

This Annual Report summarizes activities of the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office (YPSO) Crime Prevention Unit for the 2019 calendar year. The Crime Prevention Unit introduced several new programs for 2019 to include collaborating with ProtectDNA and Farmers Insurance. (These new programs are listed below in red).

Public Education Activities

The Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit continually educates the public with various community presentations and/or classes offered to the citizens of York County and the City of Poquoson.

Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch is a Crime Prevention program that stresses education, awareness, and prevention principles with the assistance of law enforcement in order to reduce crime within the neighborhood. This program enlists the active participation of the residents with the cooperation of law enforcement in order to reach the goal of reducing crime within the community.

- Crime Prevention Unit conducted several follow-ups with Neighborhood Watch contacts and presentations in order to relay pertinent information between the Sheriff's Office and the Neighborhood Watch Coordinators and participants.
- Crime Prevention Unit participated in eight separate Neighborhood Watch Community events. These neighborhoods include Coventry, Tabb Lakes, Greenlands, Dandy, Rock Creek Landing, Running Man, Kiln Creek, and Waterview Road.

Operation Identification

Operation Identification is a crime prevention program where electric engraving pencils are loaned to the public, free of charge, so that they may engrave an identifying number on selected valuables for identification purposes, in case the property is stolen.

- Crime Prevention Unit did not loan out any engravers for 2019 because there was no request from the public.

ProtechDNA

ProtechDNA is a crime prevention program where a special adhesive can be swabbed onto all types of property and dries invisible and permanent. There are thousands of tiny microscopic dots that are chemically etched with a PIN that is registered solely to the property owner. The York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office has access to view registered property that has been stolen and be able to return it to its rightful owner.

- Upon hearing about the program, the Crime Prevention Unit contacted ProtechDNA directly and arranged for a training and informational session on the product. Upon receiving the training, the Crime Prevention Unit collaborated with Farmers Insurance in order to supply the citizens of York County with specialized ProtechDNA pens and information.
- Crime Prevention Unit has distributed over 1300 ProtechDNA flyers, pens, and brochures to citizens of York County and the City of Poquoson.

Security Surveys

The Crime Prevention Unit offers both residential and business security surveys, free of charge, to the community. The security surveys identify vulnerable areas within and around a home or business; then provides recommendations to enhance the security of resident's home and/ or business.

- Crime Prevention Unit conducted fourteen security surveys to include a York County Courthouse, York County Social Services Offices, residential, and church security assessments/ surveys, as well as nighttime security surveys.
- Crime Prevention personnel contacted each of the fourteen individuals that participated in the security survey to conduct a follow-up visits to each of the sites. The follow-ups included discussions on how to being implementing the security enhancement options and working towards a more secure property.
- There was a 100 percent rate of compliance in making efforts and discussion towards enhancing the security of their homes/ businesses.

Educational Programs

The Crime Prevention Unit offers various educational programs to the community that encompass all age groups from toddlers participating in daycare centers / programs to senior citizens within the community.

- **York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Citizen Academy** is a 43-hour block of instruction, over a 12-week period, that is designed to give the citizens of York County and the City of Poquoson a working knowledge of the Sheriff's Office and the criminal justice system.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit organized conducted one York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Citizen Academy held in the early Spring of 2019. Attendance and student feedback were great.
- **York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy for YOUTH** is a weeklong academy that provides insight into the operations and functions of the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office through practical exercises, classroom instruction, demonstrations, and tours. This academy is specifically designed for youth between the ages of 14 – 19 years old (high school aged students).
 - The Crime Prevention Unit created, organized, and implemented its *first ever* York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy for YOUTH. The academy class reached its maximum capacity of 15 participating students. According to the student evaluations and feedback, they enjoyed the academy and found it to be a positive rapport builder between the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office and teenage population.
- **National Night Out** is an annual community-building campaign that promotes law enforcement – community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

