

HEAT
HELP ELIMINATE AUTO THEFT
I-800-947-HEAT

Virginia Department of State Police
P.O. Box 27472
Richmond, VA 23261-7472

www.heatreward.com

In partnership with the Department of Motor Vehicles
and law enforcement agencies throughout Virginia.

HEAT
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2002 Annual Report





2002 Annual Report

| H.E.A.T. Program Progress Report | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
| Auto Theft Hotline and Auto Theft Unit Funded Positions Data Only | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arrests For Auto Theft Related Offenses | 74 | 94 | 178 | 76 | 164 | 103 | 137 | 60 | 116 | 76 |
| Value of Vehicles, Parts & Recovered Property | \$641,675 | \$2,620,450 | \$2,590,525 | \$2,244,575 | \$1,758,150 | \$1,389,150 | \$1,428,762 | \$3,057,363 | \$1,950,000 | \$2,901,795 |
| Statewide Data | | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of Auto Thefts | 18,533 | 18,205 | 19,366 | 18,454 | 18,663 | 17,769 | 16,120 | 16,172 | 18,257 | 18,388 |
| Decrease Since 1991 | -12.93% | -14.47% | -9.01% | -13.30% | -12.31% | -16.51% | -24.26% | -24.02% | -14.22% | -13.61% |
| Motor Vehicle Theft Rate Per 100,000 Inhabitants | 286.3 | 277.9 | 292.7 | 276.8 | 277.0 | 261.7 | 234.5 | 228.5 | 254.0 | 252.1 |
| Decrease Since 1991 | -15.41% | -17.91% | -13.54% | -18.22% | -18.16% | -22.68% | -30.71% | -32.50% | -24.96% | -25.52% |

Cover photo courtesy of R.T. Saunders. Virginia state map was printed with permission from Virginia Department of Transportation.

Message from the Superintendent



The year 2002 was a landmark for the Virginia State Police as the Department celebrated its 70th anniversary. It is amazing to think that only 70 years ago there were less than 400,000 vehicles registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Few roads were paved and, just a few years before, the speed limit had been raised to 35 miles per hour. Today, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles reports more than 6 million vehicles registered; approximately 66,000 miles of concrete and asphalt crisscross the Commonwealth; and speed limits now are almost double.

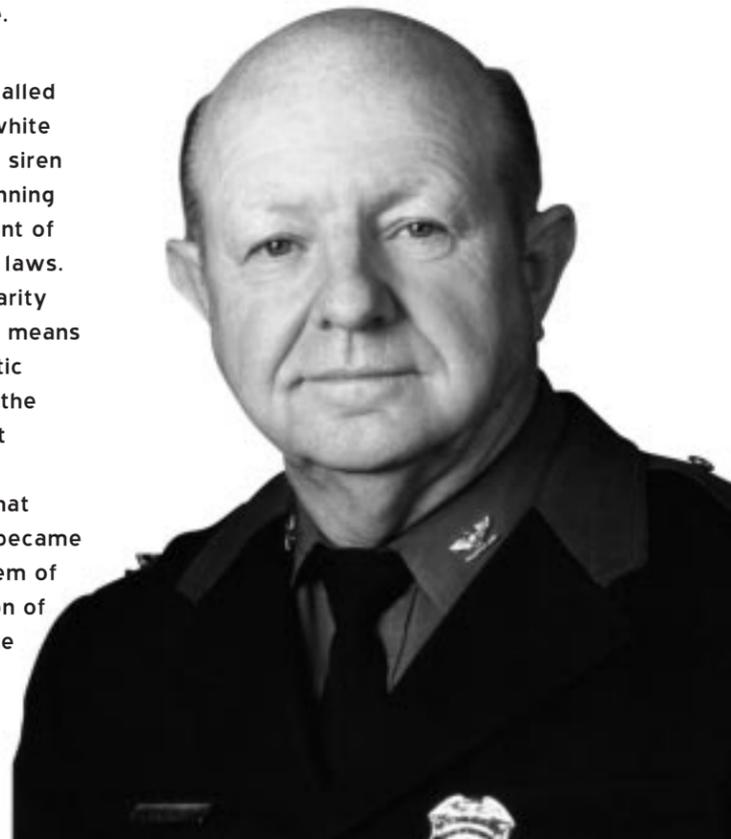
From the Beginning...

In 1932, State Police troopers, also called inspectors, patrolled the roadways on white motorcycles and Chevrolet roadsters. A siren was mounted on the roadster's right running board and so began the first enforcement of Virginia's few motor vehicle and traffic laws. The automobile quickly gained in popularity among the general public as a preferred means of transportation and among opportunistic thieves. The "auto thief" soon replaced the "horse thief" and by 1938, an Auto Theft Bureau had been created.

Virginia State Police history notes that during the mid 1940s law enforcement became increasingly concerned about the problem of stolen motor vehicles. With the invention of the teletypewriter system, Virginia State Police troopers were able, for the first time, to reduce the number of auto

thefts by sharing timely information on stolen and abandoned vehicles with other law enforcement agencies throughout Virginia. Even though the technology in tracking and recovering stolen vehicles has greatly advanced since then, that principle philosophy of sharing information and resources between agencies has stood the test of time.

In 1992, the State Police's 60th anniversary, the Virginia General Assembly created the Help Eliminate Auto Theft (H.E.A.T.) Program. Within ten years, the auto theft rate per 100,000 inhabitants was reduced by 25 percent. The H.E.A.T. Program has certainly made its mark in history.



Colonel W. Gerald Massengill
Superintendent

In the Present...

Today, the H.E.A.T. Program continues its impressive legacy by drawing on the collaborative efforts of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, the Virginia State Police Auto Theft Unit, and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. Its successes and innovative advances are attributed to the commitment and leadership displayed by those who have spent countless hours patrolling for stolen vehicles, tracking auto theft trends and patterns, surveilling "chop shops," and empowering citizens through preventative education.

I salute the winners of the LEO, H.E.A.T. Wave, and Lifetime Achievement awards and their conscientious responsibility to carrying out the H.E.A.T. Program. Their accomplishments are remarkable and raise the standards for law enforcement across the Commonwealth. They are the public servants who put their hearts and souls into making our communities safer by combating auto thefts.

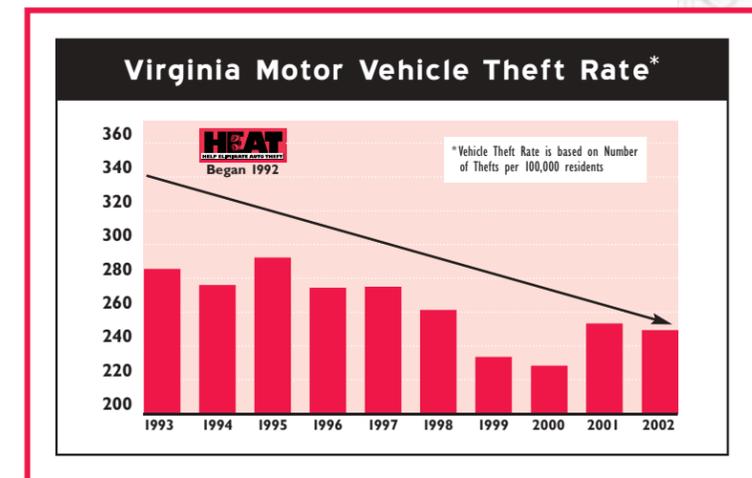
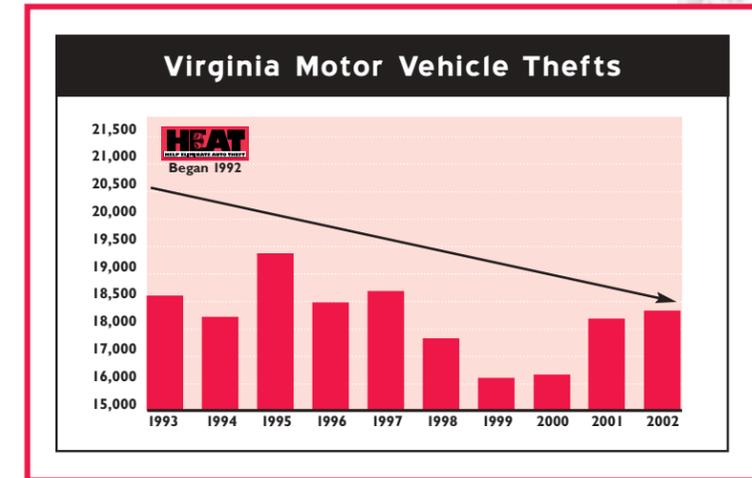
Towards the Future...

