



2006

A N N U A L
R E P O R T

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

HEAT

HELP ELIMINATE AUTO THEFT

I-800-947-HEAT

H.E.A.T. Program

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Statewide Data							
Number of Auto Thefts	18,533	18,205	19,366	18,454	18,663	17,769	16,120
Decrease Since 1991	-12.93%	-14.47%	-9.01%	-13.30%	-12.31%	-16.51%	-24.26%
Motor Vehicle Theft Rate Per 100,000 Inhabitants	286.3	277.9	292.7	276.8	277.0	261.7	234.5
Decrease Since 1991	-15.41%	-17.91%	-13.54%	-18.22%	-18.16%	-22.68%	-30.71%

Cover photo courtesy of Trevor A. Wrayton, VDOT.

Progress Report

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
16,172	18,257	18,388	17,566	17,309	15,864	14,765
-24.02%	-14.22%	-13.61%	-17.47%	-18.68%	-25.47%	-30.63%
228.5	254.0	252.1	237.8	232.0	209.6	193.2
-32.50%	-24.96%	-25.52%	-29.74%	-31.45%	-38.07%	-42.93%

Auto Thefts in Virginia Hit a 20-Year Low in 2006

Statistics compiled by the Virginia State Police Help Eliminate Auto Theft (H.E.A.T.) Program leave little doubt that the Commonwealth is winning the battle against motor vehicle theft, making Virginia a safer, more enjoyable and less expensive place to live, work and play.

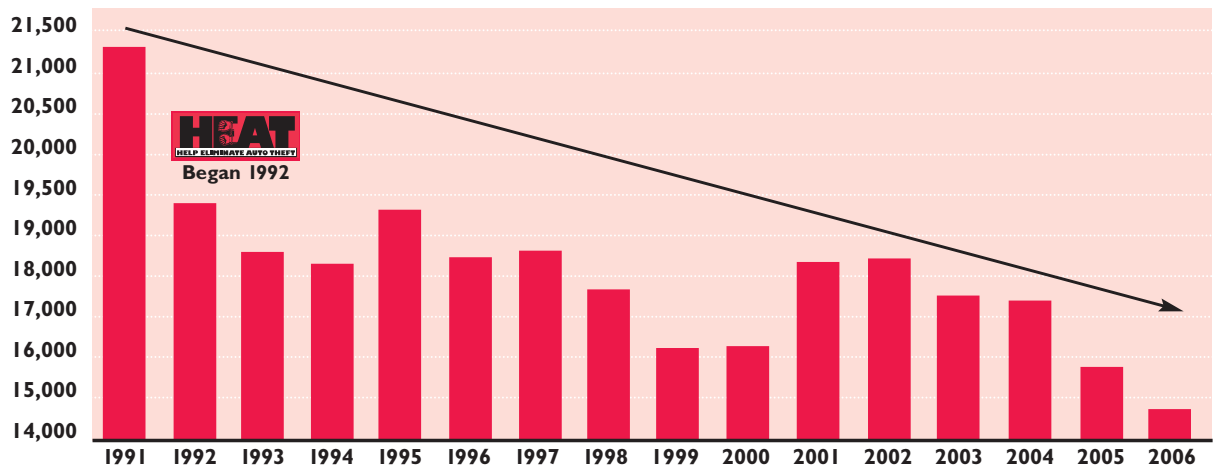
Reported motor vehicle thefts in Virginia in 2006 hit a 20-year low. There were 14,765 thefts, a decrease from the previous year of 1,099 thefts (6.93 percent). This is a decrease of 31 percent in thefts since 1991, the year before the H.E.A.T. Program was established, and the first time in 20 years that motor vehicle thefts in Virginia have been less than 15,000.

(In 1986, there were 12,702 thefts, which increased to 15,022 thefts in 1987.)

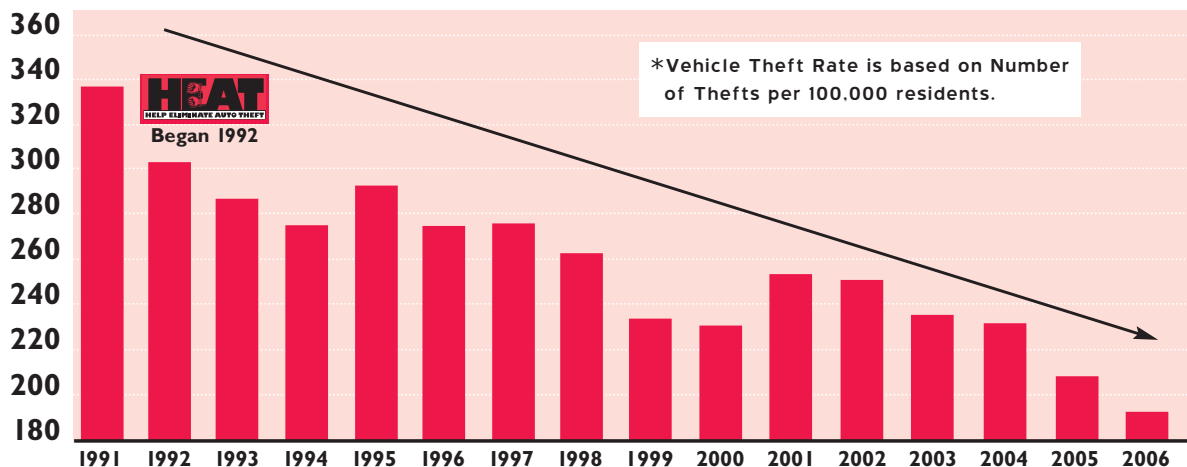
More People, Fewer Vehicle Thefts

“The decrease in thefts is particularly impressive,” said Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator, “when you consider that they occurred at the same time Virginia’s population was growing.” The motor vehicle theft rate – the number of thefts per 100,000 Virginia residents – in 2006 was 193.2, a decrease of 7.85 percent from the previous year. This is a decrease of 43 percent since 1991 and the first time in 21 years that the theft rate

Virginia Motor Vehicle Thefts



Virginia Motor Vehicle Theft Rate*



has dropped below 200. (In 1985, the theft rate was 196.4, which increased to 218.6 in 1986.)

Nationally, auto thefts have also been decreasing, but Virginia's record of success is much better. In 2005, the latest year for which statistics are available, the national motor vehicle theft rate per 100,000 residents was 416.7, close to twice as high as the Virginia rate, which was 209.6 in 2005.

Fewer auto thefts also is making a financial difference. The total value of property stolen in 2006 was \$95,337,370. This is an increase of about 2 percent over 2005, but much less than the five-year average of \$102,609,910, and considerably less than the \$113,933,893 figure in 1991.

Over 82 percent of the auto thefts occur in the heavily populated areas of the state including Northern Virginia, Richmond and Hampton Roads. The City of Richmond tops the list with 1,476 thefts in 2006, but it also posted the largest decrease in thefts – 773 fewer thefts in 2006 than in 2005, a decrease of 34 percent. Fairfax County, with 1,457 thefts, is not far behind Richmond, and Norfolk is third with 1,024 thefts. For more information about auto thefts by geographic area see the 2006 Report. www.heatreward.com/stats.html.

Hats Off to Virginia's Law Enforcement Community

Beeson praised law enforcement agencies throughout the state for their support of the H.E.A.T. Program, saying that their cooperation has contributed greatly to its success. In turn, H.E.A.T. provides resources for police departments and sheriffs' offices to aid them in combating auto theft and recognizes them for their efforts.