- The Crime Prevention Unit participated in National Night Out, held on the first Tuesday in August, by attending the different neighborhood National Night Out events that were organized by the individual neighborhoods. There were at least two communities that participated in National Night Out on the first Tuesday in August.
- Many other communities decided to hold their own “National Night Out” on different evenings in order to accommodate their community’s needs and increase their attendance.
- **Sentara Safety Fair** *is an educational outreach to the employees and staff at Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center on various topics of safety.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit participated in the Sentara Safety Fair on two separate occasions reaching out to over 700 employees.
- **Rape Aggression Defense Classes** *Rape Aggression Defense classes are designed to teach women on various topics and tactics on how to defend themselves in potentially dangerous situations. These classes are offered four to five times a year, free of charge. Each class (session) consist of five days with fifteen hours of instruction.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit personnel is a certified RAD Instructor and assists with teaching the classes throughout the year. In 2019, there were five RAD sessions held.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit assisted with a specialized RAD class held specifically for the Commonwealth Attorney’s Office personnel.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit met with a student in reference to discussing the benefits of the RAD program for her senior project.
- **Refuse To Be A Victim Training Seminars** © *is a nationally recognized NRA award-winning crime prevention and personal safety seminar.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit personnel went through Refuse To Be A Victim Instructor Training in order to teach the course to the citizens of York County and City of Poquoson.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit held three training seminars in 2019. First seminar was held in the lower end of York County and the second seminar was held in the upper end of York County allowing accessibility for as many citizens as possible to attend. The third training seminar was held for Kiln Creek’s HOA.
 - Over 75 people attended the two RTBAV training seminars.
- **Child ID Program** *is a program designed to provide safety information to both the parent(s) and child and allow them to be able to document their child’s information on a personal identification card/ booklet. The Crime Prevention Unit utilizes two forms of child identification. The first form is a packet that is provided to the parent(s)/ guardian(s) of the children. The parent/ guardian completes the form inside, which includes steps on how to obtain DNA, and upon successful completion of the form, the parent/ guardian keeps this packet for*

*themselves. It is easy to take with the family on vacation and is not jurisdictional-specific. If a tragic situation arises that the child/ children go missing, the packet contains everything needed for an Amber Alert and should be given to the first responding officer. The second form of child identification is a computer-based identification card that is printed immediately. A photograph of the child is taken and the information for the child identification card is completed. Upon successfully completion of the form, the child identification card is printed and the parent(s)/ guardian(s) receive a 3*5 card with two additional wallet size cards to take with them. Then, the child's information is deleted from the computer. York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit does not keep any child's information on record.*

- The Crime Prevention Unit participated in several Child ID events from handing out over 500 child identification packets as well as using the computer-based system.
- Child ID machine was set-up and utilized at community events held at the Rivermeade Apartment complex, Boys & Girls Club for their *National Lights On After School Event*, and Kohl's *Child Safety Community Event*, Hornsbyville Baptist Church's Sunday School Class. Averaging over 30 children who received child ID cards.
- **Child Safety Presentations/ Programs** *are presentations / programs that teach children about the importance of safety, how to protect themselves, and who to go to if they need help. Depending on the age group of the children, depends on how detailed the safety discussion will be.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit presented Child Safety Presentations / Programs for the Children's Health Expo at Sentara Hospital, Back to School community event at Rivermeade & Yorktown Square Apartment Complex, the Boy Scouts of America, Riverside Camp Emergency, Little Log Cabin Daycare, York County Boys & Girls Club, Lowe's Community Event, Girl Scouts from York County, Peninsula Academy (2-5 year old children), kindergarten classes at Tabb Elementary School, 5th grade class at Bethel Manor Elementary, Hornsbyville Baptist Church's Sunday School Class, Lafayette Gun Club teenage group, Girl Scout Troop (teens) from Newport News, Head Start Program, and Waller Mill Elementary School.
- **File of Life Program** *is a program that is designed to assist first responders in providing the necessary medical attention for an unconscious individual, in a time a crisis. File of Life is a packet that contains vital medical information from allergies to medication and emergency contact(s).*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit participated in the File of Life Program throughout 2019 and shared this information at community events, safety fairs, and presentations to the community. Over 500 File of Life packets were distributed within the community.