The role of the law enforcement officer continuously adapts to the ever-changing needs of society. Many of us today find our departments' manpower, funding, and resources stretched thin. However, we must not lose sight of the fundamentals of policing. The proactive nature of the H.E.A.T. Program has made it one of Virginia's most effective crime-fighting tools.

As a result, we must maintain our tremendous momentum and progress. With most vehicles being stolen today by juveniles between 15 and 17 years of age, the need for law enforcement's commitment to combating auto theft is even greater. Stealing a car has become a "gateway" crime for too many juveniles. Prevention is an investigator's best tool towards not only safeguarding the future of our communities, but also steering our young men and women away from a

destructive path of crime.

There is no telling what amazing transportation, policing, and technological advancements the next 70 years hold for us. Regardless, one of the key elements of the H.E.A.T. Program's success over the past years has been the cooperation of more than 150 local and state agencies. Maintaining that



collaboration is essential to our future progress and impact on eliminating auto thefts. I assure you that the Virginia State Police will continue to lend its support towards fulfilling the mission of the H.E.A.T. Program and making a difference in the lives of those we are committed to serve and protect.

Program Administrator's Report

"Randy, what's new with the H.E.A.T. Program?" Whether it is a dozen times a week or a dozen times a day, I never tire of being asked that question because I always have an answer. After years of administering the H.E.A.T. Program, my reply has changed time and time again. Yet, even with so much practice, the hardest part to drafting an answer is deciding where to begin.

The Mission

The Virginia H.E.A.T. Program was established in 1992 with one purpose: to reduce the auto theft rate in Virginia through prevention, awareness, education, and enforcement. Thanks to the countless hours and incredible dedication of law enforcement agencies and the public, our achievements are impressive and an impact has been made.

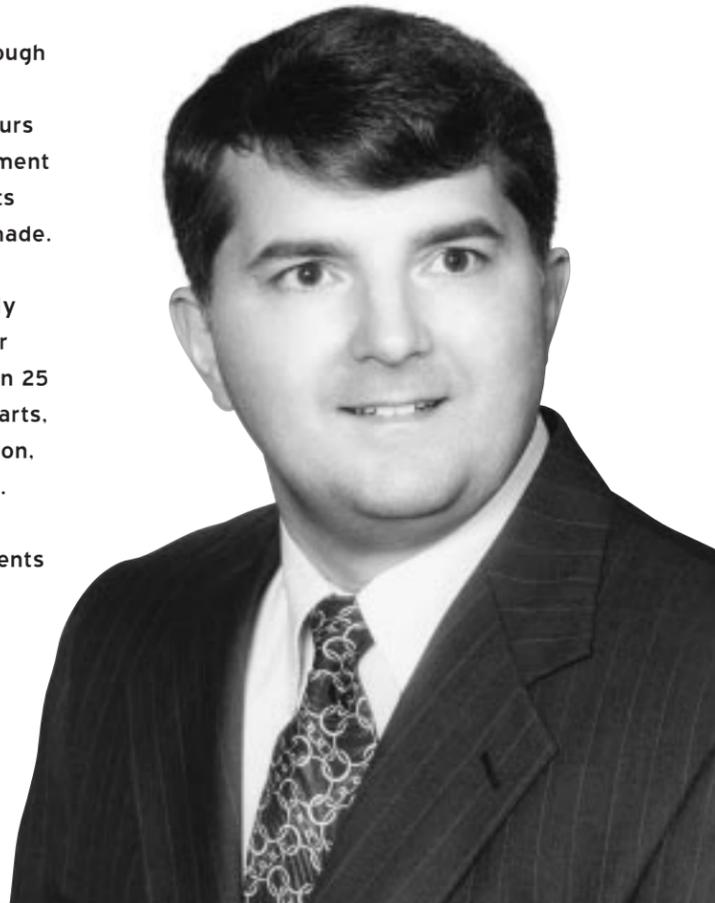
Motor vehicle thefts in Virginia have decreased by more than 13 percent in only 10 years. The motor vehicle theft rate per 100,000 inhabitants dropped by more than 25 percent. In 2002, the value of vehicles, parts, and recovered property totaled \$2.9 million, the second highest amount in the H.E.A.T. Program's history.

As proud as I am of the accomplishments of the Program, there is still work to be done. From 2001 to 2002, auto thefts in Virginia rose by less than 1 percent. As nominal as that increase may appear, there were still at least a hundred more

Virginians victimized by auto thieves. One Virginian more is too many and, in 2002, the H.E.A.T. Program began work in new areas to enhance efforts to reduce auto thefts throughout the Commonwealth.

The Value of Education & Partnerships

Virginia now has 85 additional investigators, deputies, officers, and troopers specially trained in basic auto theft detection, recovery and enforcement. Another 16 law enforcement officers graduated from the 2002 Advanced

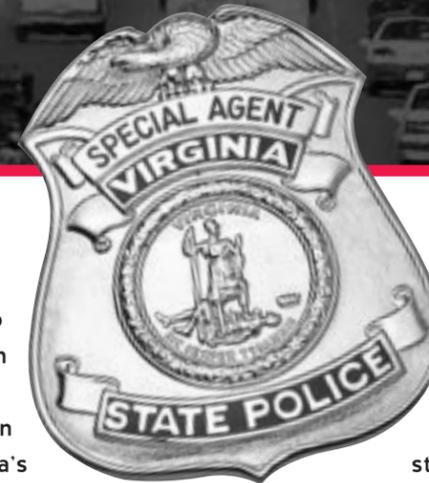


*Special Agent Randy D. Beeson
Program Administrator*

Auto Theft Investigation course and successfully completed the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators' certification process. The H.E.A.T. Program provided auto theft investigation training free of charge for Virginia's law enforcement agencies at the Virginia State Police Academy, at Nationwide Insurance in Richmond, and at the Cardinal Criminal Justice Training Academy in Salem.

The Virginia Crime Prevention Association (VCPA) teamed up with H.E.A.T. in 2002 by adding instruction about the H.E.A.T. Program and auto theft prevention to the basic and advanced crime prevention schools conducted throughout Virginia. The VCPA and H.E.A.T. worked cooperatively throughout 2002 to develop a new Auto Theft Prevention curriculum. Plans are to offer three sixteen-hour Basic Auto Theft Prevention Schools in Fairfax, Virginia Beach, and Bristol during 2003. The VCPA has become a most distinguished and natural partner for the H.E.A.T. Program as both organizations seek out new ways of promoting preventative measures.

The VCPA and H.E.A.T. Program also teamed up for a second year to host the annual LEO Awards ceremony. For 2002, a total of 57 men and women and 40 public safety agencies were among the LEO Award. Operation H.E.A.T. Wave, and Operation Summer H.E.A.T. honored recipients. Each was recognized for his or her outstanding efforts in intelligence gathering, prevention, arrests, and recoveries. The



H.E.A.T. Program also presented three Lifetime Achievement Awards in 2002 to law enforcement leaders who have made tremendous strides over the years in reducing auto thefts in their communities. 2002 was truly a year of collaborative successes thanks to the continuing support, resources, and active commitment by so many individuals and agencies.

Through the H.E.A.T. Program and Virginia State Police Auto Theft Unit working together in 2002, the Auto Theft Unit achieved its best overall statistics since being created in 1988. With the recovery of 203 stolen vehicles and heavy equipment valued at more than \$2.3 million in 2002, the Auto Theft Unit saw an 84 percent increase in the total number of stolen vehicles recovered over the previous year. That demonstrates the necessity and enormous impact effective teamwork can produce.

One of the most significant investigations conducted in 2002 involved the execution of a search warrant at a "chop shop" operating in rural Virginia. A Campbell County man and three friends were stealing vehicles from across the Mid-Atlantic, dismantling them in a rented service station located in Campbell County, and then selling the stolen parts over the Internet. The investigation resulted in four arrests, 18 state charges, and multiple federal indictments.

Public Awareness

We also spent a great deal of time taking the H.E.A.T. message to the public and providing the public the opportunity to come to us. The H.E.A.T. Program's newest racecar driver, Virginia State Police Trooper Burton Martin, was as much on the promotional track as he was on the racetrack in 2002. Between the spring and fall races at the Richmond International Raceway, Martin and the NASCAR #7 H.E.A.T. car helped us reach out to the estimated 250,000 NASCAR fans in attendance.

From Bristol to Tidewater, Martin was also a big draw at the H.E.A.T. Program's VIN etchings. More than 500 vehicles were processed at the 25 VIN-etching events held at various shopping malls, car dealerships, insurance offices, and county fairs in 2002. As for 2003, Martin has already made his mark in the racing circuit and has a full schedule ahead.