Training – H.E.A.T. teamed up with the Virginia Crime Prevention Association to present four training programs in 2006. Two Auto Theft Prevention courses were held – one in March in Richmond at the Virginia State Police Training Academy and another in May at Wytheville Community College. Topics in this course included local/state

auto theft trends, 100 ways to promote the H.E.A.T. Program, auto-theft prevention

strategies and devices, and VIN (vehicle identification number) etching. The training concluded with participants conducting a public VIN etching event. H.E.A.T. also participated in two VACP Basic Crime Prevention schools – one in February at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy and one in April at the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy in Newport News.

Other training for local law enforcement in 2006 included a Basic Motorcycle Theft Investigation School in August in Newport News.



Educational/Promotional Materials – H.E.A.T. made 80,580 items available to law enforcement agencies during 2006, including brochures, posters, pencils, stickers and key tags. These are used at the local level at safety days, fairs, festivals, parades, neighborhood watch meetings and a variety of other events.

Awards – Three awards programs recognize agencies and officers for their efforts in combating auto theft in the Commonwealth. Winners of Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE Awards, which recognize police departments and sheriffs' offices, LEO Awards, which honor individual law enforcement officers, and Operation Summer H.E.A.T. Awards, are featured later in this report.

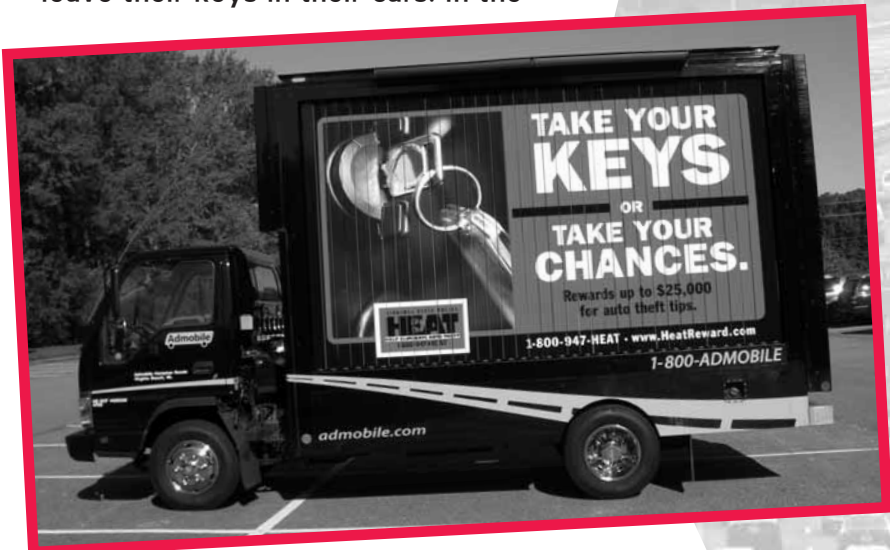
Kudos to Virginia Residents

Beeson is quick to add that Virginia citizens also have played a role in reducing auto thefts by securing their own vehicles and by providing valuable investigative tips.

"Citizens can further reduce thefts by using auto-theft prevention devices as well as strategies to make their vehicles tougher targets," Beeson said. He recommends removing valuables from sight, parking in well-lit areas, closing the windows and locking the doors, and adding visible and audible prevention devices. He added, "Don't leave your keys in a hidden location or in the ignition and never ever leave your car running no matter how short a period of time you expect to be away. It's an open invitation to thieves." Beeson pointed out that thousands of cars are stolen each year from locations such as convenience stores, cleaners, banks, day care centers and other locations

where citizens are just running inside for a brief time.

In 2006, H.E.A.T. tackled this problem with a new television spot and billboard encouraging citizens not to leave their keys in their cars. In the



Hampton Roads area, admobiles were used rather than stationary billboards. This was a first for H.E.A.T. The "Take Your Keys or Take Your Chances" campaign had its beginnings in 2005 with a duratran at the Richmond International Airport. For additional auto-theft prevention tips visit www.heatreward.com/prevention.html.

Citizen education also takes place at events throughout the Commonwealth, such as those that occur in the Roanoke area as a part of Star Country Radio bus promotion, the K-95 Country Fest in Richmond, the Herndon Festival, National Night Out in Martinsville, and Spotsylvania County Crime Prevention Day, to name just a few.

In August 2006, a "Beat the Summer H.E.A.T." event was held at the Diamond when the Richmond Braves played against the Tidewater Tides. The first 2,500 people at the event received a free water bottle featuring the H.E.A.T. logo on one side and the Braves logo on the other. A billboard inside the ballpark also assisted in delivering the auto-theft prevention message.

Another important component of H.E.A.T. citizen education efforts is racing, which is profiled later in this report.



Beeson also encouraged citizens to assist law enforcement in putting auto thieves behind bars. "If you have knowledge of auto-theft activity, including stolen parts, report it by calling 1-800-947-HEAT. In addition to being a good citizen, you may receive a reward of up to \$25,000. Remember, if you don't report it, you're a part of it," he said. Tips also can be provided via the Internet at www.HeatReward.com. Tipsters can elect to remain anonymous and still receive a reward if they are eligible.

H.E.A.T. paid 12 individuals a total of \$48,550 in rewards in 2006, ranging from a low of \$500 up to \$12,500. The rewards paid also included a \$10,000 and \$7,500 reward. The overall average award paid was \$4,041.67. The number of awards and the total amount paid in 2006 was an increase from 2005, when seven awards were paid totaling \$10,925 for an average of \$1,560.71.

"It was a good year," Beeson said, "but we can't afford to rest on our

laurels. We must continue to diligently work to eliminate vehicle theft in our great state." Plans for 2007 include expanding the license plate scanner program and kicking off a "first in the world" VIN etching program for motorcycles using laser technology.

BASES
AREN'T THE ONLY
THINGS THAT GET
STOLEN.
1-800-947-HEAT • www.heatreward.com

Rewards up to \$25,000 for auto theft tips.

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE
HEAT
HELP ELIMINATE AUTO THEFT
1-800-947-HEAT

The 2006 H.E.A.T. Team

Colonel W. Steven Flaherty,
Superintendent

Lieutenant Colonel Terry A. Bowes,
Director of the Bureau of
Criminal Investigation

First Sergeant Bronwyn W. "Bobbie" Morris,
H.E.A.T. Program Supervisor

Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson,
H.E.A.T. Program Administrator

Special Agent Carl J. Fisher,
H.E.A.T. Coordinator

Trooper/Agent Mark D. DeHart*,
H.E.A.T. Coordinator

Trooper/Agent Buddy Davis, III,**
H.E.A.T. Coordinator

Daniel J. Harrington,
Agency Management Analyst

Alice Garnett,
Program Support Technician

* Trooper/Agent DeHart
died in March 2006.

** Trooper/Agent Davis was
promoted to Sergeant and
assigned to the Danville area.

Auto-Theft Investigators

In addition to the H.E.A.T. staff introduced above, the Virginia State Police also has eight Special Agents who specialize in auto-theft investigation. One Special Agent is stationed in each of six VSP field offices, while the Fairfax office has two Auto Theft Special Agents.

H.E.A.T. Racing Team

H.E.A.T. Racing Team members include Burton, Lisa and Justin Martin, and Warren Smigo, who are introduced later in this report.