- The Crime Prevention Unit even collaborated with the “Greeting Committee” from Rainbrook Villas to provide File of Life packets and information for all new residents within the community.
- **Robbery Prevention Training** *is a training program that incorporates a formal presentation on robbery prevention techniques, criminal statistics, and what steps to take if a business or person becomes a victim of robbery.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit contacts every bank in the County, on an annual basis, to offer robbery prevention training, ensure updated emergency response information is current, and to offer additional training presentations and programs.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit presented Robbery Prevention Training for ABNA Federal Credit Union and Bayport Credit Union.
- **Active Shooter/ Workplace Violence / Personal Safety Training** *is a training program that teaches employers, employees, staff, and even individuals on how to handle potential workplace violence from a disgruntle customer or fellow employee to an active shooting situation. As well as crime prevention principles to lessen their individual opportunities of becoming a victim of crime.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit presented Active Shooter/ Workplace Violence Training to numerous organizations and communities throughout York County. These organizations include the entire staff from the 1st Advantage Credit Union, Henderson’s Construction Company, Victory Christian Church, Seaford Baptist Church, the York County Courthouse employees and court clerks, York County Social Services employees, York County Inspector’s Office, Grafton Station Apartment Complex, Rainbrook Villas HOA, Kiln Creek Clubhouse, Lafayette Gun Club, Rivermeade Apartment Complex, Running Man, Dandy Loop Subdivision, Rock Creek Landing, Yorktown Women’s Club, Lackey Free Clinic, Sentara Hospital, Verena at the Reserve, Summer Fun Safety Staff at Tabb Middle School, Wythe Creek Farms HOA, and York-Warwick Ruritan Club. Speaking and presenting to over 1,000 people within the community.
- **CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) © Training Seminar** *is designed and built on the Avoid, Deny, and Defend strategy developed by ALERRT. This course will provide strategies, guidance, and a plan for surviving an active shooter event. Topics include the history and prevalence of an active shooter events, civilian response options, medical issues, and considerations for conducting drills.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit personnel went through Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events Instructor Training in order to teach the course to the citizens of York County and City of Poquoson.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit held two training seminars in 2019. First seminar was held in the lower end of York County and the second seminar

was held in the upper end of York County, allowing accessibility for as many citizens as possible to attend.

- Over 150 people attended the two CRASE training seminars.
- **Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program** is a “gun accident prevention program that seeks to help parents, law enforcement, community groups and educators navigate a topic paramount to our children’s safety” (eddieeagle.nra.org)
 - The Crime Prevention Unit shared the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program information through our trailer events held within the communities from talking to parents and children about gun safety to handing out coloring books, brochures, and informational flyers.
- **Gun Safety Program** is a presentation designed to educate adult citizens on the proper handling, maintenance, and storage of weapons. This presentation also covers laws that apply to open carry and concealment of handguns.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit provided citizens with information on how to register for our free Handgun Safety Classes that are offered throughout the year.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit discussed the Gun Safety Program as our Sheriff’s Office Citizen Academy, RAD classes, and during all the Active Shooter, CRASE, and RTBAV training seminars.
- **Bike Safety Program** is a program that teaches children about bike safety, road awareness and how to ride properly along the roadways, as well as the importance of wearing a helmet.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit did not participate in a Bike Safety Program this year. The Crime Prevention Unit is working with a teacher from Bethel Manor Elementary School in referencing to offering a Bike Safety Program on Langley Air Force Base for all the students and adults that ride their bicycles.
- **SALT Senior Safety Summit** is an annual safety summit that provides valuable information to senior citizens in an effort to promote awareness of scams, fraud, and identity theft.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit sits on the SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) board as an active member. Each year the Crime Prevention Unit helps plan, coordinate, and execute a successful safety summit. In 2019, there were approximately 350 senior citizens registered and attended the annual SALT Senior Safety Summit. (This is maximum capacity for the conference).
- **Home Security Program** is an educational and preventive program that teaches citizens about different methods on reducing the risk of becoming a victim of crime through enhancing home security measures. The home security recommendations are based upon proven crime prevention principles.

