



VIRGINIA PUBLIC SAFETY *20th Anniversary 1993-2013* FOUNDATION

2201 West Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220
804-648-6299x1004
www.vpsf.org

2012 Annual Report

Prepared for 2/11/13 Annual Meeting

2012 Board of Directors

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Billy Shelton, Director, Virginia Department of Fire Programs
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Matthew A. Gray, Executive Director

2012 Mission

- Assist the families of officers killed in the line of duty.
- Provide education scholarships to surviving dependants of officers killed in the line of duty.
- Assist officers unable to work due to an injury in the line of duty.
- Educate Virginia's public safety community on the importance of heart health.
- Administer the Commonwealth Public Safety Medal of Valor program.
- Administer the Commonwealth Public Safety Memorial campaign.

2012 Overview

Grant and Scholarship Programs

VPSF offered financial assistance to the spouses of nine officers killed in the line of duty in 2012 (up from six in 2011).

- Alexandria Paramedic Joshua Weissman died in February when he fell from an overpass while on the scene of an accident. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his wife.
- Firefighter Zachary Whitacre was thrown from an apparatus that slid on ice in February. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his grandparents, who were his designated beneficiaries.
- Elliston Volunteer Fire Chief Pug Wells died in March from a heart attack. VPSF issued a \$500 grant to his wife at the time of his death.
- Norfolk Firefighter Jonathan Myers was found dead in the station bunkroom in March. VPSF issued a \$500 grant to his wife.
- Charles City County Deputy Michael Walizer was killed in a car crash while responding to a call. He was driving his marked service vehicle. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his wife.
- Boones Mill Volunteer Firefighter John Echternach died in July when a branch fell on him while he worked the scene of a car accident. The incident occurred during a major wind and thunder storm. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his wife.

- Bloxom Volunteer Firefighter David Chew died in July while responding to a call. He was involved in a car accident. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his wife.
- Virginia State Police Trooper Andrew Fox was struck by a car while directing traffic near the State Fair of Virginia in October. He was killed immediately. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his wife, a resident of Tazewell.
- Prince William County Police Officer Chris Yung was involved in a collision with a car while riding his marked service motorcycle on December 30. VPSF issued a \$2,000 grant to his wife. This grant was issued after January 1, 2013, and does not appear on the accounting statement for 2012.

Four educational scholarships were given to surviving youth to attend college.

- Katie Garbarino, daughter of Fairfax Police Officer Mike Garbarino, killed in 2006, is receiving scholarship support as she attends Northern Virginia Community College in Loudoun.
- Victoria Lynn Griffith, daughter of Christiansburg Police Officer Terry Lynn Griffith, who was killed in 1994, is attending New River Community College in Dublin.
- Brigitte Wendel, daughter of Richmond Police Officer Doug Wendel, who was killed in 2007, is attending James Madison University in Harrisonburg.
- Erich Wendel, son of Richmond Police Officer Doug Wendel, who was killed in 2007, is attending Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Three grants were given to officers injured in the line of duty and unable to return to work:

- Buchanan County Deputy Shane Charles
- Buchanan County Deputy Gerald Scott Ward
- Buchanan County Investigator Larry Crouse

Medal of Valor Program

The Medal of Valor was given to two public safety officers in a November 2012 ceremony at the State Capitol in Richmond; the Meritorious Service Medal was given to eight officers.

- Virginia State Police Sergeant Becky Curl
- Virginia State Police Trooper Jason Hypes
- Arlington County Firefighter Jacob Johnson
- Fairfax County Fire Lieutenant Thomas Flint
- Fairfax County Fire Technician Robert Pickel
- Prince William County Police Lieutenant William Cox
- Prince William County Police First Sergeant Michael Hustwayte
- Prince William County Police Officer William Dalton

- Prince William County Police Officer Richard Visconti
- Virginia State Police Trooper Nasir Sessoms

Commonwealth Public Safety Memorial

For the third year, work on the Public Safety Memorial campaign consumed a majority of staff time and resources.

In January 2012, the Commonwealth Public Safety Memorial Commission met for the third time since Governor McDonnell appointed its members in 2010. The meeting was for the purpose of approving the new memorial design, developed and approved by the Memorial Construction Committee and the VPSF Board of Directors over the second half of 2012. The Commission approved of the new memorial design with a consensus that the design preserved the most important elements of the original.

Over the course of 2012, VPSF worked to reach a contractual agreement with Gilbane Building Company for construction of the memorial. With the guidance of counsel, VPSF signed a completed contract approved by the board of directors at the 2nd quarter meeting in May.

An agreement reached by VPSF and the artists of the original memorial design providing financial compensation for their work on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia was also agreed to at the 2nd quarter meeting. VPSF agreed to carry the financial burden of negotiating with the artists when the Commonwealth of Virginia refused to do so and it seemed likely that the only alternative course was legal action.

In May, the memorial campaign was officially launched with a series of public events in Richmond, hosted by Governor Bob McDonnell, and in Norfolk and Bristol.

Fundraising picked-up considerable after the official launch of the memorial campaign. Dominion Resources contributed \$25,000; Governor Bob McDonnell contributed \$50,000; Motorola Solutions Foundation contributed \$100,000, the largest contribution to-date; and Virginia Department of Corrections contributed \$80,000 raised during their two-year fundraising drive.

In December, VPSF released the names of 765 men and women who have died in the line of duty and who will be honored with their engraved name at the memorial upon its completion. The completion of the roster was the culmination of two years of administrative work in coordination with public safety agencies across Virginia, our state partner organizations, and national organizations. The releasing of the roster was accompanied by a statewide promotional campaign that included television interviews in Richmond, Harrisonburg, Roanoke, and Bristol.

2012 Financial Report

- As of December 31, 2012, VPSF had cash and cash equivalents in the amount of \$629,626.20.
- For the year ended 12/31/12 the foundation had a profit of \$434,603.13

Balance sheet attached.