Televised public service announcements featuring Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Gerald Massengill took the H.E.A.T. message into thousands of homes across Virginia in 2002. The program was featured on several episodes of the Metro-Richmond cable show "Police Beat."

In 2002, all it took was an alert citizen's telephone call to the toll-free H.E.A.T. Hotline to solve the case of a disappearing car thief. The citizen's information enabled Virginia State Police troopers to apprehend the criminal in Fredericksburg. In return for his efforts, the citizen received the year's largest single H.E.A.T. reward of \$1,000.

The H.E.A.T. web site continued to be a popular stop for those seeking out new ways of protecting their vehicles, finding additional links, and researching which vehicles were common for criminals. The H.E.A.T. Program was also among the featured exhibits at the Virginia State Police 2002 State Fair of Virginia display.

Looking Ahead

As inspiring as 2002 has been, 2003 is even more exciting. New positions are being created within our partnering agencies to supplement investigations and prosecutions. In 2003, for the first time in several years, the H.E.A.T. Program will be able to provide a variety of training, prevention, and enforcement grant monies. Agencies participating in Operation H.E.A.T. Wave will be eligible to apply for prevention and enforcement grants. Those departments with auto theft units will be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 to send their auto theft investigators to receive specialized auto theft investigation training.

We have met our challenge to protect Virginians and preserve their sense of security. But, these first 10 years were truly just the beginning. The H.E.A.T. Program must continue to evolve and pursue the most innovative and effective means of combating auto thefts; while at the same time, never losing sight of our most valuable assets: our partners. As Hubert H. Humphrey (1967) said,

"The test we must set for ourselves [is] not to march alone but to march in a way that others will wish to join us."

H.E.A.T. Committees

H.E.A.T. Rewards Committee

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H.E.A.T. Program Administrator

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Orange County Sheriff's Office

Tim Fulk
Cincinnati Insurance Companies

W. Gail Morykon
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

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Chief Walter Scott Sexton
Chilhowie Police Department

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H.E.A.T. Program Administrator

Members

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Farm Bureau Insurance Company

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City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office

Chief Dennis A. Mook
Newport News Police Department

W. Gail Morykon
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

J. David Rigler
Chesterfield County
Commonwealth's Attorney's Office

Wade Wickre
Nationwide Insurance

H.E.A.T. LEO Awards Committee

Co-Chairs

Senior Special Agent Agent Randy D. Beeson
H.E.A.T. Program Administrator

First Sergeant Joseph W. Walters
Virginia State Police Auto Theft Unit

Members

Detective T. W. Dash
Norfolk Police Department

E. Frank Dunton, CFI
Farm Bureau Insurance Company

Patrick D. Harris
Virginia Crime Prevention Association

Investigator J. D. Hunte
Country of Henrico, Division of Police

Sheriff Raleigh H. Isaacs, Sr.
City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office

Special Agent Johnnie Jones, Jr.
Virginia State Police Auto Theft Unit

W. Gail Morykon
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

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H.E.A.T. Advisory Board

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J. David Rigler
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Chief Dennis A. Mook
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W. Gail Morykon
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of Motor Vehicles

Wade Wickre
Nationwide Insurance

H.E.A.T. RACING: A Family Affair



On a sunny afternoon at the New River Valley Speedway, race fans with arms out-reached begin gathering around Lisa Martin. All smiles, she hands out Help Eliminate Auto Theft pens and drink huggies, one after the other, to the eager crowd. Justin Martin helps restock supplies while keeping a watchful eye on a man dressed in a red, white and black race suit emblazoned with the letters H-E-A-T.

To the casual observer, the man appears composed and concentrated on a matching red 2003 Cougar; but, on the inside, he's nervous with anticipation and suffering from a case of the butterflies. The man graciously autographs a youngster's T-shirt, but his mind is elsewhere. It's already racing down the .0416-mile asphalt oval track in the shiny red #7 car to steal a black-and-white, checkered flag.

The man is the H.E.A.T. Program's newest racecar driver Burton H. Martin, 41, of Wytheville, VA. He is also a Virginia State Police Trooper assigned to the Safety Division's Area 64 Office in Wytheville. Even more important, he is an appreciative husband and proud father.

"I couldn't do this without my wife and son," said Martin. "Lisa times me, is my spotter, and greets the fans. I'm thankful she enjoys racing!"

Fifteen-year-old Justin is the pit crew chief and budding mechanic. "My



son is a big help. He's learning how to prep the car and just recently helped me change the transmission."

Growing up in Smyth County, VA, Martin caught the "racing bug" at an early age. As a young boy, Martin remembers spending his Sunday afternoons with his dad listening to the races on the radio. His favorite driver was legendary, racing pioneer Richard Petty.

"I was raised around cars and racing's always something I've wanted to do." Chuckling, he added, "I guess you could call me a motor-head!" Martin, whose dad ran a local garage and car lot, began his racing career on the go-cart tracks of Southwest Virginia.

But racing wasn't the only influence on Martin's direction in life. "As a kid, I remember seeing those Virginia State Police troopers," recalled Martin. "They always looked larger than life. So tall and proud."

In 1985, Martin stepped off the go-cart track and headed for Richmond to become a Virginia State Police Trooper. He joined the Department and graduated from the 76th Basic Session.

As his law enforcement career progressed, so did his passion for racing. By 1989, Martin had switched to racecars and spent the next 12 years tearing up the half-mile dirt tracks of Wythe County.



But as the sport of NASCAR began gaining in popularity in the United States, Martin's chances of racing were getting slim. "It got so costly in the last 10 years," said Martin. "I was beginning to see the end of my racing career. But then I got the best surprise when I got a call from H.E.A.T. It enabled me to race again."

Martin credits his supervisor at the time, Virginia State Police Sergeant Jerry Davis, for introducing him to the H.E.A.T. Program's interest in sponsoring a racecar and need for an experienced driver. Martin submitted a proposal and hoped for the best. In 2001, he got a call from the H.E.A.T. Program's administrator, Senior Special Agent Randy Beeson, and the rest, as it's said, is history.

"I'm tickled to death to be involved with the H.E.A.T. Program," said Martin. "It's such a positive way to promote the program and the State Police, and makes me feel good to know that I'm a part of it."

In 2002, Martin and the #7 H.E.A.T. car made promotional stops at the Richmond International Raceway spring and fall Winston Cup races, New River Valley Speedway's Fan Appreciation Days, and Ford Motorsports Show. He also participated in VIN-etching events in Bristol, Richmond and Roanoke. "It's a great chance to have fun and get the H.E.A.T. Program out there to everyone. People need to know how to protect their vehicles and help us recover stolen ones."

Martin also sees his new position as a chance to recruit future generations of troopers and H.E.A.T. drivers.

"Knowing how I looked up to the troopers as a kid, I hope that I can be a role model for today's kids. Maybe if they see me and the H.E.A.T. Program, they will want to grow up and be a trooper, too."

Martin's 2003 schedule includes races and events at Lonesome Pine, Old Dominion, Langley, Southampton and South Boston speedways. Then there's the H.E.A.T. Program's new black 2003 Cougar sporting the #6 that will be accompanying Martin on

"Myself and my family want to express our gratitude to Randy Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator, 1st Sgt. Joe Walters and Laurence Neathawk of Neathawk Dubuque Advertising," said Martin. "The support they offer my racing team is wonderful and I couldn't do it without them."

his various stops along the 2003 NASCAR Weekly Racing Series circuit. Yet, even as busy as he is, he doesn't forget to mention that in May 2003 he and Lisa celebrate their 21st wedding anniversary. For Martin, life couldn't get much better.

"The two biggest things I ever wanted to be in my life were to be a Virginia State Police trooper and to race. Now I get to do both at the same time."



LEO AWARDS 2002

INTELLIGENCE, PREVENTION, ENFORCEMENT AND RECOVERIES. SINCE H.E.A.T. ESTABLISHED THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (LEO) AWARDS PROGRAM SIX YEARS AGO, 267 LOCAL AND STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR DEMONSTRATING SUCH QUALITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THEIR SPECIAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT AUTO THEFT IN VIRGINIA'S COMMUNITIES. IN 2002, ANOTHER 50 NAMES WERE ADDED TO A DISTINGUISHED LIST OF LEO AWARD RECIPIENTS.

THE AWARDS PROGRAM WAS MODIFIED IN 2001 TO ALLOW LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO BE JUDGED AGAINST EACH OTHER BASED ON DEPARTMENT SIZE IN WHICH THEY SERVE INSTEAD OF ALL DEPARTMENTS BEING GROUPED TOGETHER IN THE SAME GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION. THREE SIZE GROUPS WERE ESTABLISHED WITHIN EACH DIVISION. SEPARATE DIVISIONS FOR THE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE AND VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES WERE ALSO CREATED.

