



PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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June 16, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20 Police Officers, 10 Civilian Employees Are Recognized during the Promotion Ceremony on June 15th

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA . . . Police Chief Charlie T. Deane is pleased to announce the following promotions: First Sergeant Scott A. Kearns to Lieutenant; First Sergeant Robert D. Larkin to Lieutenant; First Sergeant Jarad L. Phelps to Lieutenant; Sergeant Ruben D. Castilla to First Sergeant; Sergeant Thomas J. Garrity to First Sergeant; Sergeant Drew R. Hunter to First Sergeant; Sergeant Dennis M. Mangan to First Sergeant; Sergeant Neil L. Miller to First Sergeant; Senior Sergeant Michael B. Shelley to First Sergeant; Detective Mark A. Atkinson to Sergeant; Officer David J. Bassett to Sergeant; Officer Charles M. Begley to Sergeant; Officer William M. Burke to Sergeant; Officer Alex Dominguez to Sergeant; Detective Michael A. Fernald to Sergeant; Officer Jason W. Janecek to Sergeant; Officer Chris A. Meurer to Sergeant; Officer Roland J. Mulligan to Sergeant; Officer David M. Smith to Sergeant; and Officer Tara Van Horn to Sergeant.

Also promoted is John Reilly from Telecommunicator II to Telecommunicator III; Sara L. Tama from Telecommunicator II to Telecommunicator III; Robert C. Arena from Telecommunicator I to Telecommunicator II; Mary M. Bolen from Telecommunicator I to Telecommunicator II; Michelle Fridley from Telecommunicator I to Telecommunicator II; Kathleen T. O'Connor from Telecommunicator I to Telecommunicator II; Jennifer M. Sims from Telecommunicator I to Telecommunicator II; Lisa Colgan from Administrative Support Assistant III to Administrative Support Coordinator I; Candy Daigle from Administrative Support Assistant III to Administrative Support Coordinator I; and Nikki Meadows from Accounting Assistant II to Accounting Services Coordinator I.

Lieutenant Scott A. Kearns: Lieutenant Kearns has 13 years of law enforcement experience, beginning with the U.S. Capitol Police in 1994. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 1996, beginning his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-East. During his career, he has served as a Basic Training Instructor, Supervisor and Manager at the Academy. He is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Course, and his most recent assignment was the Recruiting/Selection Supervisor in Police Personnel.

Lieutenant Kearns holds a master's degree in human resource management from the University of Richmond, a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from George Mason University, and an associate's degree in general studies from Northern Virginia Community College. He continues his assignment in the Personnel Bureau.

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Lieutenant Robert D. Larkin: Lieutenant Larkin has more than 25 years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 1983. He began his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-East. During his career, Lieutenant Larkin has served as a Crime Scene Technician, as a detective in the Criminal Investigations Division's (CID) Burglary Unit and the Major Property Crimes Unit, as a firearms instructor at the Academy, as a patrol sergeant and a supervising sergeant in the CID's Juvenile Bureau. His most recent assignment was a supervisor in the CID's Major Crimes Unit.

Lieutenant Larkin holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from George Mason University. He is assigned to the Administration Division.

Lieutenant Jarad L. Phelps: Lieutenant Phelps has more than 13 years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 1995. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-West. During his career, Lieutenant Phelps has served in the Bicycle Unit-East, as an Instructor at the Academy, and as a supervising sergeant in Patrol. In addition, he has served in several specialty assignments including Search and Rescue, Honor Guard, and the SWAT Team. His most recent assignment was as a supervisor in Operations-West.

Lieutenant Phelps holds a master's degree in public administration from George Mason University and a bachelor's degree in political science from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va. He is assigned as Western District Deputy Commander.

First Sergeant Ruben D. Castilla: First Sergeant Castilla has more than 13 years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 1995. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-West. During his career, First Sergeant Castilla has served as an investigator in the Special Operations Bureau's Crash Investigation Unit, as an Instructor at the Academy; as a supervising sergeant in the Bike Unit-East, and as a supervising sergeant in the Administration Division's Identification Bureau. He is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Course, and his most recent assignment was as a supervising sergeant in Operations-East.

First Sergeant Castilla holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Bob Jones University in Greenville, S.C. He is assigned to the Special Operations Bureau's Crime Prevention Unit.

First Sergeant Thomas J. Garrity: First Sergeant Garrity has 19 years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 1990. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. During his career, First Sergeant Garrity has served as a P.A.C.T. officer in Georgetown Village/Village Gate, as a detective in the Criminal Investigations Division's Vice & Narcotics Bureau, with the H.I.D.T.A., the Special Problems, Burglary and Violent Crimes units, and as a supervising sergeant in Operations-East. He is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Course, and his most recent assignment was as a supervisor in the Administration Division's Administrative Support Services Bureau.

First Sergeant Garrity holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from George Mason University and an associate's degree in administration of justice from Northern Virginia Community College. He continues in his assignment in the Administrative Support Services Bureau.

