



Town of Tazewell Police Department 2017 Annual Report



David M. Mills
Chief of Police

<http://www.townoftazewell.org/police-2/>





A Message from the Police Chief, David D. Mills –

Welcome to the Town of Tazewell Police Department’s 2017 Annual Report. The men and women of the Tazewell Police Department are proud to serve such a great and supportive community. The department is a full service law enforcement agency providing 24 hour service year round.

We work closely with other municipal and private agencies in the area to maintain a quality of life where our citizens feel safe to walk, jog, or be outdoors. The Tazewell Police Department holds the distinction of being one of the smallest agencies to hold VLEPSC accreditation. Accreditation is regarded as one of the key benchmarks for measuring the quality of an organization and the Tazewell Police Department is proud of our status.

This report will highlight our efforts in crime reduction through traffic enforcement, building checks, patrols, and investigations; as well as our community involvement. Our “community first approach” includes the planning and coordination of safety and security of multiple road races, parades and festivals. We also sponsor several events with the help of J&DR Court personnel and a multitude of volunteers which include a Community Dinner, Shop with a Cop and a Kids Fish Day.

Our efforts in reducing crime and our community first approach could not be possible without the support from our Town Manager and the Town Council. We appreciate them for their support. I could not ask to be part of a better team of professionals. In 2018, I am sure we will be able to approach the issues that we face with the same professionalism in order to keep the Town of Tazewell an outstanding place to live, work, play and visit for everyone.

David D. Mills



DAVID D. MILLS

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Tazewell Police Department

Non-Emergency:
(276) 988-2503

Emergency:
911

Website: <http://www.townoftazewell.org/police-2/>

Physical Address:

Tazewell Police Department
211 Central Avenue
Tazewell, Va. 24651

Mailing Address:

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PO BOX 608
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2016 Annual Report

Annual Report Editor: Corporal Leighton

Contributors:

Chief Mills
Flora Sinkford
Shawn Hurd



On the cover: 2017 Ford F-150 Animal Control Truck.

If you have any questions or concerns about this report, please contact: tazpoldis@taztown.org



Accreditation

The Tazewell Police Department has been a state accredited agency since 2006 when it became the smallest agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia to attain this status. The department is working on its fourth re-accreditation at the current time. Accreditation is a continual process that each member of the department is responsible for. The status proves that we are in compliance with all applicable standards and that we are a professional agency providing the best service possible to the citizens of the Town of Tazewell. As stated in the VLEPSC program manual “Accreditation is the ongoing process whereby agencies evaluate policy and procedure against established criteria, and have compliance with that criteria verified by an independent and authoritative body”. VLEPSC accreditation demonstrates the Tazewell Police Department’s commitment to utilizing the best operational practices and maintaining strict compliance with performance standards.





2017 Quick Fact Sheet

Population for Town of Tazewell	4,365
Square Mileage	4 Sq. miles
Town Budget	\$8,858,535
Police Budget	\$1,150,813
Sworn Officers	14
Non-Sworn	4
Total Calls for Service	8,01