Brief summaries of each first place winner's accomplishments are provided below.

Division I Group 1: 401+ Officers

FIRST PLACE:

**Investigator James D. Hunte, Sr.
County of Henrico, Division of Police**

Having earned a first place LEO Award last year, Investigator Hunte proved himself once again in 2002 through his innovative prevention outreach efforts and impressive arrest and investigative record. In addition to conducting numerous VIN etchings and introduc-

ing the public to the H.E.A.T. Program at the Richmond International Raceway, the seasoned investigator also spent 2002 visiting local car rental agencies to share prevention tips and information. He is responsible for creating, maintaining, and updating on a weekly basis, a database of stolen vehicles for use by his fellow officers in Henrico County. Investigator Hunte was responsible for busting a counterfeit ring that led to several arrests and cleared auto theft cases in Henrico and neighboring jurisdictions. Posing as a car salesman with a fellow

investigator, he was able to catch thieves in the act of stealing new vehicles. He routinely partnered with other law enforcement agencies and task forces to assist with sting operations and to share intelligence information. Investigator Hunte also participated in "Operation Dagnet" that resulted in the clearance of 125 larcenies from auto theft cases in Henrico County, nine arrests, and the recovery of narcotics, firearms, and approximately \$65,000 in property.

Division I Group 2: 100 - 400 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

**Crime Analyst Kim Getchell
Petersburg Bureau of Police,
Senior Detective David Hamilton
Petersburg Bureau of Police**

Crime Analyst Kim Getchell and Senior Detective Hamilton earned first place LEO Award for putting the brakes on a major auto theft ring operating out of Petersburg.

While reviewing police reports, Analyst Getchell noticed a significant trend of auto thefts in a concentrated area of Petersburg. Further study revealed a consistent pattern of where vehicles were being stolen and later recovered over a six-month period. Analyst Getchell was then able to identify a method of operation and supply Detective Hamilton with several potential suspects. Using the intelligence information, the veteran detective tracked down several juveniles from Petersburg and Richmond. Surveillance led to a search warrant that led to the recovery of numerous keys stolen in an earlier burglary. Detective Hamilton was then able to obtain confessions from five juveniles involved in the thefts, which led to the closure of 110 auto theft cases in the Petersburg area and the recovery of five recently stolen vehicles.

Division I Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

**Captain William J. Newsome
Southside Virginia Training Center Police
Department**

There is no mistaking Captain Newsome's commitment and dedication to auto theft prevention in the Tri-Cities. As supervisor in a small department, Captain Newsome fulfills many roles and responsibilities, yet he still finds the time to promote the H.E.A.T. Program at area hospitals, clinics, and businesses. Through his numerous public awareness campaigns and Operation H.E.A.T. Wave activities in the Petersburg area, Captain Newsome shared H.E.A.T. prevention tips and promotional materials with an estimated 10,000 people last year alone. According to Colonel Osborne L. Jackson, chief of the Southside Virginia Training Center Police Department, "[Captain Newsome] still can't go to lunch without handing out H.E.A.T. materials." In addition to earning a 2002 first place LEO Award, Captain Newsome has also earned his department several Operation H.E.A.T. Wave honors.



Division II

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Sergeant Julie A. Brooking
Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

The Culpeper County Sheriff's Office credits Sergeant Brooking with bringing back the H.E.A.T. Program to Culpeper County. Since joining the sheriff's office in 2000, Sergeant Brooking has made tremendous strides in reaching out to those of all ages, races, and backgrounds to bring attention to the importance of auto theft prevention. Thanks to her continuous efforts, the county's juvenile court judge now provides all newly licensed drivers with H.E.A.T. literature. In 2002, she promoted the H.E.A.T. Program and distributed related promotional materials at 25 public presentations with audiences ranging from 20 to 3,000. Sergeant Brooking not only received a 2002 first place LEO Award, but also earned a 2002 Operation H.E.A.T. Wave Certificate of Appreciation and 2002 Community Service Award.

Division IV

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Deputy Sheriff George "Joe" Kincer
Wythe County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Sheriff Kincer is recognized for his overall commitment and active involvement in the H.E.A.T. Program. With a knack for spotting suspicious vehicles, he made five key recoveries in 2002. Responding to a 911 call of a car theft in progress, Deputy Kincer tracked the fleeing suspect through a field and apprehended him. That one arrest led to the recov-

ery of yet another stolen vehicle the intoxicated suspect had stolen in New Jersey. In another instance, what started out as a simple traffic stop for a speeding violation resulted in two arrests, a drug seizure, and the recovery of a vehicle stolen out of North Carolina. Deputy Kincer, also last year, participated in H.E.A.T. awareness programs at a local insurance agency and car dealership, and he routinely visits private businesses to hand out H.E.A.T. posters and pamphlets.

Division V

Group 1: 401+ Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Detective M. McCown
Norfolk Police Department,
Senior Police Officer Miles L. Warren
Norfolk Police Department

Between Detective McCown and Senior Officer Warren, more than 100 stolen vehicles were recovered and approximately 60 people arrested for auto theft-related crimes in Norfolk and surrounding jurisdictions in 2002. Detective McCown earned his first place LEO Award for solving a case involving a rash of auto thefts at a local rental car agency. By working with other officers and detectives, he was able to gather enough intelligence information to detail a pattern of thefts and a list of suspects. The investigation led to the arrests and convictions of five adults and 16 juveniles, the recovery of 40 vehicles, and restitution ordered to the victimized company. While assigned to the Norfolk Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force, Officer Warren was involved last year in auto theft investigations that led to 39 arrests and the

recovery of 65 stolen vehicles in nine months. He was also instrumental in a vehicle recovery that led to the apprehension of a suspect wanted in a domestic assault and arson case. During his patrols, Officer Warren routinely seeks out opportunities to promote the H.E.A.T. Program and prevention tips to local residents.

Division V

Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Officer Jarrod B. Shivers
Chesapeake Police Department

A 2002 routine traffic stop that put an end to an auto theft ring operating in Chesapeake earned Officer Shivers a first place LEO Award. Officer Shivers had stopped a Jeep Cherokee for running a red light. When the driver failed to present any identification, a check with the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles revealed the Jeep's registration and VIN number came back to a newer-model Jeep Cherokee. As Officer Shivers began searching for secondary identification numbers, he found all but two had been altered or destroyed. The two unaltered VIN numbers proved the vehicle was stolen and so began Officer Shivers' investigation. It was determined that the driver and his brother were stealing cars and replacing the valid VIN numbers with those from salvaged vehicles. Officer Shivers' persistence and determination resulted in the recovery of five high-dollar vehicles and two arrests.

Division VI

Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Detective Mark W. Lovern
Roanoke City Police Department

According to Roanoke City Police Chief A. L. Gaskins, "The Roanoke City Police Department recovered approximately 84% of its stolen vehicles in 2002, primarily through the hard work and dedication of Detective Lovern." As the department's sole investigator assigned to motor vehicle thefts, Detective Lovern is responsible for approximately 400 cases per year and still maintains a clearance rate in excess of the national average. An accredited and trained auto theft investigator, he also plays a key role in developing strategies with fellow law enforcement, the public, and local businesses in combating insurance fraud related to stolen vehicles. Detective Lovern helped coordinate several VIN-etching events at local shopping malls in 2002, as well as took the H.E.A.T. message to civic groups, car collectors, and sporting events. Through hours of surveillance and confidential informants, Detective Lovern even tracked down last year a 1969 Chevrolet Corvette that had been stolen seven years ago.



Division VI
Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Officer Robert Scott Akers
Salem Police Department

A first place LEO Award was presented to Officer Akers for his timely actions, tenacious persistence, and intensive efforts that put two criminal entrepreneurs out of business in 2002. Officer Akers was following up on a 911 call about a possible stolen vehicle parked in the lot of a local supermarket. He located the vehicle, confirmed it was stolen, and swiftly apprehended both suspects at the scene. One of the suspects had just passed a forged check at the store moments earlier. A subsequent search of the stolen car netted the recovery of a checkbook taken during a burglary several days earlier. Officer Akers collected additional evidence that linked the suspects to a crime spree that crisscrossed neighboring jurisdictions and into South Carolina.

