

Lynchburg Police Department

2019 Annual Report



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LPD Mission Statement

The Lynchburg Police Department partners with our community and protects our citizens, while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons.



“We must be creative and innovative as we work with neighborhoods to reduce and prevent crime, disorder, and fear.”

**- Ryan Zuidema
Chief of Police**

A MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

The Lynchburg Police Department is dedicated to improving the quality of life in our community through a spirit of service. We are an effective, skilled, and progressive organization made up of men and women who live out our mission of partnering with our community and protecting our citizens, while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons.

Our officers and professional staff possess the highest standards of personal and professional integrity, enabling them to prevent crime, enforce our laws, work as community problem-solvers, and serve as examples to our residents.

Every day, I am proud to work with such people who make a significant, positive difference in our community. The LPD has a proud history going back to 1805. Today, we strive to remain at the forefront of modern policing practices in honor of this proud tradition and the trust placed in us by the community.

In November, 1989, the department became the 124th law enforcement agency in the nation to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. We have been re-accredited eight times since then as we continue to maintain these internationally-recognized high standards.

We demonstrate our mission best by working cooperatively with other governmental agencies, businesses, the faith community, and all citizens. We do not just react to incidents of crime or disorder. We continue to nurture our meaningful, working partnerships with others in the community to make it a safe place for everyone to live, work, and play. We call this “Community Policing.”

Community Policing is a philosophy and an organizational strategy that promotes a new partnership between citizens and their police. It is based on the premise that both police and the citizens must work together to identify, prioritize, and solve community concerns.

We must be creative and innovative as we work with neighborhoods to reduce and prevent crime, disorder, and fear. We will be relentless in our efforts to identify and arrest criminals, while also staying committed to helping our citizens develop long-term solutions to our community problems.

The Lynchburg Police Department and concerned, involved citizens are making a difference. We will continue to build on these positive relationships and accomplishments. This is achieved through our focus on accountability, buy-in, and collaboration within both the department and the community. We are your partners and your protectors. We are, and will always be, YOUR police department.

PARTNERING WITH OUR COMMUNITY



The Lynchburg Police Department serves the best small city in America, and the people in this community are what makes it great. We are a part of the fabric of this community. Over our 215 year history, we have built partnerships with dozens of organizations, including the Boys and Girls Club, Salvation Army, Special Olympics, and Lynchburg Loss Prevention Association.

Throughout the year, we regularly partner with One Community One Voice, an organization that works to rebuild our community through partnerships with area communities of faith, public and private sector organizations, and the community policing effort.

This example and leadership has inspired change, empowerment, pride, and ownership in community members. Through healing efforts and building relationships, we are working to raise families and individuals out of poverty, improve access to educational and human services, and restore a sense of belonging, hope, and engagement.

One Community One Voice and the LPD accomplish this change through initiatives such as Believing in Kids Excelling (B.I.K.E.), which provides bicycles to elementary students in Lynchburg City Schools. These students earn bikes by improving their grades, behavior, and attendance.

Over the life of the program, we have given away dozens of bikes that children throughout the city have been able to enjoy.

In the summer of 2019, we continued our partnership with One Community One Voice to hold Empowering Neighborhoods to Overcome Undesirable behavior Gives us

Hope (E.N.O.U.G.H) events in neighborhoods around Lynchburg. These events were started after a string of violent crimes in the city, and bring neighborhoods together to take a stand against crime. Children and adults enjoy fellowship and food with members of the LPD, Lynchburg Sheriff's Office, Lynchburg Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, Lynchburg Fire Department, One Community One Voice, and other community partners.

We also work with our neighborhoods through our Neighborhood Watch program, which we revamped in 2019. In addition to their individual neighborhood meetings, members of our

city's Neighborhood Watch groups can attend quarterly meetings featuring a different presentation from the LPD each quarter.

