

## Other VOICE endorsements



Since taking office, January 1, 2006, Sheriff Gabriel "Gabe" Morgan has made amazing strides in the Newport News jail and court systems. Under his leadership, the Sheriff's office and its deputies have tirelessly devoted their time and talents to serving Newport News residents and making the city safe. This is why The Hampton Roads Voice Newspaper endorses Sheriff Morgan for re-election.

Morgan has not only made history by being the city's first African American sheriff, but also in his "prevention is better than correction" approach to the penal system. In March, he told the Voice that this idea was met with much criticism. However, his ability to step out of the shadows of "business as usual" has made for exemplary changes, including reducing overcrowding, implementing and enhancing GED and trade courses for inmates. Sheriff's deputies are also going into The Newport News Public School System and teaching gang resistance to 4th and 5th graders. His ability to see the connection between preventative and rehabilitative programs; and the reduction of crime, shows forward thinking and his commitment to improving the quality of life for all Newport News residents.

Morgan's commitment to the people is also evident in the changes he has sought for his staff. He fought against budget cuts

in the department and for improved pay for deputies and other staff. The improved morale of the sheriff's department is evident, as they go out into our community and participate in various city and community activities, including the "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" event, which brings awareness to domestic violence.

With 35 years of proven leadership in law enforcement, Morgan has a lot to offer this community. Another term will allow him to continue the progress he and his staff has made, as well as, implement new projects and programs that will make this city the standard for what correctional reform be. We believe re-electing Gabe Morgan is in the best interest of the inmates and the public.