in Virginia. Officer Pennington's and Officer Propst commitment to public safety aligns with our department's values, emphasizing proactive measures to ensure community well-being. We express gratitude for their exemplary service, acknowledging their significant contributions to creating a safer environment for all residents. Officer Pennington and Officer Propst exemplify excellence and dedication in the pursuit of justice, and we are privileged to have them as a valued members of our force.



Chief John Clair and Lieutenant Rusty Hamm 2022 FEMA National Emergency Management graduates

FEMA BASIC ACADEMY

Chief Clair and Lt. Hamm have recently graduated from the FEMA National Emergency Management Basic Academy, a comprehensive program facilitated by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

The successful completion of this academy highlights Chief Clair and Lt. Hamm's unwavering commitment to advancing their emergency management knowledge across diverse domains. Their tireless dedication over several months underscores the department's ongoing efforts to stay abreast of the latest developments and best practices in emergency response.

The Marion Police Department takes great pride in Chief Clair and Lt. Hamm's accomplishments, recognizing the importance of their enhanced skills and expertise in bolstering the overall preparedness of the department. As we continue to prioritize the safety and well-being of our community, these achievements reinforce our steadfast commitment to delivering optimal emergency response services.

Through continuous training and professional development, the Marion Police Department remains at the forefront of emergency management, ensuring that our officers are well-equipped to handle various challenges and safeguard the community we proudly serve. We look forward to the positive impact these newly acquired skills will have on our ability to respond effectively to any emergency situations that may arise.

2022 - 2023 Promotions & Retirement



PROMOTION

Lieutenant Kevin Testerman, a dedicated member of the Marion Police Department since 1999, recently assumed the role of Lieutenant of Operations at the start of 2023. This appointment followed a rigorous selection process involving professional assessments, practical scenarios, essays on contemporary policing topics, and panel interviews.

In his new role, Lt. Testerman will oversee all operational aspects, including patrol and investigative strategy, officer accountability, and management of critical incidents such as pursuits and use of force. Chief John Clair emphasized that Lt. Testerman's extensive experience, instincts, and demonstrated vision set him apart as the frontrunner for the position.

Testerman's career highlights include a Purple Heart and Valor Award for his bravery during a 2007 incident, showcasing his commitment to public service. Throughout the promotion process, Lt.Testerman demonstrated a deep understanding of policing issues, including the controversial topic of qualified immunity.

Chief Clair praised Lt. Testerman's ability to articulate a clear vision and his balanced approach in analyzing officer intent during practical exercises. Lt. Testerman expressed his commitment to fostering positive community relationships and shared his gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to the department's promising future.



Retired Senior Officer Johnny Perdue

Retirement

Senior Officer Johnny Irvin Perdue III, a stalwart in law enforcement since 1994, commenced his career at Jonesborough TN Police Department before joining the Washington County Virginia Sheriff's Office in 1995. Throughout his journey, he excelled, rising to the rank of Lieutenant and acquiring certifications such as General Instructor, Firearms Instructor, and SWAT Certification.

In 2016, Senior Officer Perdue joined the Marion Police Department, achieving the role of Senior Police Officer in 2019. His distinguished career includes collaborations with federal agencies, serving as a Deputy US Marshal on the Capital Area Fugitive Task Force. Notably, he contributed to protection details for sitting Presidents and political dignitaries.

Senior Officer Perdue's retirement marks the end of an illustrious career marked by expertise, dedication, and invaluable contributions to the Marion Police Department. His legacy reflects a commitment to public safety and the highest standards of law enforcement professionalism.

Congratulations on your retirement!

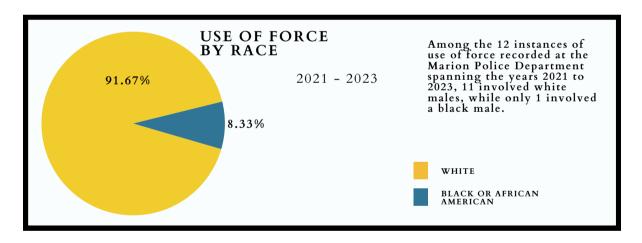
Crime Statistics

Crime Statistics	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	6,113	6,657	7,081
TOTAL ARRESTS	340	305	416
ARRESTS NON-RESIDENTS	121	130	168
ARRESTS RESIDENTS	219	175	248
ARRESTS JUVENILE	3	1	2
MURDER	1	0	0
RAPE	0	0	0
ROBBERY	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSUALT	3	7	10
BURGLARY	0	1	3
LARCENY	38	43	46
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	5	5	2
VANDALISM	4	6	4
HATE CRIMES	0	0	0
TRESPASSING	10	9	26
SIMPLE ASSAULT	35	19	29
WARRANT SERVICE	127	119	173

2022 - 2023 Use of Force

USE OF FORCE	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL INCIDENTS	6	2	4

TYPE OF FORCED USED	2021	2022	2023
PHYSICAL FORCE	4	1	
FIREARM			
BATON			
TASER	2	1	4
PEPPER SPRAY			



2023 USE OF FORCE

DATE	TYPE OF CALL	RACE	GENDER
3-20-23	Breaking & Entering	White	Male
8-15-23	Warrant Service	White	Male
9-23-23	Shoplifting	White	Male
11-10-23	Pursuit	Black	Male

2022 - 2023 Crime Statistics

	2021	2022	2023
REPORTED TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	108	111	141
ACCIDENTS Non- Injury	90	90	118
INJURY	18	21	23
TRAFFIC FATALITIES	0	0	0
	2021	2022	2023
TRAFFIC Stops	20	15	9
SEATBELT VIOLATIONS	356	541	547
SPEEDING	55	71	98
DUI ARRESTS			

The Marion Police Department has established an internal system to maintain the integrity of the department with objectivity, fairness, and justice. Fair and impartial investigations are conducted to confirm the innocence of the accused, determine guilt, and implement appropriate, fair, and consistent disciplinary action. To file a complaint with the Marion Police Department, visit the website www.marionva.org/policedepartment/webforms/citizen-complaint-form.