Racing to Eliminate Auto Theft in Virginia

If you see Burton Martin bearing down on his slicks and coming underneath another car you might have to do a double take on what uniform he's wearing. Trooper Burton Martin,



who is assigned to the Virginia State Police (VSP) Safety Division in Wytheville, could be a man on the move in his cruiser as he pursues a stolen car. Or he could be racecar driver Burton Martin in the #21 Late Model H.E.A.T.

Chevrolet Monte Carlo blocking his own pursuer on his way to another win.

A Family Affair

Joining Burton on the H.E.A.T. Racing Team by driving the #7 H.E.A.T. Chevrolet Monte Carlo is his son, Justin, who shares not only his Dad's passion for racing, but for law enforcement as well. Starting as a student at Wytheville Community College, he plans to attend Radford University as he prepares to fulfill his dream of becoming a Trooper.

Even Mom gets in on the act. Burton's wife Lisa, who works at the Mount Rogers Community Services Board, assists as Team Manager, handling scheduling and finances, timing laps at the track, and manning the H.E.A.T. display where she spreads the word about auto-theft prevention.

Burton and Justin took turns participating in the NASCAR Weekly Racing Series Late Model Stock Car Division in 2006. They ran seven races at Motor Mile Speedway in Radford and one at South Boston Speedway.



Burton said, "This season my focus was on getting Justin acclimated to the 3,100 pound stock car. Although his close racing tested my nerves, I was proud of his driving ability. It is great to see him build his own legacy at the track."

But there's a lot more to Martin Racing than what happens on the track. In 2006, the vehicles and drivers made 23 pit stops all over Virginia, traveling 6,023 miles to a Martina McBride concert at the Salem Civic Center, VIN etchings at Radford University and the Veteran's Hospital in Salem, Fly-Ins at the Tazewell and Mountain Empire airports, car shows in Richmond and Roanoke, Food City Family Fun Night in Bristol and two NASCAR races at the Richmond International Raceway, to provide a sample of their activities.

Everywhere the team went they explained the importance of eliminating auto theft by using auto-theft prevention strategies and devices. They informed their fans about H.E.A.T.'s desire for tips and how to report information utilizing the H.E.A.T. Hotline, 1-800-947-HEAT, and website, www.HeatReward.com.

Up to the Challenge

But probably the most exciting event in 2006 was the First Annual Wal-Mart Miracle Challenge Mini Grand Prix. Hosted at the Richmond International Raceway, this special event benefited two important

Virginia charities: the Children's Miracle Network and the Children's Hospital of Richmond. The race wasn't short on thrills, and brought all of the



energy, excitement and challenge of a full-blown grand prix! The track had hairpin turns, challenging bends and all the speed participating racing teams could muster. The H.E.A.T.

team wasn't just recognized for its sponsorship of this flagship event, they also won the award for best uniforms, made the semi-finals in the tire-changing contest, and sped to fifth overall in the race!

"The Miracle Challenge was a great event. It allowed everyone to be involved, changing tires and making lightning fast pit stops. There was a little bumping, well maybe a lot of bumping. But you know rubbing is racing. We had lots of fun and it benefited great charities," Burton said.



A Growing Family

Warren Smigo, who raced for H.E.A.T. in the 1997 Mid-Atlantic Champ Kart Association season, returned in 2006, after taking off time to earn his Master's degree in biology from

2007 at Southside Speedway in Chesterfield County and Langley Speedway in Hampton. In 2006, Warren, who is a biologist with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, lent a hand at Miracle Challenge as a member of the pit crew, changing tires at break neck speed. He also



Virginia Commonwealth University. This time around he will be racing in the Pro-Six Racing Series in his #41 Chevrolet Monte Carlo. He spent the year getting his car ready, which he will race in

participated in a H.E.A.T. event at the Diamond baseball park in Richmond.

After a busy 2006 of races and appearances for the H.E.A.T. racing team, 2007 looks to be just as exciting. Keep up with H.E.A.T. racing at www.heatreward.com/racing/racing.html.

Weapons in the Help Eliminate Auto Theft Arsenal

The uniform of any on-duty state trooper can reveal a number of special tools, weapons and gadgets, but the arsenal also contains specialized equipment and programs designed specifically

to combat vehicle theft. The Virginia State Police Help Eliminate Auto Theft (H.E.A.T.) Program has specialized decoys, scanners and public programs in its cache.

Bait Cars

Somewhere in Virginia, there are cars choc-full of the latest technology that wouldn't mind being stolen; however, potential thieves might be in for a surprise. The difference with these cars is that the technology it's full of doesn't create the heaviest bass sound, but rather monitors a thief's every move with cameras and sensors. Even if a thief hot-wires it, the car is tracked as it moves and can be stopped in its tracks via a remote ignition shut-off. The bait cars can even help catch those who break in to steal items such as CDs or radios. In 2006, Virginia deployed more bait cars than ever before across the state. The initiative began in 2004 as H.E.A.T. stepped up efforts to trump vehicle thieves and continues stronger than ever today.

License Plate Scanners

What does an Italian post office have in common with the Virginia State Police? Both use similar state-of-the-art scanning systems to deliver justice. Adapting technology from postal-technology company Remington Elsaq, law enforcement nation-wide has stepped up programs for eliminating auto theft by using license plate scanners. These devices can immediately recognize characters on a plate and retrieve massive amounts of data in mere moments. License plate scanners considerably

speed up a process that used to require an officer to manually input plate information. In California, license plate scanners have successfully scanned more than 12,000 plates in a single evening. In 2006, the Virginia State Police utilized license plate scanning technology in several localities with plans to expand state-wide in 2007.

Automobile and Motorcycle VIN Etching

Etching a car's Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) into the windshield helps discourage thieves who would need to replace the glass before reselling the automobile with a fake VIN. VIN etching also aids in the recovery of stolen vehicles. H.E.A.T. saves citizens the \$30-\$100 price tag for VIN etching through its events. Automobiles aren't the only vehicles in danger of being stolen. With 465 motorcycles stolen in the Virginia Beach and Richmond areas alone in just twenty months, the H.E.A.T. Program began looking into a way to permanently place the motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) VIN on those vehicles similar to the way cars have been VIN-etched in Virginia since 1997. In 2007, the H.E.A.T. Program looks to purchase two complete laser systems to ramp up the program for engraving motorcycle and ATV VINs.



2006 LEO Awards

Winners for the year ending December 31, 2006

In 2006, **Detective Damon Washington** of the Arlington County Police Department produced a training video and manual for the Virginia State Police on the use and operation of bait cars. This is just one example of the efforts in 2006 of 40 law

enforcement officers who were named LEO Award winners. Winners

came from Virginia police departments and sheriffs' offices as well as the Virginia State Police and Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and included 16 first place winners along with 10 second place winners and 14 third place winners.

In addition to a first place award, **Detective Washington** also was named the winner of the **Mark D. DeHart Memorial LEO Award**. Trooper/Agent **DeHart**, who died in 2006, was an

incredible human being and a valuable asset to the H.E.A.T. Program. This award in his memory recognizes a particularly outstanding law



enforcement officer among the LEO winners who demonstrates exceptional dedication in the battle against auto theft.

The 2006 LEO Awards were presented on March 21, 2007, during the annual meeting of the Virginia Crime Prevention Association, which was held at the Sheraton Richmond West Conference Center.

