



Division of Capitol Police News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Newest Capitol Police officers celebrated at academy graduation

PETERSBURG – The newest group of Division of Capitol Police officers took several top honors Thursday at a ceremony marking the graduation of the 94th Basic Law Enforcement Academy of the Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy.

Six Capitol Police officers were among the 27-member Crater graduating class honored during a luncheon at Good Shepherd Baptist Church. The members of the 94th finished at Crater in late March and were scheduled for a commencement ceremony at Good Shepherd in early April, but the event was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The six Capitol Police graduates – Elizabeth Bergeron, Timothy Etterling, Michael Light, Montie Sellers, Nicholas Tolbert and Garrison Wright – have been on the job in Richmond since early April working with division-certified training officers in and around Capitol Square.

“It’s always encouraging to see those willing to make the sacrifice to put others ahead of themselves and commit to public service,” said Col. Anthony S. Pike, the Capitol Police chief. “It’s been especially encouraging and humbling with this group, because as I’ve told them, these are trying times, and this group has spent the past several months facing some pretty challenging circumstances.”

While at the Crater facility in Prince George County, the members of the 94th spent 26 weeks covering more

than 1,300 Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services-mandated training objectives. Along the way, the recruits from the Capitol Police distinguished themselves.

Bergeron was named the 94th's class president and earned the top academic award with an average of 99.08 percent. Ettering led the class in firearms efficiency and Wright was second. Light finished first in driver training. Etterling also earned the 94th's physical fitness award.

"I'm proud of what this group has accomplished so far, and I hope our stakeholders are as well," Pike said. "This group is already demonstrating and practicing the kind of accountability and professionalism that the public has every right to expect from those in law enforcement."



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