RECEIVED
At the Marion Police
Department, all formal and informal complaints are treated with the utmost seriousness. We handle complaints with impartiality by means of our investigative processes. Complaints may be written, verbal or anonymous. However anonymous. However, written complaints offer the best tracking options. If you choose to submit a written complaint, it will be directly received by the Chief of Police.





ENTERED INTO SYSTEM

The Chief of Police evaluates the seriousness of the allegation to assign the investigating authority. In the case of minor or less serious offenses, the officer's supervisory staff can handle them. However, allegations of more serious or egregious offenses are handled by a command staff member.

STAFF

STAFF

Once a complaint is received, it is promptly logged into our system for tracking purposes. Our system captures the date, time, complainant, officer (if complaint for reference. Depending on the nature of the allegation, either an investigative process will be conducted. We encourage supervisors to handle minor complaints at the supervisory level, when deemed appropriate.



INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS
During the investigative process, the investigating officer will interview all parties to include witnesses, conduct a scene assessment, if processing parties to the process of th if necessary, review documents, and view video or listen to audio recordings, if applicable. Depending on the type of complaint, additional steps may be required.



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS

PROCESS
The investigating authority will compile a comprehensive written report with their findings and recommendations regarding the investigation. The findings will be forwarded to the Chief of Police for review and concurrence. General complaints are handled usually within 30 days, but more complex investigations may take up to 90 days.



STEPS
Once the report is complete the investigating authority will contact the complainant with their findings, as well as notify the involved employee(s). In cases of all written complaints, a final disposition letter will also be mailed to the complainant. The investigative report is filed in accordance with our records management filing system.



The covenant school, Nashville, Tn





Community Support and Solidarity: MPO Amber Eades' Visit to The Covenant School

During a time of sorrow, Marion Police Department's MPO Amber Eades extended a compassionate visit to The Covenant School in Nashville. In the face of tragedy, we join with those who mourn, standing in solidarity and offering our heartfelt condolences.

In the spirit of shared empathy, we wait with expectation alongside those who navigate these difficult moments, united by a common spirit of resilience. Acknowledging the challenges faced, we commend the courage and compassion demonstrated by the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department during this trying time.

As a symbol of unity, we hold onto faith, hope, and love, recognizing the strength that arises from collective support. MPO Amber Eades' visit is a testament to the Marion Police Department's commitment to standing beside our fellow communities in times of need, fostering bonds that transcend geographical boundaries.

In our annual report, we reflect on the importance of community connections and express our continued support for all those affected by adversity. Together, we stand resilient, embodying the values of compassion and solidarity that define our commitment to service.

IN DEDICATION



K-9 Cooper

In the heart of the Marion Police Department, a void now exists, echoing with the loss of a cherished member of our force. Retired K-9 Cooper, a devoted four-legged officer, crossed the rainbow bridge on Sunday, September 17th, 2023. As we reflect on his years of dedicated service, we honor the legacy of a true hero.

K-9 Cooper, a canine of exceptional caliber, joined our ranks in 2012, transitioning from the Virginia Department of Corrections. Paired with Sgt. Horn, his loyal handler and partner, Cooper became an invaluable asset to our community. His commitment to duty knew no bounds, offering unwavering support to various agencies across southwest Virginia.

Beyond his professional duties, K-9 Cooper had a special affinity for children, bringing joy to every encounter. His visits to local schools illuminated the faces of countless youngsters, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of those he touched. Cooper possessed a unique ability to brighten any room and uplift the spirits of his fellow officers, creating a bond that transcended the conventional realms of duty.

Upon his well-deserved retirement in December 2020, K-9 Cooper found a loving home with his handler, Sgt. Horn. The bond they shared extended beyond the professional realm, becoming an inseparable part of Sgt. Horn's family. In the wake of this profound loss, we extend our deepest condolences to Sgt. Horn and his family. We recognize the pain they bear, having lost not just a dedicated colleague, but a beloved member of their household.

As we remember K-9 Cooper, let us cherish the memories of his tireless service, his infectious enthusiasm, and the warmth he brought to our department. May his legacy live on in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him, and may he rest in eternal peace, knowing he made a lasting impact on the Marion Police Department and the community he served with unwavering dedication.

2023 MARION TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER

DAVID HELMSMAYOR

JIM GATESVICE MAYOR

JIM BARKERCOUNCIL MEMBER

LARRY CARTER
COUNCIL MEMBER

BILL RUSH Town Manager



AVERY CORNETTCOUNCIL MEMBER

SUZANNE JENNINGSCOUNCIL MEMBER

TRICIA SPENCER
COUNCIL MEMBER

BILL WEAVERCOUNCIL MEMBER





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"WE ARE ONLY AS GOOD AS OUR COMMUNITY ALLOWS US TO BE. THANK YOU, TO ALL OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS!"