- The Crime Prevention Unit presented the Home Security Program in conjunction with the Refuse To Be A Victim Training Seminars.
- **Career Day Programs** *are programs that educate individuals on particular careers available. Some of the career day programs are offered through local York County schools and range from basic information on how to become a law enforcement officer to the responsibilities of the job.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit participated in several York County Schools Career Days to include Waller Mill Elementary School, Bruton High School, Mount Vernon Elementary, Grafton High School and York High School.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit also assisted STEAM Career Day which required explaining how science and technology are relative to the law enforcement field.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit also assisted with Homebound Schooling District and their mock trial at Crossroads Community Church.
- **Crime Prevention Programs Presentation** *is an educational presentation that highlights all the available Crime Prevention programs offered through the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office. Tailored from the Roll Call Training presentations, a Crime Prevention Deputy shares the information about all the Crime Prevention Programs available to York County and the City of Poquoson residents.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit presented the Crime Prevention Programs Presentation for the semi-annual HOA board meeting. There were approximately 45 – 55 people in attendance. Upon completion of the presentation, people was handed a Crime Prevention Programs Flyer and brochure for their reference.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit presented the Crime Prevention Programs Presentation to numerous organizations and communities to include York County's Historical Society, Creekside Landing Community, Rainbrook Villas HOA, Kiln Creek HOA, and TRIAD to name a few.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit also partook in informative video recordings for the *York County News Minute* and *News from the Sheriff* YouTube programming to include discussing the YPSO Shield Program, RAD, and available Crime Prevention Programs.
- **Children with Autism & Law Enforcement Working Together Presentation** *with the increase of children being diagnosed with Autism, many parents are concerned about their growing children interacting with law enforcement personnel, especially if their child is having an episode.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit created a training geared towards educating parents on law enforcement encounters and what steps they can take to help notify law enforcement that their child is diagnosed with Autism. It was a small attendance, but well received by the attendees.

Other Programs

- **Project Lifesaver Program** is a “premiere search and rescue program” operated internationally by public safety agencies, and is strategically designed for “at risk” individuals who are prone to the life threatening behavior of wandering” (Project Lifesaver). The York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office has participated in this program for years.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit oversees the daily operation, maintenance, and functions of the Project Lifesaver Program. There are currently 19 clients are on the Project Lifesaver Program through the York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office. Each month, the Crime Prevention Unit personnel changes the batteries and checks on the functionality of the bracelet, as well as the wellbeing of the client. They also ensure that the trackers are properly maintained and operational.
 - Over the 2019 year, Crime Prevention Unit has added at least five new Project Lifesaver clients to the program and removed three clients from the program.
 - **The Crime Prevention Unit personnel coordinated and attended the Project Lifesaver Train-the-Trainer program so that they could recertify and certify deputies in the Project Lifesaver Operator Course. By the end of 2019, there are four deputies were successfully trained through the Project Lifesaver Operator Course/ Program.**
 - The Crime Prevention Unit also presented a presentation about the Project Lifesaver Program to the residents at Langley Air Force Base Housing Complex. This presentation was also live fed through Facebook Live and received numerous compliments and interest in the Project Lifesaver Program.

- **Look Out / Lock Out Program** is a program that was started through Triad on a grant. This program allowed law enforcement agencies to reach out to senior citizens and install a large door scope viewer, in place of the peephole, to allow for a 132-degree viewing area. The grant has expired and the program is funded through Crime Prevention Unit’s budget.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit installed eleven large door scope viewers for senior citizens within the community. In addition to the installation of the door scope viewers, the Crime Prevention personnel provided modified security home assessments.

- **Roll Call Trainings for York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office Deputies**
 - The Crime Prevention Unit provided Roll Call Trainings to each shift at the beginning of 2019. The training covered the responsibilities, programs, and presentations available to the citizens of York County. Topics covered were Project Lifesaver, Look Out/ Lock Out program, Raidsonline.com, Sheriff’s Citizen Academy application process and purpose, RAD classes, and security surveys. In addition to current programs, the Crime Prevention introduced the new programs for 2019.

- The Crime Prevention Unit continued the Roll Call Trainings for each new hire that was hired in 2019. This training was incorporated into the new hire's Administrative week.
- **YPSO Shield Program** *is a two-way form of communication and information sharing with the citizens of York County and City of Poquoson. Offered through the YPSO Shield Program is our Camera Registration and York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Newsletter.*
 - In conjunction with the Crime Analysis Unit, the Crime Prevention Unit advertised and recruited citizens to register for both the Camera Registration and the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Newsletter.
 - (Camera Registration) At this time, the current registered camera user list is only available to the Investigation's Division. Arrangements are being made to train the rest of sworn personnel on accessing the Camera Registration list.
 - (Newsletter) The York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Newsletter is still under creation with the Crime Analysis Unit, but the Crime Prevention Unit will be sharing community event information for publication.
- **Job Fairs & Recruiting for Adults**
 - The Crime Prevention Unit did not participate in the Naval Weapon Station's Annual Job Fair due to prior commitment to another community event.
- **CarFit Program** *is an educational program that offers older adults the opportunity to check how well their personal vehicles "fit" them. The CarFit program also provides information and materials on community-specific resources that could enhance their safety as drivers, and / or increase their mobility in the community (www.car-fit.org).*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit personnel attended and successfully completed the CarFit Train-the-Trainer Instructor Course, so that they could offer this program to the citizens of York County and City of Poquoson.
 - The Crime Prevention Unit participated in conjunction with the SALT Committee members at a regional CarFit Program located in Newport News. Approximately 20 senior citizens and their vehicles participated in the community event.
- **K9 Presentation and Demonstrations**
 - The Crime Prevention Unit coordinated and organized three K9 presentations and demonstrations for the community. These demonstrations were held at the Senior Center of York, Walnut Hills Baptist Church 50+ Luncheon and the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Citizen Academy.