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First Sergeant Drew R. Hunter: First Sergeant Hunter has nearly nine years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 2000. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. During his career, First Sergeant Hunter has served as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Major Crimes and Violent Crimes units, and as a supervising sergeant in Patrol. He is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Course, and his most recent assignment was as a Basic Training supervisor at the Academy.

First Sergeant Hunter holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Oklahoma at Norman, and a bachelor's degree in political science from James Madison University. He continues in his assignment at the Academy.

First Sergeant Dennis M. Mangan: First Sergeant Mangan has more than 31 years of law enforcement experience, beginning with the Arlington County (Va.) Police Department in 1977. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 1980, beginning his career as a patrol officer for the Operations Division-East. During his career, First Sergeant Mangan has worked as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Property Crimes, Missing Persons, and Special Problems units, as a Public Information Officer in the Chief's Office, as a patrol supervisor for Operations-West, and as a supervisor on the CID's Juvenile Bureau. His most recent assignment was as a patrol supervisor in the Operations Division-East.

First Sergeant Mangan is completing a bachelor's degree in police science from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is assigned to Operations Division's C Squad-West.

First Sergeant Neil L. Miller: First Sergeant Miller has 10 years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 1999. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. During his career, First Sergeant Miller has served as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Burglary and Violent Crimes units, as a supervising sergeant in Patrol, and as a supervising sergeant in CID's Crime Analysis Unit. He is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Course, and his most recent assignment was as a supervising sergeant in CID's Violent Crimes Unit.

First Sergeant Miller holds a bachelor's degree in management from National-Louis University, and an associate's degree in administration of justice from Northern Virginia Community College. He is assigned to Operations Division's B Squad West.

First Sergeant Michael B. Shelley: First Sergeant Shelley has nearly nine years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 2000. He started his career as a patrol officer for the Operations Division-East. During his career, First Sergeant Shelley has served in the Bicycle Unit-East, as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Street Crimes Unit, and as a supervising sergeant in Patrol-West. His most recent assignment was as supervisor in the Operations Division-West. He is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Course, and his most recent assignment was as a supervising sergeant in CID's Criminal Alien Unit.

First Sergeant Shelley holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY. He continues his assignment with the Criminal Alien Unit.

Sergeant Mark A. Atkinson: Sergeant Atkinson has more than 22 years of law enforcement experience beginning with the Fairfax County (Va.) Sheriff's Office in 1987. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 1993, beginning his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-East. During his career, Sergeant Atkinson has served as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Major Crimes Unit. His most recent assignment was as a detective with CID's Computer Forensics Unit.

Sergeant Atkinson attended the University of Maryland. He continues his assignment with the Computer Forensics Unit.

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Sergeant David J. Bassett: Sergeant Bassett has eight years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 2001. He started his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. During his career Sergeant Bassett has served as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Special Problems Unit. His most recent assignment was as a patrol officer with Operations Division-West.

Sergeant Bassett holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from George Mason University. He is assigned to the Operations Division's F Squad-East.

Sergeant Charles M. Begley: Sergeant Begley has more than 17 years of law enforcement experience, beginning with the University of Richmond (Va.) Police Department in 1991. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 1994, beginning his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-East. During his career, Sergeant Begley has served as an investigator in the Special Operations Bureau's Crash Investigation Unit. His most recent assignment was as an In-Service Coordinator at the Academy. In addition, Sergeant Begley served on the SWAT Team for more than three years.

Sergeant Begley holds an associate's degree in police science from Northern Virginia Community College. He is assigned to the Operations Division's D Squad-East.

Sergeant William M. Burke: Sergeant Burke has more than nine years of law enforcement experience, beginning with the Arlington County (Va.) Sheriff's Office in 2000. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 2002, beginning his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-West. During his career, Sergeant Burke has served as a detective in the Vice & Narcotics Bureau and the Violent Crimes Unit. His most recent assignment was as a supervising sergeant in the Special Operations Bureau's Crime Prevention Unit.

Sergeant Burke is working toward an associate's degree in administration of justice from Northern Virginia Community College. He is assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division's Juvenile Bureau, Crimes Against Children Unit.

Sergeant Alex Dominguez: Sergeant Dominguez has more than nine years of law enforcement experience, beginning with the Prince William County Sheriff's Office in 1999. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 2001, beginning his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-West. During his career, Sergeant Dominguez has served in the Special Operations Bureau's Crime Prevention Unit, which was also his most recent assignment.

Sergeant Dominguez is working toward an associate's degree in administration of justice from Northern Virginia Community College. He is assigned to the Operations Division's A Squad-East.

Sergeant Michael A. Fernald: Sergeant Fernald has more than six years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 2003. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. During his career, Sergeant Fernald has served as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Street Crimes Unit. His most recent assignment was as a detective in the CID's Narcotics Unit.

Sergeant Fernald holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY. He is assigned to CID's Violent Crimes Unit.

Sergeant Jason W. Janecek: Sergeant Janecek has more than 16 years of law enforcement experience, beginning as a park ranger with the Prince William County Park Authority in 1993. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 2000, beginning his career as a patrol officer assigned to the Operations Division-West. During his career, Sergeant Janecek has served as a Basic Training Instructor at the Academy and in the Bicycle Unit. His most recent assignment was in Patrol-East.