FIRST PLACE:

Deputy Sheriff Robert C. Altizer
Franklin County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Sheriff Altizer proved to be a significant player in Franklin County's efforts to combat auto theft in 2002. In addition to fulfilling his principle duties as a patrol deputy and general investigator, Deputy Altizer was still able to clear every auto theft case assigned to him. His diligence and investigative expertise earned Deputy Altizer a first place LEO Award. Each case was dutifully followed up and pursued, thus resulting in the recovery of five vehicles totaling in excess of \$25,000. Deputy Altizer's efforts also led to the arrest of four individuals.

Division VII
Group 1: 401+ Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Officer Jeffrey Andrea
Fairfax County Police Department

Officer Andrea joins the ranks of many decorated Fairfax County police officers and detectives honored over the years with first place LEO Awards. During 2002, Officer Andrea recovered 37 stolen vehicles in Fairfax County and made 23 arrests. For the past two years, he has recovered the highest number of stolen vehicles of any patrol officer in his department. Officer Andrea routinely checks license plates on vehicles parked at various motels and vehicles he passes on the road during his patrols. His apprehensions in 2002 included two separate carjacking suspects and several fugitives from justice. According to his supervisor, Second Lieutenant Donald Lenhart, Officer Andrea "...has continually devoted his down time to the recovery of stolen vehicles and the apprehension of auto thieves."

Division VII
Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers

FIRST PLACE:

Detective Christo Dengeles
Arlington County Police Department

Thanks to Detective Dengeles' hard work and tireless efforts, auto thieves in Arlington County are taking the bait. In February 2002, Arlington County became the first police department on the East Coast to initiate a "Bait Car" program as a crime prevention method to combat auto thefts. Detective Dengeles took over the program in 2001 and spent months researching and preparing the proactive and innovative project. In its first

eight uses, the bait car resulted in five arrests on auto theft related crimes. Detective Dengeles' program proved so successful and worthwhile that the department purchased a second bait car in December 2002. He is now being contacted by other law enforcement agencies to assist them with implementing a similar award-winning bait car program.

Division VIII
Virginia State Police

FIRST PLACE:

Special Agent Accountant Craig M. Martin
General Investigations Division - Richmond

Special Agent Accountant Martin was presented a first place LEO Award for his diligent efforts in locating, identifying, and arresting in 2002 key members of an organized, Cuban crime ring that highjacked tractor-trailers and their multimillion-dollar cargo. Special Agent Martin coordinated local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in Virginia and Florida and spent countless hours tracking the thieves' paper trail. The ring was responsible for the theft of more than \$50 million from one company alone. The investigation resulted in five arrests, including the drivers, buyers, and a broker. Five tractor-trailers and containers were recovered along with a warehouse full of stolen merchandise. As a result of extensive surveillance, 13 additional members of the criminal organization have been identified and the investigation is still ongoing. Thanks to Special Agent Martin's exhaustive determination and pursuit, other companies have begun implementing new policies to prevent the theft of their cargo.

Division IX
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

FIRST PLACE:

Customer Service Generalist Cori Hyatt
Norfolk, Widgeon Road Customer Service Center

Fraudulent, altered, and counterfeit identification documents are Customer Service Generalist Hyatt's specialty. In her career, she has identified an indefinite number of falsified social security cards, birth certificates, and vehicle titles, thus preventing individuals from obtaining legal documentation with the intent of committing additional crimes. In one such instance, Customer Service Generalist Hyatt was presented an application to transfer a vehicle title from New Jersey to Virginia. Inspection of the New Jersey document proved the Julian date was incorrect and that it appeared to have been "washed" of the original vehicle information and retyped. Management was immediately notified and Customer Service Generalist Hyatt was asked to stall the customer until an investigator could arrive on scene. According to her supervisor, Donna Nunneley, "Cori's professional customer service skills gave the impression that there was not a problem with the transaction and gave the customer no inclination that law enforcement was on its way to detain him for questioning." At this time, the investigation is still ongoing pending litigation.



LEO AWARDS WINNERS

for the year ending December 31, 2002

Division I

Group 1: 401+ Officers

FIRST PLACE

Investigator James D. Hunte, Sr.
Henrico Division of Police

SECOND PLACE

Investigator Leroy C. Tyler
Henrico Division of Police

Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers

FIRST PLACE

Crime Analyst Kim Getchell
Petersburg Bureau of Police

Sr. Detective David Hamilton
Petersburg Bureau of Police



Division I (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police. W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV. Investigator Leroy Tyler, Henrico County Division of Police. Investigator J.D. Hunte, Henrico County Division of Police. Crime Analyst Kim Getchell, Petersburg Bureau of Police. Sr. Detective David Hamilton, Petersburg Bureau of Police

Division II

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE

Captain William J. Newsome
Southside Virginia Training Center

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE

Sergeant Julie A. Brooking
Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Investigator Wallace K. Stotlemeyer
Winchester Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Lieutenant Roy R. Walker
Town of Orange Police Department



Division II (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police. W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV. Sergeant Julie Brooking, Culpeper County Sheriff's Office. Lieutenant Roy R. Walker, Town of Orange Police Department. Investigator Wallace K. Stotlemeyer, Winchester Police Department

Division III

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

SECOND PLACE

Officer Chris Brooks
Altavista Police Department
Officer Aaron C. Fisher
South Boston Police Department



Division III (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police. W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV. Officer Chris Brooks, Altavista Police Department. Officer Aaron C. Fisher, South Boston Police Department



Division IV (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police. W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV. Deputy Stacy Dixon, Wythe County Sheriff's Office



Division V-1 (left to right) W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV. Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police. Detective Vernon Jones, Virginia Beach Police Department. Detective John Geluso, Virginia Beach Police Department. Detective Jaquelynn Geluso, Virginia Beach Police Department. Detective Anastacio Toroc, Virginia Beach Police Department. Detective Gary Klein, Virginia Beach Police Department. Detective Ken Slayton, Virginia Beach Police Department. Detective Mark Eastman, Virginia Beach Police Department. Senior Police Officer Miles L. Warren, Norfolk Police Department

Division IV

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers

FIRST PLACE

Deputy George "Joe" Kincer
Wythe County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Deputy Stacy Dixon
Wythe County Sheriff's Office

Division V

Group 1: 401+ Officers

FIRST PLACE

Detective M. McCown
Norfolk Police Department

Senior Police Officer Miles L. Warren
Norfolk Police Department

SECOND PLACE

Detective Jaquelynn Geluso
Virginia Beach Police Department

Detective John Geluso
Virginia Beach Police Department

Detective Vernon Jones
Virginia Beach Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Detective Mark Eastman
Virginia Beach Police Department

Detective Gary Klein
Virginia Beach Police Department
Detective Leta Krieger
Virginia Beach Police Department

Detective Ken Slayton
Virginia Beach Police Department

Continued next page

Detective Anastacio Toroc
Virginia Beach Police Department

Detective Pat Tucker
Virginia Beach Police Department

Detective Joe Werle
Virginia Beach Police Department

Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers
FIRST PLACE
Officer Jarrod B. Shivers
Chesapeake Police Department

THIRD PLACE
Corporal Bruce Cowan
Hampton Police Division

Corporal Brian Devine
Hampton Police Division

Patrol Officer Jason Price
Hampton Police Division

Corporal Wayne Roberts
Hampton Police Division

Corporal Robert Smith
Hampton Police Division

Sheriff Gary W. Waters
Portsmouth Sheriff's Office

Deputy Leon B. Whitehurst, Sr.
Portsmouth Sheriff's Office

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers
THIRD PLACE
Deputy Sheriff Alan J. Bartnikowski
York County Sheriff's Office



Division V-2 (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, Deputy Leon B. Whitehurst, Sr., Portsmouth Sheriff's Office, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Detective Corporal Bruce Cowan, Hampton Division of Police, Detective Corporal Rob Smith, Hampton Division of Police, Detective Corporal Wayne Roberts, Hampton Division of Police, Detective Corporal Brian Devine, Hampton Division of Police



Division V-2 (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Officer Jarrod B. Shivers, Chesapeake Police Department

Division V-3 (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Deputy Sheriff Alan J. Bartnikowski, York County Sheriff's Office



Division VI (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Officer Andrew J. Page, Roanoke City Police Department, Detective Mark W. Lovern, Roanoke City Police Department



Division VI (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Deputy Robert C. Altizer, Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Officer Robert Scott Akers, Salem Police Department



Division VII-1 (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Officer Jeffrey Andrea, Fairfax County Police Department



Division VII-2 (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Officer Geoffery Gendron, Town of Leesburg Police Department, Detective Christo Dengeles, Arlington County Police Department

Division VI
Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers
FIRST PLACE
Detective Mark W. Lovern
Roanoke City Police Department