Non-Violent Offenses

Total	47
Burglary.....	8
Larceny.....	37
Motor Vehicle Theft.....	2

Violent Offenses

Total	4
Murder.....	0
Rape.....	1
Robbery.....	0
Aggravated Assault.....	3

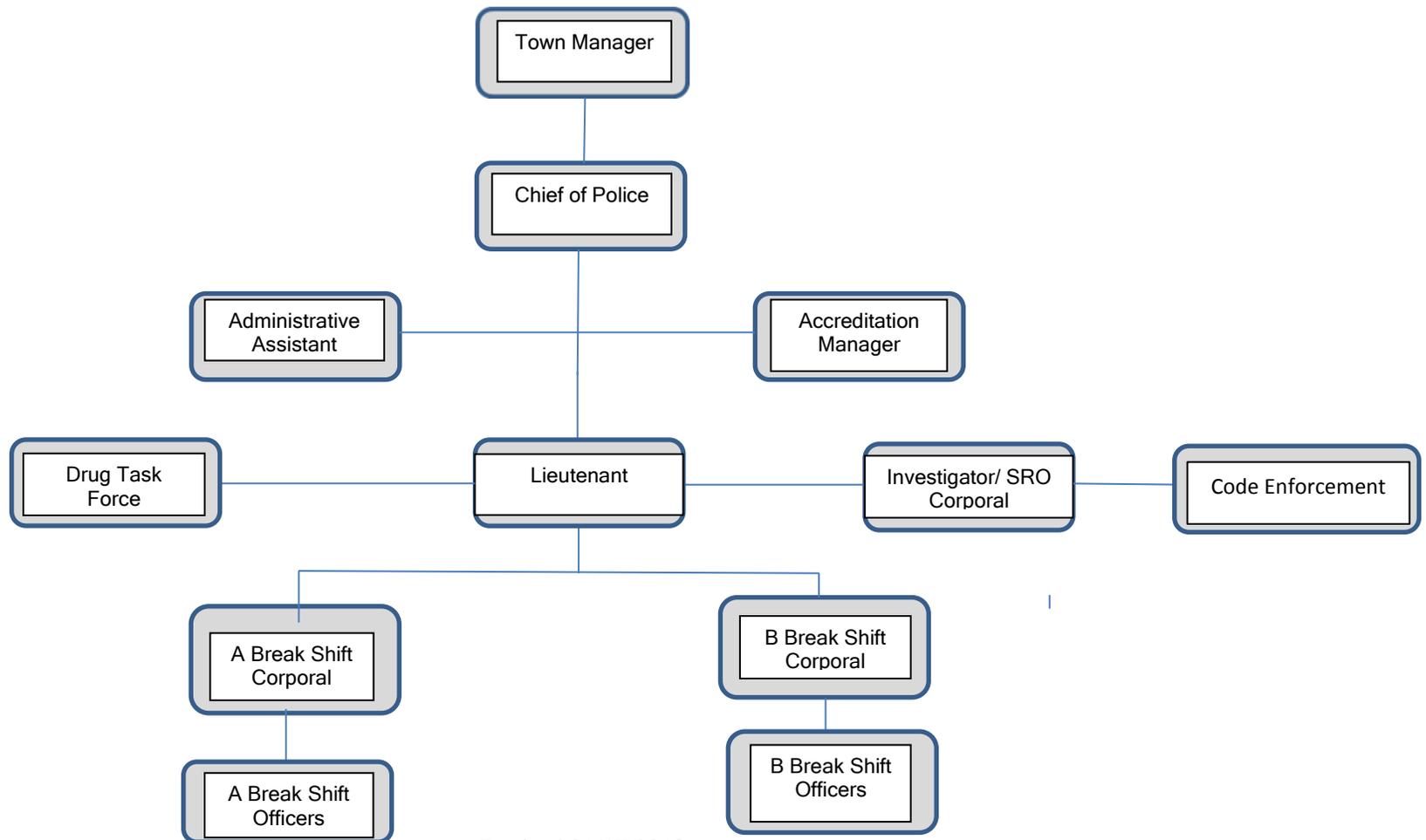


2017 Quick Fact Sheet

Criminal Arrests	162
Driving Under the Influence Arrests	15
Reportable Accidents Worked	66
Inmate Hours Worked	3,016
Total Citations issued	1,036
Speeding	349
Defective Equipment	237
Seatbelt Violations	109
Reckless Driving	42
Driving Revoked	100
Animal Control Calls for Service	2,234
Parking Citation issued	118
Business Checks	227
Funeral Escorts	127
Security Checks	2,755
Narcotic Violations	100



TAZEWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAIN OF COMMAND



Revised 01/17/2018



Tazewell Police Department



Mission Statement

The mission of the Tazewell Police Department is to protect the life; individual, liberty and property of all people within the town of Tazewell, Virginia.

Department Vision

The vision of the Tazewell Police Department is to provide progressive, professional law enforcement services to the Town of Tazewell recognizing that public service begins with a strong bond with the community in which we serve.

Philosophies & Values

The Tazewell Police Departments' philosophy and values reflect a modern, quality law enforcement concept involving every member of the police department. The Tazewell Police Departments' leadership at all levels reflects the agencies commitment to a strong work ethic, while valuing diversity, promoting effective learning, enhancing and maintaining flexibility. All members of the Tazewell Police Department will be courteous and professional in enforcing and abiding by the laws of the Town of Tazewell, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States.



Administration Operations

Administration Overview

The Town of Tazewell Police Department is a state accredited agency and a member of the Southwest Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy. Our department consists of fourteen sworn police officers and four civilian workers, including the Chief of Police, Lieutenant, Investigator/Resource Officer, 2 Corporals, Animal Control/Code Enforcement, Narcotics Officer, Administrative Assistant, Accreditation Manager, Information Technologist/Auxiliary Officer, 2 Chaplains, Auxiliary Officer/Inmate Worker and five Patrol Officers. The department strives to provide the upmost protection to the citizens of the town and constantly undergo trainings and seminars on how to better relate to those in which we serve.