Partnering with all members of our community to ensure they have the information they need to protect themselves is a crucial goal of the LPD. In the fall of 2019, we held a Senior Scams Seminar at the Lynchburg Memorial Library to provide updated, useful information to those in our community who scammers target most.

We will continue to engage our residents and visitors so that everyone can enjoy all that the Hill City has to offer!





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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

- 1. Battle of the Badges
- 2. Scope Program at Liberty University
- 3. National Drug Take-Back Day
- 4. Puzzled Event
- 5. Out of Darkness Walk
- 6. E.N.O.U.G.H. Event
- 7. Mayor's Youth Council
- 8. National Night Out
- 9. College Hill Community Walk



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HE GOT THERE FIRST AND SAVED A LIFE

Officer Garrett Waterman never knows what may happen on any given call. The morning of Tuesday, October 1, 2019 started like any other daylight shift.

While patrolling his beat, Officer Waterman heard an overdose call for service over the radio. As the closest officer, he got there in moments - and those moments were enough to save someone's life.

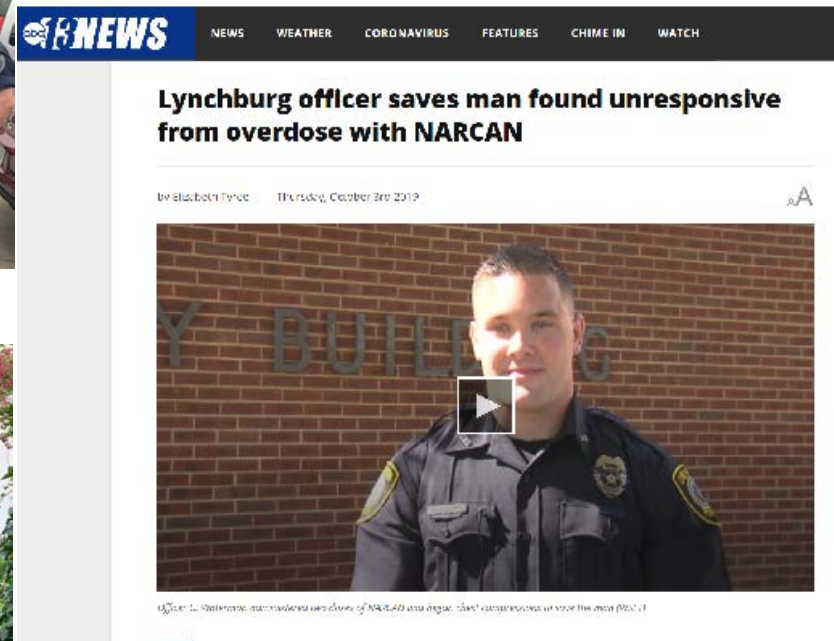
When he arrived, Officer Waterman found a man unconscious on the bathroom floor. That's when his training kicked in.

"I had actually arrived before medics in a situation where someone isn't breathing or they don't have a pulse," he said. "I mean it could be seconds between life or death."

Waterman immediately assessed the situation and determined it was

appropriate to administer Narcan, a prescription nasal spray that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

He administered two doses of Narcan and was able to begin other life-saving measures before the individual regained a pulse and began breathing.



Officer Waterman was the first LPD officer to save a life using Narcan, but he wasn't the last. The Lynchburg Police Foundation was able to facilitate the acquisition of Narcan and appropriate training for all sworn officers. Now, every officer carries two doses of Narcan with them at all times.

We are very grateful to the Lynchburg Police Foundation for the partnership that facilitated this life-saving action by Officer Waterman.

"I had actually arrived before medics in a situation where someone isn't breathing or they don't have a pulse. I mean it could be seconds between life or death."