- **Infant Abduction Drill**
 - The Crime Prevention Unit assisted Mrs. Amanda Lopes from Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center's Maternity Unit with the planning and execution of an Infant Abduction Drill for the hospital staff.
 - The drill was successful in identifying vulnerable areas within their operation and the need for additional training and exercises. This will become an annual training session.

- **National Coffee with a Cop Day** *is a nationally recognized community event that offers citizens the opportunity to spend time with their local law enforcement agency and discuss the community's needs, ask questions, and build a rapport between the community and the agency.*
 - The Crime Prevention Unit organized a National Coffee with a Cop Day to be held in their community on the first Wednesday in October; which is also Crime Prevention Month.
 - The event was held at Hardees with approximately four citizens in attendance. Even though it was a small attendance, the employees of Hardees appreciated the Sheriff's Office for spending time within their restaurant.

- **Community Day Events**
 - The Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit participated in several community events that included *Market Days Show Case* at the Yorktown Waterfront, Kiln Creek, Woods of Yorktown, Coventry, Walmart (in both the upper and lower end of York County), Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center, Senior Center of York, Spring Arbor Senior Living Center, 1st Advantage Credit Union, Chick-Fil-A's Family Fall Festival Trunk or Treat, the *Annual Turkey Giveaway Event* at the Williamsburg Pottery, the *Great Kindness Challenge Event* at Yorktown Elementary School, TRIAD's Annual Ice Cream Social, *Annual Active Aging Expo* at the Verena at the Reserve, *Appreciation Luncheon* held at Northside Christian Church, *Appreciation Breakfast* held at IHOP on behalf of Mrs. Vie, Shop with a Sheriff, Christmas Dinner Distribution, Edmarc Christmas Delivery to children on hospice care, *Community Helpers Day* at Coventry Elementary School, Community Trailer Event at Kingdom Life Christian Church, *Domestic Violence Awareness Program* held at Grafton Station Apartments, and many more.

 - The Crime Prevention Unit also participated in multi-day community events such as the Poquoson Seafood Festival, Reading with a Hero, D.A.R.E. Middle School Activity Night, 3-D Driving Drunk & Distracted Program, UPS Shred-It Event, TRIAD's Senior Annual Health Fair, Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center Safety Fairs, and the Annual Senior Safety Summit to name a few.

- **Community Meetings**

- The York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit also involved with several committees that meet on a monthly and bi-monthly basis such as the York-Poquoson Triad, S.A.L.T. (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) which focuses on the senior citizens' needs. The Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center's Safety Committee and the Hampton Roads Crime Prevention Association and the Retail Alliance Group.
- The Crime Prevention Unit personnel is also part of the Colonial Crisis Intervention Team and assists the Training Division with various training needs such as CPR training. The Crime Prevention Unit also assists with the mandated school lockdown drills through York County. The Crime Prevention Unit also actively participates in the **Explorer Post Program**. The Crime Prevention Unit works closely with the Public Information Officer and Crime Analysis Unit to communicate information between the citizens of York County and the social media and media outlets. When possible, the Crime Prevention Unit meets with York County Social Services to address the community's needs.
- The Crime Prevention Unit has also developed a working relationship with many of the churches within the County and they offer places to hold larger training sessions, such as St. John Baptist Church, Northside Christian Church, Bethel Baptist Church, Saint Luke's Methodist Church, Christ the King Episcopal Church, Seaford Baptist Church, Zion Baptist Church, Shiloh Baptist Church, and many more.