Personnel Training

The Tazewell Police Department takes great pride in providing all personnel with the best training available. All sworn officers have received and passed the requirements for basic law enforcement training in Virginia. The department has officers trained in specialized areas of law enforcement including street survival, community policing, general instructor training and drug/alcohol prevention, just to name a few. During the year of 2017, Corporal Mike Steele and IT Specialist Sean Hagy completed the requirements for Firearms Instructor and Corporal Chris Vass earned his Driving Instructors certification.

Range Training

All officers are required to undergo biannual qualifications with the weapons they carry on duty and during special operations. The department has two certified range masters who qualify our offices with their on-duty and off-duty weapons; all officers must achieve a proficient score set forth by the state in order to be able to carry their weapon. Our department maintains their own range which enables us to train 24 hours a day if necessary and allows our officers the ability to practice with their weapons whenever a range master is present. The officers are also required to stay up to date on policy changes and complete annual recertification on all "less than lethal" weaponry.

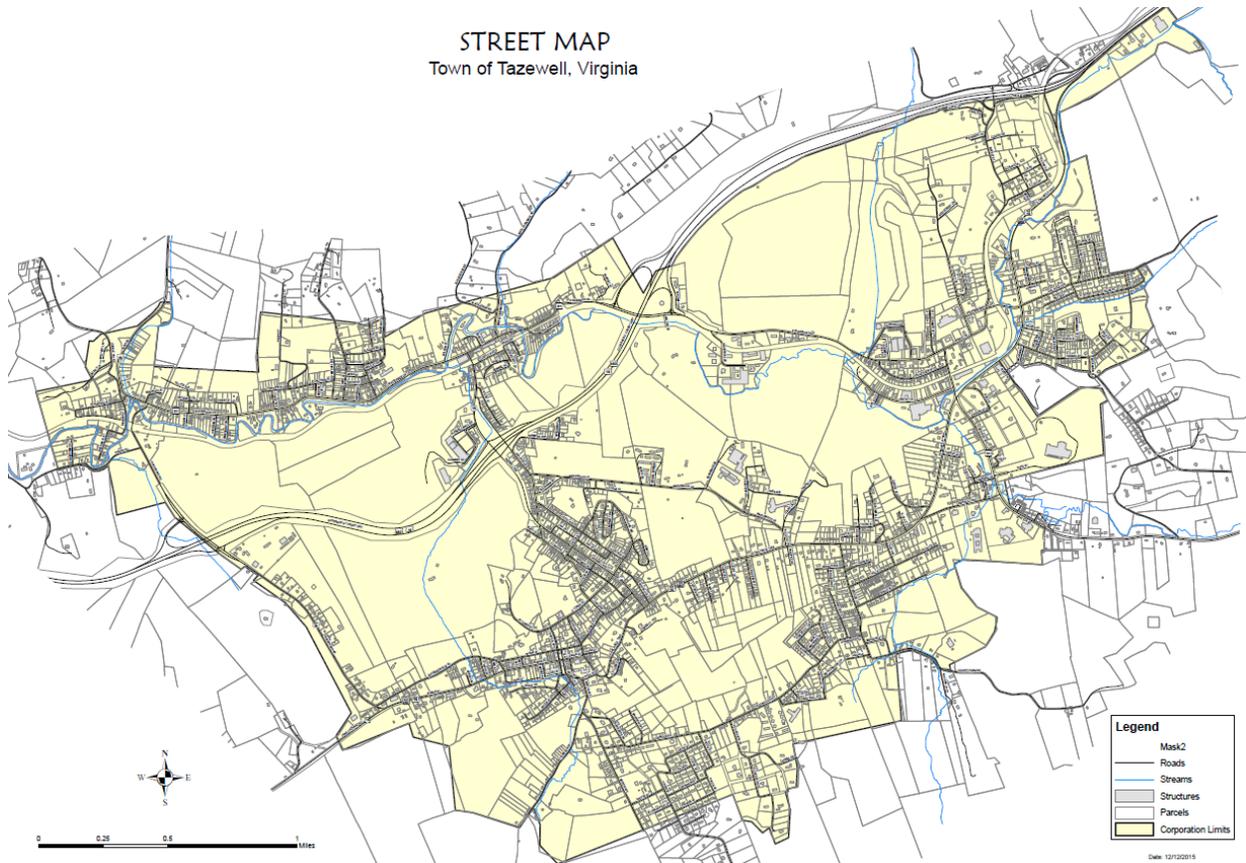


Our Department

- Chief of Police David D. Mills
- Adm. Asst./Dispatch Flora Sinkford
- Accreditation Manager Shawn Hurd
- Lieutenant Stanley Lampert
- Investigator/ SRO Ben Leighton
- Corporal Mike Steele
- Corporal Chris Vass
- Officer TJ Crabtree
- Officer Joe Stevenson
- Officer Matt Fields
- Officer Blake Robinson
- Code Enforcement Missy Woodard
- Officer Summer Hess
- Aux. Officer Walter Barrett
- Aux. Officer/IT Sean Hagy
- Narcotics Officer
- Chaplain Brian Mullins
- Chaplain Rusty Hatfield



