Division of Capitol Police
News Release

Capitol Police send record class to academy

RICHMOND – The Virginia Division of Capitol Police announced Monday it is sending a record number of newly hired officers to the Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy.

Eleven new officers advanced through the screening process from an original group of more than 300 applicants. The eleven, who were formally hired Monday, will be members of the 92nd Basic Law Enforcement Academy, which begins Oct. 1 at the Crater facility in Prince George County. The graduates will join Capitol Police in the spring.

"The decision to serve your community as a law enforcement officer is not one to be taken lightly," said Col. Anthony S. Pike, the Capitol Police chief. "Our society is constantly changing, as are the increasing demands of law enforcement, and I applaud our men and women for their selfless decision and commitment to put the safety of others ahead of their own well-being."

Capitol Police are celebrating their 400th anniversary in 2018, tracing their heritage to the first permanent English settlement at Jamestown.

"It takes a special person to decide to dedicate themselves to law enforcement," Pike said. "Our ability to attract new officers is the result of lots of hard work by members of our division. We've come together as a team and been able to show people that Capitol Police can and do make a difference and that working for the division can be a rewarding experience."

Pike also thanked members of the General Assembly "for their continuing support in our efforts to provide the kind of progressive law enforcement that the legislators, employees and visitors to Virginia's capitol have a right to expect."

The 11 new officers are from a variety of communities in Virginia, including Richmond, Powhatan, Petersburg and Chesapeake.

##