SECOND PLACE
Officer Andrew J. Page
Roanoke City Police Department

Group 3: 1 - 100 Officers
FIRST PLACE
Officer Robert Scott Akers
Salem Police Department

Deputy Robert C. Altizer
Franklin County Sheriff's Office

Division VII
Group 1: 401+ Officers
FIRST PLACE
Officer Jeffrey Andrea
Fairfax County Police Department

Group 2: 101 - 400 Officers
FIRST PLACE
Detective Christo Dengeles
Arlington County Police Department

SECOND PLACE
Officer Geoffery Gendron
Town of Leesburg Police Department

Division VIII
Virginia Department of State Police
FIRST PLACE
Special Agent Accountant Craig M. Martin

SECOND PLACE
Special Agent Mike S. Bryant
Appomattox

Special Agent David O. Cooper, II
Appomattox

Special Agent Carla C. Keese
Appomattox



First Sergeant Ira Matney
Appomattox

Sr. Special Agent Bobby K. Rakes
Richmond

Trooper Wayne J. Reed
Lynchburg

Special Agent Fred L. Solomon
Appomattox

Sr. Special Agent William H. Wagner
Fairfax

THIRD PLACE
Trooper M. E. Embrey
Augusta

Master Trooper J. T. Harris
Bedford

Special Agent Johnnie Jones, Jr.
Chesapeake

Trooper B. P. Long, II
Bedford
Special Agent Diane A. Mandeville
Salem

Sr. Trooper Perry M. Price
Galax

Special Agent Ronnie W. Tiller
Culpeper

Division IX
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
FIRST PLACE
Customer Service Generalist Cori Hyatt
DMV - Norfolk

SECOND PLACE
Senior Special Agent Paige Green
DMV - Richmond



Division VIII (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police. Special Agent Fred L. Solomon, Sr. Special Agent William H. Wagner, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV. Special Agent Accountant Craig Martin, Sr. Special Agent Bobby K. Rakes, Special Agent Mike Bryant, Trooper Wayne Reed, Special Agent Johnnie Jones, Jr., Special Agent Carla C. Keesee, Trooper B.P. Long, II, Special Agent Diane A. Mandeville, Sr. Trooper Perry M. Price, Master Trooper J.T. Harris



Division IX (left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV, Customer Service Generalist Cori Hyatt, Senior Special Agent Paige Green

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Sheriff Raleigh H. Isaacs, Sr.
City of Suffolk City Sheriff's Office

Special Agent Kevin Richard Moore
United States Secret Service
Norfolk
Formerly of the Smithfield Police Department

James R. Otto
Retired Chief of Police
Town of Orange Police Department

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Achievement \ ə-čhēv-mənt\ n: 1: the act of achieving: ACCOMPLISHMENT 2 a: a result gained by effort b: a great or heroic deed 3: the quality and quantity of a student's work

When the H.E.A.T. Program was established in 1996, its Advisory Board recognized the importance of honoring those law enforcement individuals who truly made a difference in their communities by aiding in the reduction and elimination of auto thefts and related crimes. Year after year, certain police and sheriffs' departments have earned high honors for their active participation and remarkable contributions to the H.E.A.T. Program.

"The successes these departments have achieved over the years did not happen overnight," said Senior Special Agent Randy Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator. "It took the commitment, foresight, and examples set by those leading the departments to bring attention to and integrate the H.E.A.T. Program's ideals and objectives."

To show its appreciation of those police supervisors and their outstanding efforts during their tenure in office, the H.E.A.T. Program has created the Lifetime Achievement Award. The following three law enforcement leaders have distinguished themselves as true lifetime achievers:

Raleigh H. Isaacs, Sr. Sheriff, City of Suffolk

City of Suffolk Sheriff Raleigh Isaacs is one of a few who knows the H.E.A.T. Program inside and out. His and his agency's involvement have played pivotal roles in the program's advancement and promotion.

Since the H.E.A.T. Program began in 1996 through 2002, the Suffolk Sheriff's Office has earned high marks for its Operation H.E.A.T. Wave activities within the local community. In 1998, Raleigh and his deputies were the first to take the H.E.A.T. Program to the public on horseback during the city's annual Christmas parade.

"I am extremely proud of being selected as one of the first recipients of H.E.A.T.'s Lifetime Achievement Award. I owe this recognition to my very fine staff for their efforts each day in promoting the H.E.A.T. Program and auto theft prevention." Sheriff Raleigh H. Isaacs, Sr., City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office

Although a small agency, Raleigh and his staff take great pride in the impact their efforts have had in reducing auto thefts in their community. Since being elected sheriff in 1993, he has set a high standard for the reduction and elimination of auto thefts.

"During my law enforcement career, I have had the opportunity to investigate and be aware of many auto thefts," said Raleigh. "During several of these cases, police officers and citizens have been killed or seriously injured as a result of high speed attempts to arrest defendants. I am convinced that

Continued next page

through our prevention efforts, we may well have prevented tragedies of this nature from occurring.”



(left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, Sheriff Raleigh H. Isaacs, City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV

Raleigh has also been instrumental in the development and direction of the H.E.A.T. Program. As a member of the Grants Committee since 1998, he has had assisted with securing essential funding for the program's training and prevention efforts. In 2000 and 2001, he

served on the H.E.A.T. Program's Advisory Board and, also in 2001, was a member of the LEO Awards Committee.

Prior to being elected to sheriff a decade ago, Raleigh spent 20 years with the Suffolk Police Department where he achieved the rank of captain. He has another six years of experience as a patrol officer and narcotics detective with the Norfolk Police Department.

Richard K. Moore, former Sergeant, Town of Smithfield Police

Mention the H.E.A.T. Program in the Town of Smithfield and you are likely to hear the name Richard Moore. During the past seven years, the two have been practically synonymous.

As a patrol officer with the Smithfield Police Department, Richard was given the responsibility of designing a H.E.A.T. Program for the community. From the time he graduated from Basic Auto Theft Investigations for Patrol Officers school in 1995 through the fall of 2002, one of Virginia's most effective and successful H.E.A.T. Program's emerged under

Richard's direction. Since he began the program, Smithfield has had a 100% auto theft recovery rate.

But for Richard, just locating stolen vehicles was never enough. "We strived to be proactive, not just reactive, when it came to crime reduction," said Richard. "With the H.E.A.T. Program and its vast public information and investigative assistance to local police agencies like Smithfield, we felt that this partnership could do nothing but improve the way of life for our citizens."

From the Smithfield Olden Days Festival to town parades, the H.E.A.T. trailer was a prominent participant. Beginning in 2000, magnetic and permanent signs were purchased and attached to speed boards and displayed around town. Richard made sure that every new driver in his community was provided literature on how to safeguard their vehicles against auto theft. His initiatives even received recognition from local and regional media.

As a result of his outstanding enforcement and educational efforts, Richard has been a LEO Award recipient every year since 1995. The Smithfield Police Department has placed first in its division numerous times over the

"I am honored to be one of the first recipients of this award. It has been my pleasure to work with such a terrific program that truly is making a difference in my community and state." Special Agent Richard K. Moore, Secret Service & former Town of Smithfield Police Department

past seven years for its Operation H.E.A.T. Wave activities. In 2002, he served as a LEO Awards Committee member.

Richard began his career in law enforcement as an auxiliary police officer in the City of Poquoson and joined the Smithfield Police

Department in 1993. He achieved the rank of sergeant in 1997. In September 2002, he left Smithfield to pursue a career with the United States Department of Homeland Security as a special agent with the United States Secret Service.

James R. Otto, Retired Chief of Police, Town of Orange

From the beginning of his law enforcement career in 1963 until his retirement 39 years later as the Town of Orange Police Chief, James "Jim" R. Otto set his path of policing towards improving the lives of those he protected and served.

Jim began his law enforcement career with the City of Richmond Police Department where he first established his roots in crime prevention. In the late 1970s, he even had his hand in combating auto thefts. Jim directed an investigation that led to the capture and disbanding of an organized drag-racing gang and the seizure of several automobiles.

After 32 years and a successful progression through the ranks to captain, he left Richmond to become the Chief of Police for the Town of Orange in 1995.

For the next seven years, Jim put the tranquil community of Orange, Virginia, on the map when it came to the H.E.A.T. Program.

Every year since the H.E.A.T. Program began in 1996, a member of the Town of Orange Police Department has earned a LEO Award. The department, as a whole, has placed first in its division in the Operation H.E.A.T. Wave awards program every year since 1997.

Jim was instrumental in the promotion and development of the department's H.E.A.T. activities, which included a 12-seater H.E.A.T. barrel train that debuted in 1998. Not a parade

or festival goes by in Orange County that doesn't have a H.E.A.T. banner, barrel train, or miniature mobile vehicle in attendance. Jim and his department's efforts to promote the H.E.A.T. Program have reached thousands of people and children.