2006 LEO Awards

Division I

Category 1: 401+ officers

FIRST PLACE

Investigator Salvatore R. Mule'
Henrico County Division of Police

Category 3: 1 to 100 officers

FIRST PLACE

Officer Christine Hunte
Richmond International Airport
Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Captain William J. Newsome
Southside Virginia Training
Center Police Department



DIVISION I

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Investigator Salvatore R. Mule', Henrico County Division of Police; Captain William J. Newsome, Southside Virginia Training Center Police Department; Officer Christine Hunte, Richmond International Airport Police Department; and Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division.

Division II

Category 2: 101 to 400 officers

FIRST PLACE

Deputy Steve Moore
Frederick County Sheriff's Office

Category 3: 1 to 100 officers

FIRST PLACE

Deputy Jennifer Laney
Warren County Sheriff's Office
Officer John Blake
Winchester Police Department



DIVISION II

Left to Right: Deputy Larry Funk, Warren County Sheriff's Office; Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Deputy Jennifer Laney, Warren County Sheriff's Office; Officer John Blake, Winchester Police Department; Corporal Jason C. Hardt, Winchester Police Department; Deputy Steve Moore, Frederick County Sheriff's Office; Corporal Jason Compton accepting for Investigator Steve St. Clair, Culpeper County Sheriff's Office; Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division; and Officer Tony Zopp, Culpeper Police Department.

SECOND PLACE

Corporal Eric Cutter
Winchester Police Department
Corporal Jason C. Hardt
Winchester Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Investigator Steve R. St. Clair
Culpeper County Sheriff's Office
Officer Tony Zopp
Culpeper Police Department
Deputy Larry Funk
Warren County Sheriff's Office

2006 LEO Awards

Division IV

Category 3: 1 to 100 officers

FIRST PLACE

Deputy Jeff Freeman
Wythe County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Deputy Anthony Cline
Wythe County Sheriff's Office

THIRD PLACE

Officer Wesley Ratcliff
Pulaski Police Department



DIVISION IV

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Officer Wesley A. Ratcliff, Pulaski Police Department; Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division.

Division V

Category 1: 401+ officers

FIRST PLACE

Officer Rickie R. Davis
Newport News Police
Department

SECOND PLACE

Detective Victor Powell
Norfolk Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Detective John Cericola
Norfolk Police Department
Detective Jason Cohn
Norfolk Police Department
Officer Miles L. Warren
Norfolk Police Department



DIVISION V

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Sheriff Bill Watson, Portsmouth Sheriff's Office; Officer Rickie R. Davis, Newport News Police Department; Officer Miles L. Warren, Norfolk Police Department; Detective John Cericola; Norfolk Police Department; Detective Victor Powell, Norfolk Police Department; Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division; and Detective Jason Cohn, Norfolk Police Department.

Category 2: 101 to 400 officers

FIRST PLACE

Sheriff Bill Watson
Portsmouth Sheriff's Office

Category 3: 1 to 100 officers

THIRD PLACE

Officer Christie A. Bolton
Smithfield Police Department

Division VI

Category 2: 101 to 400 officers

FIRST PLACE

Officer Daniel K. Moore
Roanoke City Police Department
Detective James W. Price
Roanoke City Police Department

SECOND PLACE

Officer Robert B. Stewart
Roanoke City Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Investigator Jerry A. Hagerman, Ret.
Pittsylvania County
Sheriff's Office
Investigator Bo Johnson
Pittsylvania County
Sheriff's Office
Detective Daniel Meyer
Roanoke City Police Department



DIVISION VI

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Administrator; Investigator Jerry A. Hagerman, Ret., Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office; Officer Robert B. Stewart, Roanoke City Police Department; Detective Daniel Meyer, Roanoke City Police Department; Detective James W. Price, Roanoke City Police Department; Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division; and Officer Daniel K. Moore, Roanoke City Police Department.

Division VII

Category 1: 401+ officers

FIRST PLACE

Detective Rolando A. Estrella
Fairfax County Police
Department

Category 2: 101 to 400 officers

FIRST PLACE

Detective Damon L. Washington
Arlington County Police
Department



DIVISION VII

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Detective Damon L. Washington, Arlington County Police Department; Detective Ron Estrella, Fairfax County Police Department; and Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division.

2006 LEO Awards

Division VIII

Virginia Department of State Police

FIRST PLACE

Trooper Preston W. Knott
Trooper Andrew W. Gunderson
Analyst Daniel J. Harrington

SECOND PLACE

Trooper John F. McAfee
Trooper James W. Buttrey
Trooper L. A. Mann
Trooper P. John Nixon
Trooper Edmund S. McCracken

THIRD PLACE

Trooper Gregory R. Duke
Trooper Charles M. Kain

Division IX

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

FIRST PLACE

Senior Special Agent
Richard Knick

Mark D. DeHart Memorial LEO Award

Detective Damon L. Washington
Arlington County Police
Department

MARK D. DEHART MEMORIAL LEO AWARD

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Detective Damon L. Washington, Arlington County Police Department; and Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division.



DIVISION VIII Virginia State Police

Left to Right: Trooper Charles M. Kain; Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division; Trooper L. A. Mann; Trooper Gregory R. Duke; Daniel J. Harrington, H.E.A.T. Program Analyst; Trooper John F. McAfee; Trooper Andrew W. Gunderson; Trooper P. John Nixon; Trooper James W. Buttrey; Trooper Preston W. Knott; Trooper Edmund S. McCracken, III; and Senior Special Agent Randy Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.



DIVISION IX Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

Left to Right: Senior Special Agent Randy R. Beeson, Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program Administrator; Senior Special Agent Richard Knick, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles; and Captain Robert Tavenner, Virginia State Police, Support Services Division.



2006 LEO Awards

Brief summaries of each first place winner's accomplishments

Division I, Category 1

Investigator Salvatore R. Mule'

County of Henrico Division of Police

Investigator Mule's efforts in the fight against auto theft included maintaining the Division's "hot cars" site, which allows officers to access a current list of stolen vehicles throughout the county. And in addition to coordinating with Uniform Officers and Crime Analysts to identify county trends in auto theft, he initiated a public awareness campaign utilizing Henrico County television channel 17 to raise awareness of auto theft. The program had the potential to reach approximately 163,000 citizens. Investigator Mule' has also overseen the testing and evaluation of the Remington-Elisag Mobile Plate Hunter 900. Henrico County recently agreed to purchase one of these units to be deployed with the Uniform Operations Section. Investigator Mule' has coordinated the recovery of several hundred vehicles in the last year.

Division I, Category 3

Officer Christy Hunte

Richmond International Airport

Officer Hunte became the H.E.A.T. representative for the Richmond International Airport Police Department in 2002. Auto theft cases at the Airport usually involve rental car agency tenants, so Officer Hunte has worked closely with rental car management to implement better key control within operational areas. Through these efforts, she helped ensure there were no thefts from rental car service garages in 2005 or 2006 (unlike previous years). Further, warrants acquired in 2006 as part of a focus on dealing with car renters who were not returning their vehicles as specified in their contracts resulted in seven arrests. The "Take Your Keys or Take Your Chances" and "Big Money for Hot Cars" messages were prepared as lighted duratrans, and posted in the new baggage claim area of the Airport, and will be used as a filler for any spaces not being rented.

Division II, Category 2

Deputy Steve Moore

Frederick County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Moore's efforts are an example of how attention to detail and a methodical process can really pay off in the fight against auto theft. Moore routinely makes note of any information provided on stolen vehicles and goes into the field aggressively checking "hot spots" where stolen property and vehicles have been known to turn up. Using this vigilant approach, he recovered approximately \$174,500 in stolen vehicles in 2006.

