



Division of Capitol Police

News Release

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2 Newest Va. Capitol Police officers graduate from academy

DISPUTANTA – The Virginia Division of Capitol Police added two new officers Thursday with their graduation from the 103rd Basic Law Enforcement Academy of the Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy.

The 20-member graduating class, representing 11 different agencies, was honored today during a ceremony at the Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy. The newest additions to the Capitol Police team are Officer Lavelle Whitehead of Richmond and Officer Garret Watkins of Charlottesville. An additional recruit, Mohammed Diallo, is expected to complete his course requirements in the coming weeks. Diallo, who migrated from the Ivory Coast of Africa, joins the Capitol Police as a naturalized citizen and currently resides in the city of Richmond.

The members of the 103rd Academy Class spent approximately six months at the Crater Academy in Prince George County covering more than 1,300 Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services-mandated training objectives. Officer Garret Watkins was recognized for his individual efforts as well, receiving the Academy's Top Marksmanship Award.

Colonel McKee offered words of congratulations and encouragement to the new Officers at the Graduation.

Colonel McKee stated "I am extremely proud of each of our recruits, they have worked diligently to overcome the challenges of training. The Academy is meant to provide a strong foundation from which our officers can grow, both in their professional life as well as personally. Each of our Officers embraced this opportunity and are ready to serve our community."

The Capitol Police graduating Officers will report for duty, where they will work with division certified training officers to learn the specifics of their new assignment.