Town Boundaries



Town Square Mileage..... 4 Square Miles

- The Town of Tazewell Police Department covers all 4 square miles including both the areas of Tazewell and North Tazewell during normal patrol and calls of service, the above map includes all the new territory that has been annexed in town limits in recent years. Our officers offer the citizens 24 hour services during two shifts. During the shifts the officers check businesses and do normal patrol routines of the neighborhoods on top of answering emergency traffic and other calls for service.



5 Year

Statistical Comparison Chart

Year	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Burglary	Homicide	Counterfeiting/ Forgery	Kidnapping/ Abduction	Larceny	Forcible Rape	Forcible Sodomy	Sexual Assault with an Object	Forcible Fondling	Incest	Statutory Rape	Total
2013	5	30	14	0	35	0	71	0	0	0	1	0	0	156
2014	2	27	15	0	5	0	63	1	0	0	0	0	0	113
2015	2	44	8	0	20	2	49	1	1	0	0	0	0	119
2016	8	32	11	0	9	3	55	2	2	0	0	0	0	122
2017	2	36	8	0	7	1	37	1	0	0	0	0	0	92

Source:

IBR – Statistical Comparison Chart:

Population: 2013 — 4,589
 2014 — 4,543
 2015 — 4,479
 2016 — 4,421
 2017 — 4,365



New Additions to the Department

We would like to welcome Officer Matt Fields and Officer TJ Crabtree who joined our department this year from Richlands Police Department. Officer Fields comes to us with 7 years of service to the citizens of Tazewell County; Officer Crabtree comes to us with 6 years also all serving the citizens of Tazewell County. The department would also like to welcome back Shawn Hurd to the position of Accreditation Manager. Shawn had previously held this position before going out seeking business on his own, he comes back to aid the department in this category on a part time basis.

When Chief Mills was appointed the Chiefs position, he promoted Sgt. Stanley Lampert the rank of Lieutenant, making him second in charge and also Corporal Ben Leighton was also appointed to the position of Investigator for the department.

We would like to congratulate everyone on their new positions and know they will do whatever possible to protect the citizens of the Town of Tazewell.



Farewells

2017 brought some major changes to our department, Dewitt Cooper and Darren Jessee resigned their positions with the department after years working for the town. Dewitt Cooper left the Chief position and Darren Jessee resigned from the Investigator position.

We would like to say good bye to the following officers who left our department to seek other employment: Officer Daniel Thomas left us after three years and went to work for Bluefield Virginia Police Department, and Officer Brian Chapman left us to join the force at Bristol Police Department after a brief stay serving the citizens of Tazewell. Officer Chris Shortridge and Officer K. Joe Jessee chose to leave police work after serving the citizens with a combined four years with the department.



Special Enforcement

Throughout 2017, the Special Enforcement Unit participated in various “Click it or Ticket” operations, conducted 24 checkpoints and a total of 84 hours of saturated patrol. Through these efforts 1,036 citations were issued during the year for various offenses including: 349 speeding, 237 defective equipment, and 100 driving revoked. Our officers also handled 127 funeral escorts throughout town which all were led by a Patrol Vehicle with emergency lights activated and assisted businesses with 93 bank escorts.

Several agencies in Southwest Virginia attended the “Click it or Ticket” kick-off event, emphasizing the nationwide mobilization to save lives by strongly enforcing occupant protection laws, to include both belt and child restraint violations. This thirteen year old campaign is a nationwide law enforcement and public awareness effort to promote seatbelt and occupant safety among the roadways of the state of Virginia. Throughout the year our officers have issued citations for 109 seatbelt violations.

Along with the Tazewell School System, our department put on demonstrations for the students using impaired driving techniques including a distracted driving course while operating a golf cart, distracted driving simulator and the DUI simulation glasses which displays impairment from .08-.20. With these efforts we hope to educate the students on consequences of these actions.