Division II, Category 3

Deputy Jennifer Laney

Warren County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Laney takes an active role in dealing with stolen vehicles, working on five stolen vehicle complaints last year. But one December evening while on routine patrol, she observed a white vehicle being driven erratically. A call to dispatch confirmed the vehicle had been reported stolen. While waiting for another unit to join her in conducting the felony traffic stop, Deputy Laney was forced to initiate the stop alone when the suspect changed direction and began to head for a major roadway. The suspect vehicle accelerated and continued on to Route 66, reaching speeds in excess of 100 mph, passing other vehicles on both shoulders in attempts to elude police vehicles that were by now in pursuit. The driver finally lost control of the vehicle while attempting an exit at high speed. The vehicle was recovered, and Deputy Laney obtained 6 juvenile petitions for the driver.

Division II, Category 3

Officer John Blake

Winchester Police Department

Officer Blake strives to educate the community about ways to eliminate auto theft. He keeps a stash of H.E.A.T. brochures in his patrol vehicle, and has a H.E.A.T. sticker prominently displayed

2006 LEO Awards

on his cruiser. He is proactive in checking the Winchester Police Hot Sheet and updating the list he keeps on his computer screen in his vehicle. Last year these efforts led to him recovering three stolen automobiles. He also recovered a motorcycle. While attempting to conduct a traffic stop on a motorcycle for a traffic violation, Officer Blake ran the tags, and confirmed the vehicle was stolen. The motorcycle continued at a high rate of speed until the driver lost control, and then both driver and passenger fled on foot. Officer Blake pursued and was able to arrest the passenger. He also located several items, such as a cell phone, that helped identify the suspect who had been driving the stolen motorcycle.

Division IV, Category 3 Deputy Jeff Freeman

Wythe County Sheriff's Office

During the year, Deputy Freeman kept a close check on area truck stops and gas stations, searching for suspicious activity and paying close attention to vehicles parked in lots for extended periods of time. He also met with employees working in these high-profile areas and reviewed with them the basics of how to look for stolen vehicles and spot suspicious activity. Deputy Freeman has consistently been one of his office's leading units for recovery of stolen vehicles each year. During 2006, he recovered five stolen vehicles totaling approximately \$39,000 in value and leading to six arrests.

Division V, Category 1 Officer Rickie R. Davis

Newport News Police Department

Officer Davis' successful efforts are due in part to the fact he is so familiar with both his beat and the persons in it. During the summer of 2006, Officer Davis noticed an increase in stolen automobiles in one district following the release of a particular juvenile from detention. Officer Davis was familiar with this individual and his propensity to steal vehicles. During the months of July, August and September, Officer Davis recovered 13 stolen automobiles and four sets of stolen license plates. In addition, five arrests were made. Subsequently, Officer Davis was

able to apprehend the juvenile, an arrest that led to a significant decrease in auto thefts in the area. During 2006 Officer Davis recovered a total of 48 stolen vehicles and 14 sets of stolen license plates.

Division V, Category 2 Sheriff Bill Watson

Portsmouth Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Watson has focused a large part of his H.E.A.T. prevention efforts in targeting the senior citizen population of the City of Portsmouth. He also encourages other units, such as Traffic, Civil Process, and Crime Prevention, to distribute auto theft materials. Sheriff Watson was instrumental in developing a partnership between Crime Prevention and the Military at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital, the largest military hospital in the world. This partnership helped spread the H.E.A.T. message at two large events at the Hospital – the annual Halloween Safety Campaign and Traffic Safety Day. These two events had an approximate combined attendance of 2,250 citizens and resulted in the distribution of approximately 800 H.E.A.T. promotional and educational items.

Division V, Category 3 Officer Christie Bolton

Smithfield Police Department

On September 25 at 5:43 p.m., Officer Bolton responded to a call for unauthorized use of a vehicle. Upon arrival at the place of business, a local sheet metal shop, she was informed that two workers had left the job site at 12:30 p.m. in a company vehicle to get lunch, and had not been heard from since. The two workers were driving a 1999 GMC Sonoma pickup truck, equipped with a black ladder rack and containing several expensive tools worth about \$1,500. Officers contacted Portsmouth Police Department, Portsmouth Sheriff's Department, and VSP to try and ascertain if the vehicle had been in an accident or otherwise stopped, but no information on the vehicle surfaced. However, following tips and working with the Portsmouth Police Department, Officer Bolton was able to successfully recover the vehicle.

**Division VI, Category 2
Officer Daniel K. Moore
Roanoke Police Department**

Officer D.K. Moore has been working in his district for approximately three years. Though not assigned to any dedicated auto theft unit, he pays close attention to the descriptions of any vehicles during the regular lineup/readoff that are reported stolen. He then keeps a watchful eye out for these vehicles while on his regular patrol, especially in higher drug problem areas. Consequently he made five auto-theft-related arrests last year, and was awarded the Operation Summer H.E.A.T. Award for 2006. The department had 386 motor vehicle thefts along with 186 unauthorized use of vehicles with a combined recovery of 498 for an 87% recovery rate. Officer Moore recovered 19 of the 572 reported thefts. The monetary values for his recoveries were approximately \$112,900.

**Division VI, Category 2
Detective James W. Price
Auto Theft Investigator
Roanoke Police Department**

Detective J.W. Price updates and maintains the Roanoke Police Department stolen vehicle database. In 2006 he attended the Regional Auto Theft and Insurance Fraud Meetings to share information with other jurisdictions and insurance companies, and in July, instructed an Auto Theft/Larcenies Course to the 57th Roanoke Police Academy. He also arranged for two public service awareness announcements that included tips on how to keep your vehicle from being stolen, to be shown on the local television station. Detective Price made 13 auto-theft-related arrests last year, and utilized the Bait Vehicle in known high-theft areas throughout the city. Of the department's 572 reported thefts, he recovered 24 with a total monetary value of approximately \$123,300.

**Division VII, Category 1
Master Police Officer
Rolando A. Estrella
Fairfax County Police Department**

Detective Rolando A. Estrella, a member of the Auto Theft Squad for the past three years, was named the Bait Car Coordinator for the department in 2006. As such, he was responsible for the set-up and successful implementation of all aspects of the new program, as well as training the department's 1,300 officers. Following countless hours of working on the bait cars' mechanics, computer software and equipment installation, he trained each member of the department on the proper response to a bait car vehicle activation. After training officers, he trained the dispatch center staff. The bait car was first used in a district which had 13 cars stolen in less than one week. Not surprisingly, the bait car was stolen within 24 hours of deployment! Arrests made in conjunction with this deployment led to the closure of more than 40 stolen auto cases from the district. In addition to his responsibilities as Bait Car Coordinator, Detective Estrella was also assigned to 68 auto theft investigations last year.

**Division VII, Category 2
Detective Damon Washington
Arlington County Police Department**

In early 2006, the Virginia State Police requested that Detective Damon Washington develop a training video for local jurisdictions regarding the use and operation of a Bait Car. The video was intended to provide instruction to the user on everything from vehicle set-up to responding to a Bait Car Activation. Detective Washington created and produced the video, along with a corresponding training manual for the Virginia State Police. In addition, Detective Washington and Detective Chris Dengeles conducted training for VSP and other potential users. The production of the video required Detective Washington to travel to the Richmond area on several occasions, and took many hours of professional production. The development of this video, and the continued furtherance of the program, will undoubtedly continue to help eliminate auto theft in Virginia.

