



The CCPS All-Points Bulletin

Mission: To reduce crime, enhance public safety and assist victims throughout North Carolina.

July 2010

Message from the Secretary



As hurricane season is in full stride, our ever-ready Emergency Operations Center is keeping a close eye on any storms that may pose a threat to our state. We need to remain vigilant and ready to respond. It's important for Crime Control and Public Safety employees to also be ready at home and at work in case we're called, no matter what the disaster.

The various divisions within CCPS work closely together particularly during difficult weather events, providing the needed guidance to the public in matters of safety. The State Highway Patrol provides traffic direction and control, Alcohol Law Enforcement provides extra law enforcement officers, Emergency Management disburses supplies and dispatches safety teams, the N.C. National Guard provides muscle power and the Civil Air Patrol does aerial reconnaissance.

We are working for a truly remarkable agency, and I thank each one of you for your contributions to the team.

Reuben Young

ALE Special Agent Huneycutt Receives Heroism Award

Secretary Reuben Young presented Special Agent **Robert W. Huneycutt** with the department's Heroism Award on July 27 for successfully averting a robbery, preventing further injury to the victim and apprehending one of the suspects.



Special Assistant Robert W. Huneycutt, left, receives the Heroism Award from Secretary Reuben Young.

Huneycutt was working in Charlotte the evening of April 16, driving south on North Sharon Amity Road about 1 a.m. when he noticed a man walking his dog on one side of the street and three men walking along side a vehicle with its headlights off on the other side. Huneycutt then saw the three men cross the road and attack the pedestrian, striking him with their fists. The man immediately fell to the ground covering his face. Two of the individuals continued to strike him with their fists and feet.

Huneycutt immediately turned on his blue lights, crossed the median and positioned his vehicle with the headlights shining on the assailants and the victim. All three of the suspects began to run away. Huneycutt followed on foot and was able to catch one of the suspects and place him under arrest. The victim only received minor injuries from the attack.

Congratulations!



The following employees were promoted:

Administration: **Bennie Aiken**

Alcohol Law Enforcement: **Josh Batten, Rodney Beckom, Terrance Merriweather**

Governors Crime Commission: **Cheryl Bryant**

State Highway Patrol: **Carolyn Highsmith, C.J. Stephens**

N.C. National Guard: **Jon Gynn, Micah Kinnaird, Thomas Lazaroski, Walter Penley and Donald Willis**

The following employees celebrate significant service milestones in their state careers:

35 years

State Highway Patrol: **John Miller**, Mechanic Supervisor for Troop E

25 years

Alcohol Law Enforcement: **William Berryhill, Diane Chapin, Bobby Crumpler and Anthony Stocks**

State Highway Patrol: **Daniel Andrews, Larry Brown and Julian Pierce**

20 years

State Highway Patrol: **Patricia Somers and Michael Williams**



Comings and Goings



Welcome to our new employees:

Administration: **Meghan Baran and Antwan Hall**

Alcohol Law Enforcement: **Joseph Carroll**

Emergency Management: **Jay Anderson and Eric Wiseman**

N.C. National Guard: **Jennifer Blue, John Bowman, William Everette, Pamela Gamble, Shaun Groat, Heather Hammitt, James Hicks, James Kline, Jeffery McManus, David Meyers, David Penniman, James Preston, Rusty Starnes, Kenneth Tolley and Gary Vanderbur**

State Capitol Police: **David Blackwelder, Carlton Cotton, Patrick Ford and Naurice Jones**

State Highway Patrol: **Victoria Chatfield, David Glass, Michele Latshaw and Tonya Pigott**

Best wishes to our recent retirees:

Administration: **Fannie Peele**

State Highway Patrol: **Timothy Bolduc, Gary Langdale, Benjamin Parham, Vivian Roberts, Stanley Robbins, Alice Sauer, Herman Shearin, Kathy Teeters**

Employee Spotlight

When Law Enforcement Support Services was offering Police Corps scholarships, **Matthew Davis** was a recipient, assigned to the State Capitol Police.

“From the time I was 5 or 6, I realized I wanted to be a cop,” Davis said. “I was influenced by TV shows. Top Cops was my favorite.”

The Police Corps scholarship allowed Davis to attend Western Carolina University where he graduated in 2003 with a degree in criminal justice. After completing his 24-week Police Corps training at Salemburg, Davis became a full-time patrol officer with the State Capitol Police on Dec. 27, 2003.