- Officer Garrett Waterman

WE'RE PARTNERING WITH OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK

18,089 FOLLOWERS
17,037 LIKES



INSTAGRAM

1,621 FOLLOWERS
73 POSTS IN 2019



TWITTER

5,040 FOLLOWERS
199 TWEETS IN 2019
908,800 TOTAL IMPRESSIONS



Lynchburg Police Department
 Published by Carrie Dungan [?] · October 21, 2019

The Lynchburg Police Department is a family. And when one of our family members needs help, we jump into action. Chaplain Jim Whitaker, who has faithfully served this department for 20 years, has been facing some health issues over the past few months. When we asked him how we could help, he said his deck had seen better days. So last Friday, nearly two dozen LPD officers spent the day rebuilding his deck, trimming bushes and trees, doing lawn work, and blowing off his deck. Thank you to Det. Rob Miller for coordinating the effort. We are grateful for the opportunity to give back to this incredible man who has loved and served all of us so well. Please keep Chaplain Whitaker in your thoughts and prayers.



14,081 People Reached
4,291 Engagements
 Boost Post

680
 68 Comments 32 Shares

Our faithful Chaplain Jim Whitaker fought and overcame cancer this year. During his battle, a group of officers rebuilt his deck and assisted with lawn work. We love our LPD Family.

Lynchburg Police Department
 Published by Carrie Dungan [?] · September 16, 2019

While we're sad that one of our awesome School Resource Officers is leaving us for a few months, we're proud Officer Gary Takacs will be serving our country overseas. He's planning to stay in touch with his students at Dunbar Middle through Takacs Talks. Check out more details below!
<https://www.wsls.com/.../local-police-officers-promise-to-sti...>

WSLS.COM
Local police officer's promise to still impact middle school students while deployed in Middle East

7,323 People Reached
910 Engagements
 Boost Post

191
 20 Comments 21 Shares



Lynchburg Police Department
 Published by Carrie Dungan [?] · August 21, 2019

Tonight, we walked with One Community One Voice Lynchburg, Virginia through some city neighborhoods that have seen increased crime over the past two weeks. As your partners, we want to make sure you have resources to know how to recognize and report suspicious activity. Always call 911 if you see anything mentioned in the picture below. Please call us at 434-847-1602 if you have questions or for non-emergency issues.

7,552 People Reached
2,733 Engagements
 Boost Post

126
 7 Comments 23 Shares



In 2019, we held three community walks in high-crime areas to speak with residents and discuss their concerns. Members of our Intelligence and Patrol Units created an action plan that successfully reduced violent crime rates in the College Hill area.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS



Traffic - Change from 2018

- Accidents with Property Damage **↑ 59%**
- Accidents with Personal Injury **↓ 31%**
- Fatal Accidents **↓ 64%**
- Total Accidents **No change**
- Total Traffic Summonses **↑ 23%**

CRIME STATISTICS — CHANGE OVER 2018

Violent Criminal Offenses

- Homicide **↓ 75%**
- Sex Offense (forcible) **↓ 7%**
- Robbery **↑ 46%**
- Aggravated Assault **↑ 8%**

Property Criminal Offenses

- Burglary **↑ 43%**
- Larceny **↑ 4%**
- Larceny from Auto **↑ 33%**
- Auto Theft **↓ 1%**
- Arson **↓ 18%**



INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS

Type	2019	Exonerated	Unfounded	Non-Sustained	Sustained	Policy Review	Pending	Other
Citizen Initiated Demeanor Complaint	19	8	6	0	2	0	1	
Employee Initiated Demeanor Complaint	11	0	0	0	6	1	1	3
Citizen Initiated Allegations of Misconduct	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	
Employee Initiated Allegations of Misconduct	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Use of Force Events	51							

EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED FOR PERFORMANCE



Citizen Commendations

Christine Kennedy
Warren Fields
Crystal Ogden

Chief's Challenge Awards

Speeding Mike Bauserman
DUI Alex Lucy
DUI Garrett Waterman
Child Restraint Mike Bauserman
Seat Belt Mike Bauserman

Honorable Service Certificate

Ethan Craft Danny Marks
Tim Tillman Lori Westervelt

Team Achievement Citation

Traffic Unit:

Lisa Singleton Nathan Hertzog
Mike Bauserman Alex Lucy

SIRT:

Jonathan Bragg Titus Burgess
Greg Coleman Joel Hinkley
John Pavia Luke Schartiger

Criminal Investigations:

Candace Ball Todd Barley
Hans Blomquist Jonathan Bragg
Luke Bryan Rodney Carson
Chad Davis David Dempsey
David Dubie Sydney Duncan
David Goddell Joel Hinkley
Rob Miller Bobby Moore
Nils Olsson Kevin Poindexter
Joseph Tucker

Commonwealth's Attorney Award

Jenna Collins

Honorable Service Plaque

Matt Closs Sydney Duncan
James Goggins, Jr. Scott Glass
Nathan Hendrix Nils Olsson
Thomas Sawyer Luke Schartiger
Kevin Singleton Joseph Tucker
Andrew Turner Randall Williams

Meritorious Service Award

Candace Ball

Life Saving Medal

Kayla Young

Police Star Medal

Sydney Duncan
Nathan Hendrix
Mike Iazzi
Jordan Spaeth

Purple Heart

Nicholas Kirby

Medal of Honor

K-9 Arko
Miles Davis
Nathan Godsie
Nicholas Kirby
Thomas Sawyer
Roy Young

Chief's Award

Judy Hash

Officer of the Year

Luke Schartiger

2019 Officers of the Month

Todd Rodes
Scott Glass
Chad Davis
Dave Dempsey
Collin Byrne
James Kurtz
Tereika Grooms
Matthew Bonferraro
Luke Bryan
Josh Massie
Nathan Hendrix
Kelsey File and K-9 Odin



WHY JOIN THE LPD?

- Become a part of a community where you feel like you are truly making a difference
- Competitive pay and excellent benefits
- Diverse range of career progression opportunities, including Crime Scene, Intelligence, K-9, Crisis Negotiation, and Tactical Unit
- We are a family that will support you and your family when you need it most



“Coming from a big city like NYC and big department like NYPD, I felt like the work that I was doing wasn't really enough and I felt like I wasn't really helping anyone – just going from one call to the next. Now, when I deal with a victim, I can follow up and help them even after that call. I can go back the next day and check on them.”

- Officer Liary Polanco



“I always knew I was going to go into law enforcement, then I fell in love with Lynchburg and knew this is where I wanted to be.

Everyone said the LPD was the most professional agency around this area.

Everyone here has taken an interest in helping mold me and the other recruits to become better officers and to have an attitude to learn.”

- Officer Micah McLeod



ABOUT LYNCHBURG

POPULATION IS
81,339
AND GROWING

MEDIAN AGE IS
26

MILLENNIAL POPULATION IS
45%
LARGER THAN U.S. AVERAGE

14.2%
LOWER COST OF LIVING THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE



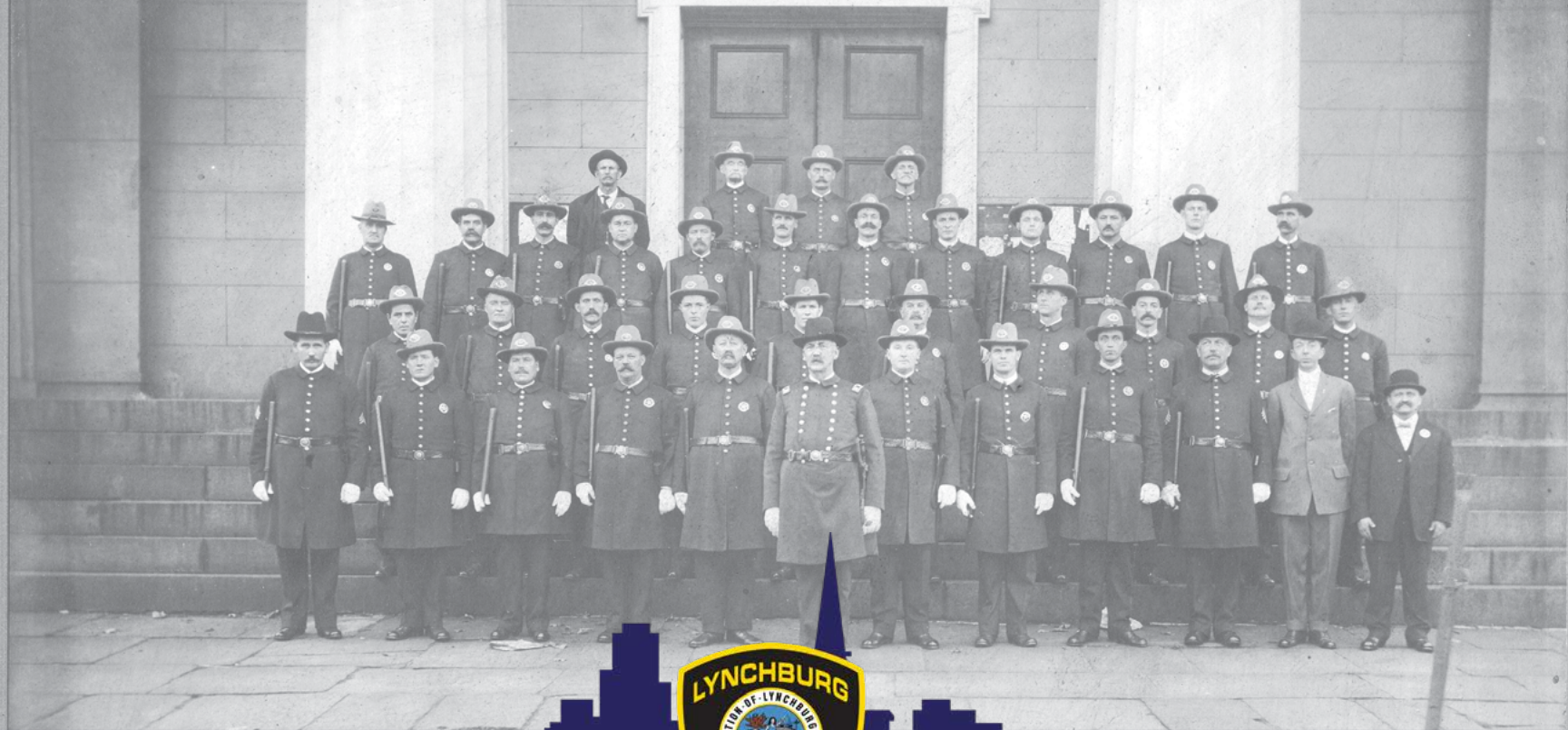
ABOUT THE LYNCHBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

174
SWORN OFFICERS

NEW, STATE-OF-THE-ART BUILDING IN
2023

PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF
32

215
YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE



★ YOUR PARTNERS



YOUR PROTECTORS ★

The LPD values our partnership with the Lynchburg Police Foundation, a local organization that does the following:

- Provide resources to the Lynchburg Police Department, including seed money, equipment and in-kind services, to provide advanced training and encourage the development of innovative programs and projects.
- Promote and encourage citizen involvement in the activities of the department through increased communications and prioritization of police services.
- Recognize department members and citizens of the City of Lynchburg by rewarding and promoting outstanding performance throughout the Department and community.
- Provide assistance and support to those serving as police officers in the City of Lynchburg by increasing public awareness of the role of police officers in modern society.



**LYNCHBURG POLICE
FOUNDATION**
CITIZEN SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

“Public safety cannot rest on the shoulders of law enforcement agencies alone but is dependent upon a partnership between business leaders, active citizen involvement, government support and a proactive professional police department. The Lynchburg Police Foundation fosters this mutually beneficial relationship within our community to promote excellence in police services.”

-Rick Loving, President, Lynchburg Police Foundation