2006 LEO Awards

Division VIII

Trooper Andrew W. Gunderson **Virginia State Police**

On August 23, Trooper Andrew Gunderson noticed a 2005 Honda Civic four-door that had been spray-painted blue. A license plate check through the DMV revealed the vehicle was improperly registered, and should be red in color. He approached the vehicle to find there were two people asleep in the front seat. He conducted a check of the VIN and revealed that the vehicle had been stolen a few days earlier, on August 17. Both subjects were taken into custody. During a search of the vehicle, marijuana and glass smoking devices were found. The insurance company valued the vehicle at \$10,000, and the driver was charged with Grand Larceny and possession of marijuana, second offense. Trooper Gunderson's efforts are a good example of how sometimes a vehicle recovery nets more than just the vehicle.

Division VIII

Trooper Preston W. Knott **Virginia State Police**

In September, Trooper Preston Knott conducted a traffic stop on a pickup truck for an expired inspection sticker. In the bed of the truck was a motorcycle frame and motor. Trooper Knott ran the VIN on the bike frame through the DMV, and discovered the bike was stolen from Waynesboro. As a result of intelligence Trooper Knott gathered from the driver, a search warrant was obtained for Mizes Salvage Yard in Lyndhurst, Va. Upon execution of the search warrant, 902 open vehicle titles were seized. Also, another stolen motorcycle was recovered, along with narcotics, weapons and an altered VIN plate. Arrests were made for charges of possession of open titles, possession of narcotics, possession of an altered VIN plate, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and possession of stolen property. The DMV also revoked the business' salvage license as a result of the seizures.

Division VIII

Agency Management Analyst **Dan Harrington**

Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program

H.E.A.T. Analyst Dan Harrington has gathered extensive amounts of information on stolen autos and motorcycles from local jurisdictions, compiling the information for H.E.A.T. and the VSP. This critical data has been used for everything from determining what type of auto theft prevention programs H.E.A.T. needs to initiate to what type of bait cars will be the most effective. Harrington also coordinates and attends the monthly auto theft meetings in the Metro Richmond and Tidewater areas. Although actual recoveries of stolen vehicles are not in Analyst Harrington's normal job description, while the H.E.A.T. Program was participating in a theft prevention display at a motorcycle racing function, he checked the VIN on a bike at the event at random, and it came up stolen! The bike was promptly seized by troopers assisting at the event. Analyst Harrington's thorough and efficient distribution of key auto theft data has led to the recovery of several vehicles.

Division IX

Senior Special Agent Richard Knick **Virginia Department of Motor** **Vehicles Law Enforcement Services**

Senior Special Agent Knick worked a multi-state stolen car ring case involving multiple vehicles and multiple suspects, and recovered three stolen vehicles. Once the vehicles were stolen, the public VIN and Federal Safety Labels were replaced with counterfeit plates, labels and counterfeit certificates of title from the D.C DMV, along with supporting bills of sale. These documents were presented to Virginia DMV offices for the purpose of returning these vehicles to circulation. The case resulted in six individuals being arrested with multiple felony charges each in Stafford and Prince William Counties. Agent Knick was also responsible for shutting down a large scale fraudulent title operation in Fredericksburg, using the Mechanics Storage Lien System. This investigation resulted in the cessation of hundreds of Virginia titles being falsely assigned to various vehicles from New York throughout the East Coast.

Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE

2005-2006 Winners

Local thieves were stymied when intelligence efforts by the Henrico County Division of Police cracked a motorcycle/minivan theft ring, leading to eight arrests and clearing over 100 cases involving over \$600,000 in lost property. This is just one example of the accomplishments of the 34 Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE winners – results that happened due to hundreds of activities, thousands of educational materials distributed and untold hours devoted to combating auto theft in the Commonwealth.

Henrico earned a first place award in the 2005-2006 competition along with eight other police departments and sheriffs' offices. There also were ten second place awards given along with six third places and nine certificates of appreciation. Awards were presented on August 8, 2006 during the annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police in Roanoke, Virginia and on September 18, 2006 at the Virginia Sheriffs' Association yearly conference in Williamsburg, Virginia.

First, second and third place winners received an Operation H.E.A.T. Wave trophy along with prizes including a computer bag, garment bag and shoe bag. Certificate winners received a collection of H.E.A.T. items including a portfolio, travel mug and ice scraper.

Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE is a statewide effort of law enforcement agencies to:

Increase public awareness of the Help Eliminate Auto Theft Program

Familiarize citizens with the toll-free telephone number 1-800-947-HEAT and the web site www.HeatReward.com

Encourage citizen participation in helping to eliminate auto theft in Virginia by calling in tips on auto-theft activity

Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE

2005-2006 Winners

Division I

FIRST PLACE

Henrico County Division of Police

SECOND PLACE

Richmond International Airport
Police Department
Southside Virginia Training
Center Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Powhatan County
Sheriff's Office
Town of West Point Police
Department



Division I Chiefs: (left to right) Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Steven Flaherty; Captain Jeff Kandler, Richmond International Airport Police Department; Officer Christine Hunte, Richmond International Airport Police Department; Chief William L. Hodges, West Point Police Department; Chief H. W. Stanley, Jr., Henrico County Division of Police; Investigator Marcel J. Cloutier, Jr., Henrico County Division of Police; and Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.



Division I Sheriffs: (left to right) Sheriff Lynn T. Woodcock, Powhatan Sheriff's Office; Lt. Colonel Robert B. Northern, Virginia State Police Deputy Superintendent; and Special Agent C. J. Fisher, H.E.A.T. Program Coordinator.

Division II

FIRST PLACE

Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Page County Sheriff's Office
Warren County Sheriff's Office

THIRD PLACE

Town of Culpeper Police
Department



Division II Sheriffs: (left to right) Sheriff Daniel W. Presgraves, Page County Sheriff's Office; Corporal James E. Nicholson, Page County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Daniel T. McEathron, Warren County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff H. Lee Hart, Culpeper County Sheriff's Office; Deputy Rob Hefner, Culpeper County Sheriff's Office; and Lt. Colonel Robert B. Northern, Virginia State Police Deputy Superintendent.

Division III

FIRST PLACE

Lynchburg Police Department

SECOND PLACE

Town of Drakes Branch Police Department

CERTIFICATE

Farmville Police Department



Division III Chiefs: (left to right) Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Steven Flaherty; Chief Charles W. Bennett, Jr., Lynchburg Police Department; Chief Tommy Galbreath, Town of Drakes Branch Police Department; and Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.

Division IV

FIRST PLACE

Wythe County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

Marion Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Pulaski Police Department

Division IV Sheriffs:
(left to right) Lt. Colonel Robert B. Northern, Virginia State Police Deputy Superintendent and Sheriff Douglas W. King, Wythe County Sheriff's Office.



Division IV Chiefs: (left to right) Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Steven Flaherty; Chief Michael D. Roberts, Marion Police Department; Chief Gary Roche, Pulaski Police Department; Corporal Rick Riddle, Pulaski Police Department; and Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.

Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE

2005-2006 Winners

Division V

FIRST PLACE

Hampton Sheriff's Office
Newport News Police Department
Portsmouth Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office
Norfolk Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Isle of Wight Sheriff's Office

CERTIFICATE

Smithfield Police Department



Division V Sheriffs: (left to right) Sergeant Leon B. Whitehurst, Sr., Portsmouth Sheriff's Office; Deputy David R. Lyons, Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Charles W. Phelps, Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Raleigh H. Isaacs, Sr., City of Suffolk Sheriff's Office; Sheriff B.J. Roberts, Hampton Sheriff's Office; Lt. Colonel Robert B. Northern, Virginia State Police Deputy Superintendent; and Officer Alonzo Cherry, Hampton Sheriff's Office.



Division V Chiefs: (left to right) Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Steven Flaherty; Chief James D. Fox and Sergeant Ron M. Hendrickson, Newport News Police Department; Chief Bruce P. Marquis, Norfolk Police Department; Chief Mark A. Marshall and OFC Clarence J. Seamster, Jr., Smithfield Police Department; and Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.

Division VI

FIRST PLACE

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

SECOND PLACE

City of Salem Police Department

THIRD PLACE

Blacksburg Police Department
Martinsville Police Department
Rocky Mount Police Department

CERTIFICATES

Alleghany County Sheriff's Office
Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Martinsville Sheriff's Office
Radford Department of Police
Roanoke City Police Department



Division VI Sheriffs: (left to right) Sheriff W. Dale Muterspaugh, Alleghany County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Steve M. Draper, Martinsville Sheriff's Office; Sheriff J.T. Whitt, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office; and Lt. Colonel Robert B. Northern, Virginia State Police Deputy Superintendent.



Division VI Chiefs: (left to right) Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Steven Flaherty; Chief James R. Bryant and Detective Joe Mills, Salem Police Department; Chief Richard B. Jenkins, Rocky Mount Police Department; Lieutenant Ricky Walker, Martinsville Police Department; Detective Jimmy Price and Deputy Chief James Day, Roanoke City Police Department; and Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.

Division VII

FIRST PLACE

Arlington County Police Department

SECOND PLACE

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office



Division VII Chiefs: (left to right) Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel W. Steven Flaherty; Chief Doug Scott, Arlington County Police Department and Senior Special Agent Randy D. Beeson, H.E.A.T. Program Administrator.



Division VII Sheriffs: (left to right) Lt. Colonel Robert B. Northern, Virginia State Police Deputy Superintendent; Investigator Edward Ankers, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office; and Sheriff Stephen O. Simpson, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.

First Place Winners

Brief summaries of each first place winner's accomplishments

Division I

Henrico County Division of Police

The Henrico County Division of Police kicked off their yearlong efforts with community outreach – manning a H.E.A.T. display for National Night Out Against Crime, distributing H.E.A.T. brochures and posters at the Richmond Dragway, and conducting a large community road check and handing out materials at a local apartment complex. They expanded their audience by targeting more types of businesses – such as

placing H.E.A.T. pamphlets at a large local hospital. They increased visibility with an interview on the local NBC affiliate, Channel 12, promoting the H.E.A.T. Program and the tip hotline.

Intelligence efforts included a revamped "Hot Sheet" and testing and evaluation of a new license plate recognition scanner. Even educational efforts were taken to a new level, when a department spokesman participated as a guest speaker at Virginia Commonwealth University

Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE

2005-2006 Winners

through the Criminal Justice Program, reviewing the H.E.A.T. Program and Virginia auto theft.

Enforcement also played a part – local thieves were stymied when intelligence efforts cracked a motorcycle/minivan theft ring, leading to eight arrests and clearing over 100 cases involving over \$600,000 in lost property. And if that wasn't enough, early 2006 efforts also led to arrests in motorcycle and vehicle insurance fraud. Henrico efforts brought it all the way home, with a final tally of 389 vehicle recoveries and 158 arrests.

Division II Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

The Culpeper County Sheriff's Office wanted to promote the H.E.A.T. Program all year long – literally – so they put the H.E.A.T. logo on their 2006 office calendar, then ordered 600 copies.

The Culpeper H.E.A.T. Program also demonstrated how increasing exposure by covering a wide geographic area can make a difference. H.E.A.T. really got around: Culpeperfest, Gordonsville Cop's and Kid's Day, Spotsylvania Hispanic Festival, Salem Volunteer Fire Department Open House, and the Hopewell Methodist Church Fair.

They explored local events that focused on improving the community – such as Outdoor Awareness Day, Safety Day and a Children's Health Fair. They had, fun, too – participating in a Cub Scout Tour and a Park Fun Fair. They were in the schools, they were in the courts. They VIN-etched. They distributed educational materials. They handed out promotional items. They used their LEO Award win to garner local media coverage and were in the local paper. They really did cover the calendar with H.E.A.T.

Division III Lynchburg Police Department

The Lynchburg Police Department serves as an example of how achieving recognition for spreading the H.E.A.T. message can get you even more community exposure! The Department was featured in an August 2005 news story on the local ABC affiliate television station for winning a H.E.A.T. WAVE award last year. The report not

only commended their efforts, but also allowed them to generate even more awareness about the H.E.A.T. Program and efforts to support it. Presence at local events the following months, such as "Day in the Park," the "For Kid's Sake Safety Day," "Safety Day" at VDOT, and the Annual Lynchburg Christmas Parade, reinforced the recent media coverage.

But as any H.E.A.T. participants will tell you, success also depends on monitoring auto theft trends and staying on top of what's happening in your locality. Such as when a stolen car might not always be stolen. When it's used for collateral or payment for drugs, it might actually be a "crack loan." Keeping a close watch on trends like these, Lynchburg bumped up their community presence with some additional face time – speaking to a variety of groups such as the Lynchburg Safe Schools Committee and the local Girl Scouts. They also explored new ways to reach the public – such as a pending request to display H.E.A.T. stickers inside the arrestee compartment of their patrol cars. It's just one more example of how dedicated efforts can make a difference.

Division IV Wythe County Sheriff's Office

The Wythe County Sheriff's Office H.E.A.T. program kicked off the year with a press release on their 2005 Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE win.

Intent on keeping that momentum for 2006, they added a special item to the local crime prevention menu. This flame-broiled effort was the perfect combination of community efforts – pairing safety fingerprinting with H.E.A.T. education and prevention efforts. Throughout the year the Sheriff's Office held a variety of these "HEAT FINGERPRINT" combo's in such high traffic and high visibility locations as Wal-Mart, Big Lots and the FC Mall, all the way to Lit'l Sprouts Childcare.

A strong community presence helped spread the H.E.A.T. message, and educational stops included local churches and parenting classes, as well as health fairs and safety events. H.E.A.T. posters were also distributed to all the area high schools.

Fire met fire when staff attended the Birdmont Retirement Chili Cookoff, spreading the H.E.A.T. message, while sampling a more literal version.

Division V

Hampton Sheriff's Office

When the Hampton Sheriff's Office welcomed a new Community Relations Coordinator in 2005, a position that had been vacant for more than two years, they also opened the door to a full launch of the H.E.A.T. Program. Alonzo Cherry hit the ground running when he heard previous efforts hadn't quite brought the H.E.A.T. Program to its full potential. With the support of his superior, Cherry caught the spark, attending the 2005 H.E.A.T. Sheriff's Awards in Norfolk, and following up with H.E.A.T. training shortly after.

Officers from the Sheriff's Office also caught the H.E.A.T. bug. Seeking to educate juveniles, they supplied "H.E.A.T. Auto Theft By Teenagers" materials to the Hampton Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. These brochures were given to first-time drivers every month as part of the Court's New Driver Information Package.