Sergeant Janecek holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from George Mason University. He is assigned to the Operations Division's F Squad-West.

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Sergeant Chris A. Meurer: Sergeant Meurer has 10 years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 1999. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. His most recent assignment was in Patrol-East

Sergeant Meurer holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va. He is assigned to the Operations Division's D Squad-West.

Sergeant Roland J. Mulligan: Sergeant Mulligan has nearly five years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where he was hired in 2004. He began his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. His most recent assignment was as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Division's Special Problems Unit.

Sergeant Mulligan holds a master's degree in national security affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and a bachelor's degree in marine transportation from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzard's Bay. He is assigned to the Operations Division's E Squad-West.

Sergeant David M. Smith: Sergeant Smith has more than nine years of law enforcement experience, beginning with the Webster City (Iowa) Police Department in 2001. He joined the Prince William County Police Department in 2003, beginning his career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. His most recent assignment was as an investigator in the Special Operations Bureau's Crash Investigation Unit.

Sergeant Smith is completing his associate's degree in general studies from Northern Virginia Community College. He is assigned to the Operations Division's C Squad-West.

Sergeant Tara Van Horn: Sergeant Van Horn has nearly seven years of law enforcement experience, all with the Prince William County Police Department where she was hired in 2002. She began her career as a patrol officer in the Operations Division-East. During her career, she has served as an In-Service Training Coordinator at the Academy. Additionally, she has served as the Citizen's Police Academy coordinator. Her most recent assignment was as a Basic Training Instructor at the Academy.

Sergeant Van Horn holds a bachelor's degree in sport management from Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. She is assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division's Juvenile Bureau School Resource Officer Unit.

Telecommunicator III John J. Reilly III: Mr. Reilly was hired in 2005. During his tenure with Prince William County, he has been a Telecommunicator I and a Telecommunicator II (Fire Dispatcher). Mr. Reilly holds an associate's degree in computer science from Northern Virginia Community College.

Telecommunicator III Sara L. Tama: Mrs. Tama was hired in 2004. Prior to working for Public Safety Communications, she was employed as a security officer for General Dynamics and for Pensacola Christian College. Mrs. Tama holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Pensacola Christian College in Florida. She dispatches both Police and Fire and Rescue calls.

Telecommunicator II Robert C. Arena: Mr. Arena was hired in 2003 as a Cadet in the Academy and transferred to Communications in May 2004 to become a Telecommunicator I. Before coming to the Police Department, he served in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Arena is a Communications Training Officer for the agency. He holds a bachelor's degree in police science, and dispatches Police calls.

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Telecommunicator II Mary M. Bolen: Ms. Bolen was hired in 2002 as an Animal Caretaker with the Animal Control Bureau and transferred to Communications in 2007 to become a Telecommunicator I. She is a graduate of Potomac High School in Woodbridge. Ms. Bolen dispatches Police calls.

Telecommunicator II Michelle Fridley: Ms. Fridley was hired in 2007 as a Telecommunicator I. In addition, she has been an EMT for 10 years and is a volunteer with the Dumfries/Triangle Rescue Squad. She is a graduate of Woodbridge High School in Lake Ridge. Ms. Fridley dispatches Fire and Rescue calls.

Telecommunicator II Kathleen T. O'Connor: Ms. O'Connor was hired in 2007 as a Telecommunicator I. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and film from the University of Pittsburgh, and is working toward a master's degree in public policy from George Mason University. She dispatches Police calls.

Telecommunicator II Jennifer M. Sims: Mrs. Sims was hired in 2008 as a Telecommunicator I. Prior to being hired by Prince William County she worked for the Orange County (Va.) 911 Center. Mrs. Sims attended George Mason University. She dispatches Police calls.

Administrative Support Coordinator I Lisa Colgan: Mrs. Colgan was hired in 1978 by then-Chief George T. Owens to provide support to both the Criminal Investigation Division's Juvenile Bureau and the Vice & Narcotics Bureau. During her career, she has worked in CID's Crimes Against Property and Major Property Crimes units, the Police Personnel Bureau, and the Western District Operations Division, where she was an Administrative Support Assistant III. Mrs. Colgan is assigned to the Chief's Office.

Administrative Support Coordinator I Candy Daigle: Ms. Daigle was hired in 1987 in the Department's Animal Control Bureau. During her career, she has worked for the Department's Training Bureau in 1990 (the Bureau preceded the Academy, which was established in December 1994). Ms. Daigle is a graduate of Osbourn Park High School and she holds a bachelor's degree in management from National-Louis University. Ms. Daigle is assigned to the Academy.

Accounting Services Coordinator I Nikki Meadows: Ms. Meadows was hired in 2006 as an Accounting Assistant II. Prior to joining the Department, she worked in the purchasing field with the County's Office of Information Technology, and she has a total of 24 years experience in the accounting field. Ms. Meadows is a graduate of Osbourn Park High School.

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Twenty-four of the 30 individuals recognized in the promotion ceremony on June 15, 2009, are pictured following the event, which was held at the Edward L. Kelly Leadership Center in Independent Hill.