“As an officer assigned to the SCP Patrol Unit, Davis was a conscientious hard-working officer who was eager to learn,” SCP Chief Scott Hunter said. “His commitment to the law enforcement profession was evident and he soon began to excel in every aspect of his duty.”

“When a vacancy in the K-9 unit became available, Officer Davis was the obvious selection to not only continue the program but to enhance the total scope of the SCP Explosive Detection K-9 program,” Hunter said.

In May, 2006, Davis became the handler for Dasty, the State Capitol Police’s trained bomb-sniffing dog. He and the pure-bred German Shepherd from the Czeck Republic have an office at a Capitol Police substation at Dorthea Dix

Hospital in Raleigh.

“Bomb detection dogs are a rarity,” Davis said. “We’ll respond to any calls in eastern North Carolina. We do dignitary sweeps, sporting events, bomb threats and devices.”

Davis and Dasty checked for possible bombs before the arrivals of presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. When Vice President Joe Biden was in Chapel Hill in July, Dasty and he checked the motorcade to ensure its safety.

“We were very busy during the 2008 campaign trail,” Davis said.

When Dasty came to State Capitol Police in 2004, he had not yet been trained. He was a quick learner, though, and now is able to detect black powder, TNT, peroxide-base explosives and a long list of other chemicals that can be potentially explosive.

If Dasty detects explosives, he is trained to give a passive alert – to go into a sitting position. This passive alert posture is intended to help prevent an accidental detonation. Narcotics dogs, in comparison, are trained in aggressive alert – scratching and nosing around to uncover drugs.

Davis said he works with Dasty on average four or five times a week, often responding to calls of suspicious packages or unattended bags.

“If it’s suspicious looking, we check it out. If it looks like an Improvised Explosive Device, then it’s the bomb squad’s jurisdiction,” Davis said. “We err on the side of safety.”

One of the most heart-pounding assignments for Davis was when the Federal Bureau of Investigation requested Dasty’s services to check out a house that had been the home of an alleged terrorist suspect. During the sweep of the house, Dasty went into alert at a storage cabinet of firearms.

Davis takes his four-legged partner to in-service training twice a month at the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office. He is also a part of the International Police Work Dog Association, is certified through the North Carolina Explosive Detection Task Force and they both work with the State Bureau of Investigation bomb squad.

Recently, Davis and Dasty completed the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms School training that certifies them to be available anywhere in the United States when a bomb dog is needed. Davis and Dasty are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The 8-year-old shepherd lives in a kennel at Davis’ home. He said his wife, Denise loves the dog. However, his poodle-chihuahua mix isn’t as adoring of the 100-pound dog. Dasty’s favorite television program is Deal or No Deal (according to Davis).

“It’s going to break my heart when we have to retire him.”

Born in Shelby to a Methodist preacher and his wife, Davis grew up in McDowell County. He was active in church youth groups and he played school sports and was an offensive lineman for his middle school football team. During his high school years, he bagged groceries at the local Bi-Lo until he graduated in 1999 from McDowell High School.

Davis said he still likes to play sports, such as golf and Corn Hole, a game he describes as being like a bean bag toss, only the bag is filled with corn and it is thrown onto a slightly elevated board with a hole. The goal is to get the corn bag in the hole. He also likes to hang out with his friends, watch movies and spend time with his wife.

A few years ago, a newspaper reporter interviewed Davis while he was doing a sweep of the State Capital before an event. The reporter asked how much time he spent with

Dasty. Davis's reply became the headline for the story: I spend more time with the dog than I do with my wife.

Davis plans on continuing to do canine work, perhaps later becoming a trainer or a master trainer.

Keeping Laptops Cool in the Summer Heat

**By Glenn Mack
Chief Information Officer
CCPS Information Technology Section**

While most of us enjoy the summer weather, our computers definitely don't. Keeping these devices cool is key to extending their lives and minimizing failures. For those in the department that take laptops home or out in the field, here are a few tips to help avoid overheating:

- Keep the computer away from other appliances that create heat, and don't block laptop's air vents
- Always shut down the laptop before putting it in a carrying case
- Despite its name, avoid using the laptop on your lap or other soft surfaces such as a pillow or cushion – they can impede proper air circulation
- Quickly report to your IT support staff via a help desk ticket if your laptop's fan seems to stop working. Immediate attention could avoid a costly and lengthy repair.



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