Efforts continuing throughout the year included establishing a H.E.A.T. presence at a special Classic Car Show held in conjunction with the launch of the new movie, "Cars." And distribution of H.E.A.T. posters to area dry cleaning establishments are sure to help local efforts to "clean up" vehicle theft in Hampton.

Newport News Police Department

The Newport News Police Department is another example of a department with a strong community presence. Throughout the year they sponsored several VIN etchings, distributed large quantities of H.E.A.T. materials, and spoke at multiple community meetings and events. In addition to various local organizations and committees, several churches were included in their efforts – such as World Victory Life Church, Faith Deliverance Church, and Carver Church. They also continued to have a strong presence at Crime Watch/Meetings across their area, educating individuals about both the H.E.A.T. and NNCAT programs they reached almost 300 people in a single quarter just through those

meetings. But that doesn't begin to cover the broad range and reach of their efforts.

In addition to focusing on the general public and overall awareness, they used resources to their best advantage, such as distributing the new Spanish version of the "Take Your Keys" H.E.A.T. poster to predominantly Spanish-speaking apartment complexes in their jurisdiction.

They also had great success in the area of enforcement. Among their accomplishments, they identified a stolen auto ring responsible for stealing vehicles from Newport News, Hampton and York County, as well as a car theft ring working out of the Central and North end of the city. One of the tips that resulted in a citizen reward led to four stolen motorcycles and the surprise bonus of identifying a business selling pirated DVDs and CDs. It's simple: thinking about vehicle theft in Newport News? Don't.

Portsmouth Sheriff's Office

For the Portsmouth Sheriff's Office, it was all about making a lot of people see red. H.E.A.T. red. Grab bags. Brochures. Key chains. Pencils. Banners. Posters. Exhibits.

Hundreds of people who participated in Portsmouth's Annual National Night Out saw red when H.E.A.T. vehicle theft information was shared. Churchgoers who stopped by the New First Baptist Church Community Picnic saw red when they visited a crime prevention display.

Several hundred bikers at Sleepy Hole Park who participated in the Blue Disciples First Annual Premier Bike Weekend saw red when a crime prevention "show and tell" display was set up, and H.E.A.T. grab bags were handed out. Area Meals On Wheels recipients saw red when their meals were delivered with H.E.A.T. materials. Community members who went to Portsmouth City Park for the Third Annual Civic Pride Day saw red, too. And so did people who stopped by the Portsmouth Naval Hospital for their Second Annual Traffic Safety Day Program.

It's pretty obvious that in regard to vehicle theft, "seeing red" in Portsmouth is a very good thing.

Operation H.E.A.T. WAVE

2005-2006 Winners

Division VI

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

For the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, it was all about branching out and addressing different audiences. And if you saw someone promoting the H.E.A.T. Program, the odds are you walked away with a little extra something, since Montgomery took advantage of H.E.A.T. promotional items. An assortment of H.E.A.T. brochures, pencils and key chains found their way to Montgomery County hands.

The Sheriff's Office reached area youth through the Boy Scouts, AHS After Prom, AHS Driver Education, NRVMC Kids Fun Day, and the local Office on Youth. Parents were reached through child safety seat checks. Seniors heard the H.E.A.T. message through senior group meetings and TRIAD senior safe driving presentations. Retail shoppers and the general public found H.E.A.T. at their local Walgreens' community events, Belview and Auburn Community Day events, and the Blacksburg July 4 Parade.

The Sheriff's Office even reached out to fellow law enforcement professionals, speaking to senior police academy participants. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office H.E.A.T. motto might be, "Give us time, we'll reach everyone."

Division VII

Arlington County Police Department

The Arlington County Police Department Bait Vehicle Program has been active since its first bait car deployment in February of 2002, and the department has witnessed its impact in the fight against vehicle theft. In the second quarter, bait vehicles were activated three times and resulted in the arrest of five subjects with charges ranging from Grand Larceny Auto to Receiving Stolen Property. Since the Bait Vehicle Program's inception, Arlington has responded to 54 activations, captured 45 individuals, and obtained over 80 felony and 48 misdemeanor warrants. To date, no case has had to go to trial due to the overwhelming video evidence that is presented to the defense during early stages of the prosecution case.

But the Bait Car Program is just one part of what has become a truly coordinated H.E.A.T. effort. In June 2006, the department conducted roll call training in stolen vehicle recognition to Public Service Aides – the civilians who write the department's parking tickets. As part of the Summer H.E.A.T. program, Aides who recover the most stolen vehicles receive merit awards, and the month of June started the ball rolling with the identification of four stolen vehicles.

In addition strong enforcement efforts, the department had a notable presence in a wide variety of Civic Association meetings – whether it was Ashton Heights or Donaldson Run, Aurora Highlands or Langston Brown. For the Arlington County Police Department it was all about bringing the community into the fight.

2006 Operation Summer H.E.A.T. Awards

During June, July and August of 2006, Officer Charles D. Ball of the City of Norfolk Police Department made 13 arrests for auto theft and recovered 10 vehicles, earning him an Operation Summer H.E.A.T. first place award and the top spot in the competition. Officer Ball was just one of 41 officers recognized for their outstanding achievements. Operation Summer H.E.A.T. is designed to thank patrol officers, who have many other duties and responsibilities, for their efforts in combating auto

thefts during the months when the numbers of thefts are typically the highest.

Winners came from around the state and included representatives of both police departments and sheriffs' offices. Six first place awards were presented along with nine second places and 26 third places. First place winners received a computer bag, while second place winners got a garment bag and third place winners were presented a shoe bag.

First Place Winners

Officer Charles D. Ball - City of Norfolk Police Department

Officer R. M. Bew - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer Rickie R. Davis - Newport News Police Department

Officer J. W. Murphy, III - City of Norfolk Police Department

Officer Ramona Norwood - Richmond Police Department

Officer J. C. Peace, III - Henrico County Division of Police

Second Place Winners

Officer T. B. Badcock - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer Chad Bennett - Portsmouth Police Department

Deputy Jeff Freeman - Wythe County Sheriff's Office

Officer A. A. Hoffman, III - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer Todd Lytton - Albemarle County Police Department

Officer Matthew McCall - Albemarle County Police Department

Officer Daniel K. Moore - Roanoke Police Department

Officer M. S. Motley - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer N. S. Odette - City of Norfolk Police Department

Third Place Winners

Officer D. L. Allen - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer Timothy Bourne - Farmville Police Department

Officer S. M. Broomell - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer J. C. Bupp, Jr. - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer J. A. Burroughs - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer W. J. Fisher - Henrico County Division of Police

Deputy Larry Funk - Warren County Sheriff's Office

Officer C. A. Gordon - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer J. S. Gough - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer M. S. Hearn - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer J. R. Howard - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer D. W. Leber - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer D. A. Lee - Henrico County Division of Police

Deputy Holly McCormick - Wythe County Sheriff's Office

Officer J. S. Morrison - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer D. C. Oaks - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer D. R. Paul - Henrico County Division of Police

Deputy J. W. Pope - Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office

Sergeant Matthew B. Rogers - Smithfield Police Department

Officer C. L. Rooney - Henrico County Division of Police

Officer Ernie Ross - Farmville Police Department

Investigator Steve R. St. Clair - Culpeper County Sheriff's Office

Officer B. W. Tanner - Henrico County Division of Police

Deputy Donald Vaught - Wythe County Sheriff's Office

Officer M. L. Warren - City of Norfolk

Officer M. M. Wrighter - Henrico County Division of Police

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