 

**2018 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge**

**the New Kent Sheriff’s Office**

**awarded First Place in category**

**for Best Traffic Safety Programs in Virginia in 2017**

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) announced the recipients of the 2018 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge awards for the best traffic safety programs in the state in 2017. The awards were presented at an awards luncheon during the VACP’s 93rd Annual Training Conference on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, VA. The New Kent Sheriff’s Office was awarded first place in the state in the Sheriff’s Office category for 1-50 sworn members. In addition, the New Kent Sheriff’s Office received a special award for our outstanding enforcement and education efforts in the areas of occupant protection. New Kent did not have members in attendance at the awards luncheon as the office was concentrating on assisting with the county’s efforts to prepare for the arrival of Hurricane Florence at the time.

This office is looking forward to the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police formal presentation of the award at an upcoming New Kent Board of Supervisors meeting. The New Kent Sheriff’s Office remains dedicated to serving and protecting our citizens and in reducing traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities. We continue to participate in activities that emphasize the education of our traveling public to include speed reduction, occupant protection and overall motor vehicle safety. This office evaluates those efforts on a constant basis to determine the most effective and efficient manner for providing these services.

Celebrating its twenty-ninth year in Virginia, the Law Enforcement Challenge program promotes professionalism in traffic safety enforcement and encourages agencies to share best practices and programs with each other. The awards are based on entries prepared by the participating agencies that highlight their traffic safety education and enforcement activities in occupant protection, impaired driving and speed over the past calendar year. Judges award points to the agencies in the six areas that comprise a comprehensive traffic safety program: problem identification, policies, planning, training of officers, public information and education, enforcement, and an evaluation of the outcomes of the agency’s efforts.

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

The New Kent Sheriff’s Office is proud to be involved with the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police & Foundation which is a statewide organization of federal, state and local police chiefs and law enforcement executives dedicated to improving the professionalism of police agencies in Virginia. The Association was founded in 1926 and has more than 600 members. For more information, visit http://www.vachiefs.org.