"The Orange community is a small, closely-knit community where the taking of personal property, even when insured, still has a significant impact on how safe people feel," said Jim. "I am very proud of all the members of the Orange Police Department and the many citizens that helped each year promote the H.E.A.T. Program in our community and around Virginia. Winning numerous awards has allowed us to show the citizens of Orange that their police department cared about them."

"I consider this award to be one of the happiest moments of my career. To have been able to work with so many fine officers and civilians in promoting the H.E.A.T. Program and seeing all the fine work so many have done and are continuing to do, is a reward all to itself." Retired Chief of Police James Otto, Town of Orange Police Department

Jim is also a published author, noted instructor, and the recipient of numerous awards for his community involvement, including his election to the Virginia March of Dimes Hall of Fame in 2000. Although he retired as chief of police at the end of 2002, he continues to be active in the community and currently works with the Orange County school system as a substitute teacher and bus driver.



(left to right) Lt. Colonel Larry Burchett, Virginia State Police, Retired Chief James R. Otto, Town of Orange Police Department, W. Gail Morykon, Director of Investigations DMV



Operation H.E.A.T. Wave 2001 - 2002 Winners

Division 1

FIRST PLACE

Henrico County Division of Police

SECOND PLACE

Southside Virginia Training Center Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Chesterfield County Police Department
Town of West Point Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Hopewell Bureau of Police
Powhatan County Sheriff's Office

Division 2

FIRST PLACE

Warren County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Town of Culpeper Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Town of Orange Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Culpeper County Sheriff's Office
Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
Mary Washington College Police Department

Division 3

FIRST PLACE

Lynchburg Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Amherst County Sheriff's Office
Farmville Police Department

Division 4

FIRST PLACE

Wythe County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Buchanan County Sheriff's Office
Town of Pulaski Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Marion Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Bluefield VA Police Department
Clintwood Police Department
Washington County Sheriff's Office

Division 5

FIRST PLACE

City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Newport News Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Smithfield Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Chesapeake Police Department
Norfolk Police Department
Portsmouth Sheriff's Office
Virginia Beach Police Department

Division 6

FIRST PLACE

Bedford City Police Department

SECOND PLACE

City of Salem Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

CERTIFICATES

Blacksburg Police Department
Floyd County Sheriff's Office
Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Roanoke City Police Department
Rocky Mount Police Department

Division 7

FIRST PLACE

Fairfax County Police Department

SECOND PLACE

Herndon Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Alexandria Police Department

Operation H.E.A.T. Wave

From the Richmond International Raceway in Henrico County to Buchanan County's annual homecoming parade to personal property tax form mailings in Newport News to the dismantling of a car on local television in Fairfax County - through auto theft prevention campaigns and public service initiatives, Virginia's police and sheriffs' departments reached roughly a million people between 2001 and 2002.

Recognized for their ingenuity and dedication, a total of 40 departments earned the distinction of being an Operation H.E.A.T. Wave winner in 2001 - 2002. From the Commonwealth's largest police departments to the smallest, each one made a difference in the lives of those they serve and protect.

For every car protected by a newly etched window and every driver who remembers to simply lock the car door, another auto theft has been prevented and auto thief turned away.

The H.E.A.T. Program and its advisory board commend each Operation H.E.A.T. Wave winner and encourage them to continue in their efforts to reduce and eliminate auto thefts in Virginia. Information about the first, second and third place winners follows.

Division 1

FIRST PLACE

Henrico County Division of Police

Each May and October, hundreds of thousands of fans converge on the Richmond International Raceway for NASCAR racing and again in June for IRL racing. This past year, they were greeted by officers from the Henrico County Division of Police, who helped staff the H.E.A.T. trailer and distribute auto-theft prevention information. Henrico officers also assisted with two H.E.A.T. VIN-etching events: Public Safety Fair in October (30 cars etched); and Allstate Insurance Co. in December (31 cars etched). In August, Henrico's Investigator Roy Tyler worked with H.E.A.T. to teach a two-hour course on VIN etching at the 49th Annual I.A.A.T.I. Conference attended by officers from throughout the world. H.E.A.T. was promoted

Continued next page

at the National Night Out Against Crime, the Harvest Festival and Regal Cinema.

SECOND PLACE

Southside Virginia Training Center (Petersburg)

In a year's time, the Southside Virginia Training Center Police Department conducted 17 classes, each lasting 1 hour and 20 minutes, which reached over 1,000 people. Classes included a brief history of the H.E.A.T. Program along with instructions on how to report information that could possibly lead to the arrest of persons involved in auto theft, the theft of auto parts, "chop-shop" activity or carjackings. The department also set up and manned displays about the H.E.A.T. Program and preventing auto theft at various locations, which reached close to 5,000 people.

THIRD PLACE (tie)

Chesterfield County Police Department

Close to 100,000 people attend the Chesterfield County Fair, presenting a perfect opportunity to reach citizens about the H.E.A.T. Program and auto theft prevention. The Chesterfield County Police Department set up its command post at the fair, distributed auto-theft prevention flyers and displayed its new H.E.A.T. poster. Department personnel also made presentations throughout the year about H.E.A.T. at such places as the Chester Business Watch, Zeiss Optical and a 55 and over group. Flyers were placed on vehicles found with keys left in the ignition.

West Point Police Department

The West Point Police Department's H.E.A.T. vehicle is a traveling billboard, which reminds citizens about auto theft prevention no matter where it travels. Last year, the department reached close to 40,000 residents by teaming up the H.E.A.T. vehicle with its speed awareness device, which were displayed on Main Street, in school zones, and other high-traffic areas. The vehicle also visited the annual crab carnival, the Winters Point health fair, the local high school and a bicycle safety rodeo, an event held in conjunction with State Farm Insurance and the department of parks and recreation.

Division 2

FIRST PLACE

Warren County Sheriff's Office

If something is going on in Warren County, there's a good chance that the Sheriff's Office will be there to promote H.E.A.T. and auto-theft prevention. This was the case last year with at least one H.E.A.T. activity taking place every month and several in many months – Little League Opening Day in April; the Mushroom Festival and Antique Car Show in May; Shenandoah Ford Open House in June; display at the Foodway Market in July; the Warren County Fair in August; the Million Dollar Golf Tournament and Dupont's 20th Anniversary in September. October was especially busy with the Festival of Leaves, Community Unity Benefit, Trade Fest, Blue Ridge Oktoberfest and displays at the Shenandoah Farm, Rivermount, Fortsmouth and Linden Fire Departments.

SECOND PLACE

Town of Culpeper Police Department

Using their always popular H.E.A.T. cart and H.E.A.T. tent, the Town of Culpeper Police Department reached close to 23,000 people with auto-theft prevention messages last year. They were everywhere – Culpeper Day, Firemen's Parade, Relay for Life, Governor's Fishing Day, Children's Hospital Fundraiser, Madison Public Safety Day, July 4th Car Show & Parade, National Night Out, Camp Fantastic (a camp for children with cancer), Yowell Meadow Park Community Day, F.O.P.'s Free Skate for Children, POW/MIA Poker Run, and Little Fork VFD Community Day – to name just a few.

THIRD PLACE

Town of Orange Police Department

The Town of Orange Police Department mobile and barrel train are always a big hit with children, providing a great way to reach parents with auto-theft prevention messages. Last year, the vehicles made numerous appearances – Orange Christmas Parade (broadcast live on local radio station WJMA), Montpelier Wine Festival, Madison County Fireman's Parade, Orange County Fair, Downtown Orange Halloween Party, Gordonsville Fireman's Parade, Orange County Cruisers Car Show, Waugh's Harley Davidson Bike Show, Madison Harvest Festival, Town of Orange Street Festival and Somerset Steam and Gas Show – the list goes on.

Division 3

FIRST PLACE

Lynchburg Police Department

When you log onto the Lynchburg Police Department web site you'll find a H.E.A.T. logo which is a direct link to ten tips for preventing auto theft as well as information about the H.E.A.T. rewards program. The department also promotes H.E.A.T. through participation in such activities as Connections 2001, Juneteenth Day, National Night Out Against Crime, You Got a Friend Day, For Kids Sake Safety Day, Day in the Park, VDOT Safety Fair and 33 Neighborhood Watch groups. Residents learn about auto-theft prevention during the 11-week Citizen's Police Academy, which is held twice a year, and in the Junior Public Safety Academy for high school students held in the spring. Auto thefts are regularly featured through the Central Virginia Crime Stoppers.

Division 4

FIRST PLACE

Wythe County Sheriff's Office

When new drivers in Wythe County are issued their operator's license they also receive a friendly reminder from the Sheriff's Office about the importance of auto-theft prevention along with a brochure and a key chain to keep the information close at hand. Posters in schools, talks to the entire senior class at Rural Retreat High School and training programs for school resource officers are some of the other ways the Sheriff's Office is attacking the problem of young people stealing cars. And if you're driving a stolen vehicle, you may want to think twice before



you travel through Wythe County. In the past year, 13 stolen vehicles valued at \$83,500 – everything from an ATV to a Lincoln Town Car to a pickup truck and four wheeler – were recovered and ten arrests were made.

SECOND PLACE (tie)

Buchanan County Sheriff's Office

In spite of a year of devastating occurrences in Buchanan County – the shooting at the Appalachian School of Law in January, 2002, and explosion, flood and fire in the Town of Grundy – the Sheriff's Office has still managed to do a good job of continuing to promote H.E.A.T. and auto-theft prevention. Flyers with tips on how to report auto thefts have been posted and distributed at DARE Day, the Homecoming Parade, OctoberFest, Thanksgiving Parade and activities and Christmas Parade and Celebration, reaching thousands of area residents.

Town of Pulaski Police Department

A message encouraging citizens to provide information via the H.E.A.T. hotline that leads to an arrest for auto-theft related offenses including theft of vehicles or their parts is posted on the Town of Pulaski Informational Channel as well as at New River Community College. These activities reach more than 15,000 people a day. H.E.A.T. and auto-theft prevention also was promoted at the National Night Out, the Lunch on the Lawn sponsored by Downtown Pulaski, at checkpoints in November and December and continuously on the web site (pulaski.pd.com).

THIRD PLACE

Marion Police Department

More than a thousand people attended this year's Mountain Dew Day Festival in Marion where an officer talked with attendees about H.E.A.T. and auto-theft prevention. Information was reinforced by handing out brochures, pencils and key chains. H.E.A.T. also was promoted at senior citizens meetings, a youth career day and at an event at Blue Ridge Job Corp.

Division 5

FIRST PLACE

City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office

Every year Sheriff Raleigh Isaacs challenges his staff to think of a new way to promote auto-theft prevention, and more often than not they come through with flying colors. Three years ago Deputies Tommy Salmon and Barry Cobb entered two horses draped with H.E.A.T. banners in the Christmas Parade. This year Deputy Troy Babb suggested a H.E.A.T. car for the Peanut Festival Parade and Demolition Derby. A Ford Escort was bought from a junkyard. Salmon's parents donated the paint. Babb did the mechanical work and his brother and nephews did the lettering and artwork. Deputy Babb drove the car in the Derby and came out on top to win first place. H.E.A.T. also was a winner with a front-page article in the Suffolk News-Herald accompanied by a full-color photo.

SECOND PLACE

Newport News Police Department

Over 100,000 people received auto-theft prevention information via a flyer that was

included in a personal property tax form mailing. This effort was in addition to the Newport News Police Department's ongoing NNCAT (Newport News Combat Auto Theft) program. NNCAT participants display a decal on their vehicles which gives law enforcement permission to stop them at certain hours of the day, when they wouldn't normally be driving. The Department also held Vehicle Identification Number etching events at Patrick Henry Mall and at the City Employees Picnic.

THIRD PLACE

Smithfield Police Department

Once again this year, H.E.A.T. was a prominent attraction at the Smithfield Olden Day Festival, the biggest event in the town's year, which is held during the Memorial Day weekend. More than 12,000 people attended and were able to visit the Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. trailer and check out the H.E.A.T. racecar. The Department also promoted auto-theft prevention throughout the year by a sign on the town's speed board, on the web page, and by distributing information to news drivers when they receive their licenses for the first time.

Division 6

FIRST PLACE

City of Bedford Police Department

The City of Bedford Police Department takes a multi-media approach to auto-theft prevention and promotion of the H.E.A.T. Program. Public service announcements can be heard on WBLT Radio and seen and heard on Cable Channel 12. Information also is distributed via the City of Bedford web site,

which includes tips for preventing auto theft. Brochures are available at the Courthouse, Police Department, Magistrate's Office and the Jail and distributed at Neighborhood Watch and Triad meetings. The Department also distributed items such as litter bags, pencils and calendars along with brochures at various locations including Larry's Quick Lube, Frank's Car Wash and Advance Auto Parts.

SECOND PLACE

City of Salem Police Department

The Salem Civic Center Marquee – 350,000 people. Cable Access Channel – 50,000 people. Message in utility bills in January and June – 120,000 people. Salem Christmas Parade – 25,000 people. Nationally televised (ESPN) Bowl (NCAA) – 50,000 plus people. Olde Salem Days – 15,000 people. Government Channel – 30,000 people. Department Lobby Sign – 2,000. Whether a few at a time or hundreds of thousands, pretty soon the numbers start to add up. In fact, the Salem Police Department reached over 1 million people last year with information about H.E.A.T. and auto-theft prevention.

THIRD PLACE

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

All it takes is a folding table, a H.E.A.T. banner, some informational brochures and giveaway items and you've got a travelling auto-theft prevention display. And it worked well for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. They reached thousands of people with this approach at numerous events – Child Safety Seat Check New River Valley Medical Center, Law Enforcement Appreciation Day at New River Valley Mall, Blacksburg July 4th



Parade, National Guard Family Picnic, Auburn High School Football and Girl's Basketball Games, to name just a few.

Division 7

FIRST PLACE

Fairfax County Police Department

In July, the Fairfax County Police Department, in cooperation with the National Insurance Crime Bureau, Allstate Insurance and Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program, put on car dismantlings, which were viewed by tens of thousands of people live and on the FOX5 television station. The station also did a live interview with Officer Ed O'Carroll on auto-theft prevention. Several devices, including steering wheel and pedal locks, were shown. During the year, the Department held 14 VIN etchings at subdivision open houses, senior living apartments and Department District Stations, where 310 vehicles were etched. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments recognized O'Carroll and the Department with its 2000 Vehicle Theft Prevention Award.

SECOND PLACE

Herndon Police Department

If you want an effective public-awareness initiative, make sure your message reaches 100% of your audience, that they receive it repeatedly and that it is in their language. That's the approach taken by the Herndon Police Department. They prepared a flyer about auto-theft prevention and the H.E.A.T. Program in both English and Spanish, which was distributed to each home and business in Herndon, not once, but twice during the year (Spring and Fall). The Department also drove a 1964 Corvette draped with a H.E.A.T. banner in the Homecoming Parade and distributed key chains to groups touring the station.

THIRD PLACE

Alexandria Police Department

People of all ages in Alexandria are better informed about auto-theft prevention and the H.E.A.T. Program, thanks to the efforts of the Police Department. Classes were taught or information was distributed at Minnie Howard Ninth Grade Center, George Washington and Hammond Middle Schools, T. C. Williams High School, at the Citizen's Police Academy, Army Times Fair, National Night Out, Alexandria Waterfront Festival and 55 Alive classes, twice during the year.

2002 Summer H.E.A.T. Awards

Summertime. While most people are planning their vacations during the months of June, July, and August, law enforcement are preparing for the traditional hike in auto thefts. With young people out of school and car owners leaving their vehicles unprotected, the number of reported auto thefts routinely increase with the rising summer temperatures. As a result, two years ago the H.E.A.T. Program created Operation Summer H.E.A.T. to recognize those law enforcement personnel who demonstrate outstanding achievement for auto theft arrests and vehicle recoveries made between June 1 and August 31 of the same year.

Seven distinguished patrol officers earned top honors in the 2002 Operation Summer H.E.A.T. Three of the winners are from the Wythe County Sheriff's Office with a combined total of 11 arrests and vehicle recoveries. First and second place winners were awarded with H.E.A.T. long-sleeve denim shirts and hats.

Operation Summer H.E.A.T. is open to all law enforcement officers assigned to patrol. Arrests and recoveries for thefts of vehicles licensed to operate on the highway, construction equipment, and marine vehicles qualify for the awards program.

The H.E.A.T. Program salutes these individuals for turning up the Summer H.E.A.T.

First Place Winners

Officer Jeffery Andrea - Fairfax County Police Department
Patrol Officer Stacy Dixon - Wythe County Sheriff's Office
Officer Edward J. Kubicki - Henrico County Division of Police

Second Place Winners

Officer Marc Crippen - Chesapeake Police Department
Patrol Officer Charles Foster - Wythe County Sheriff's Office
Patrol Officer George "Joe" Kincer - Wythe County Sheriff's Office
Corporal Tony Sisk - Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

