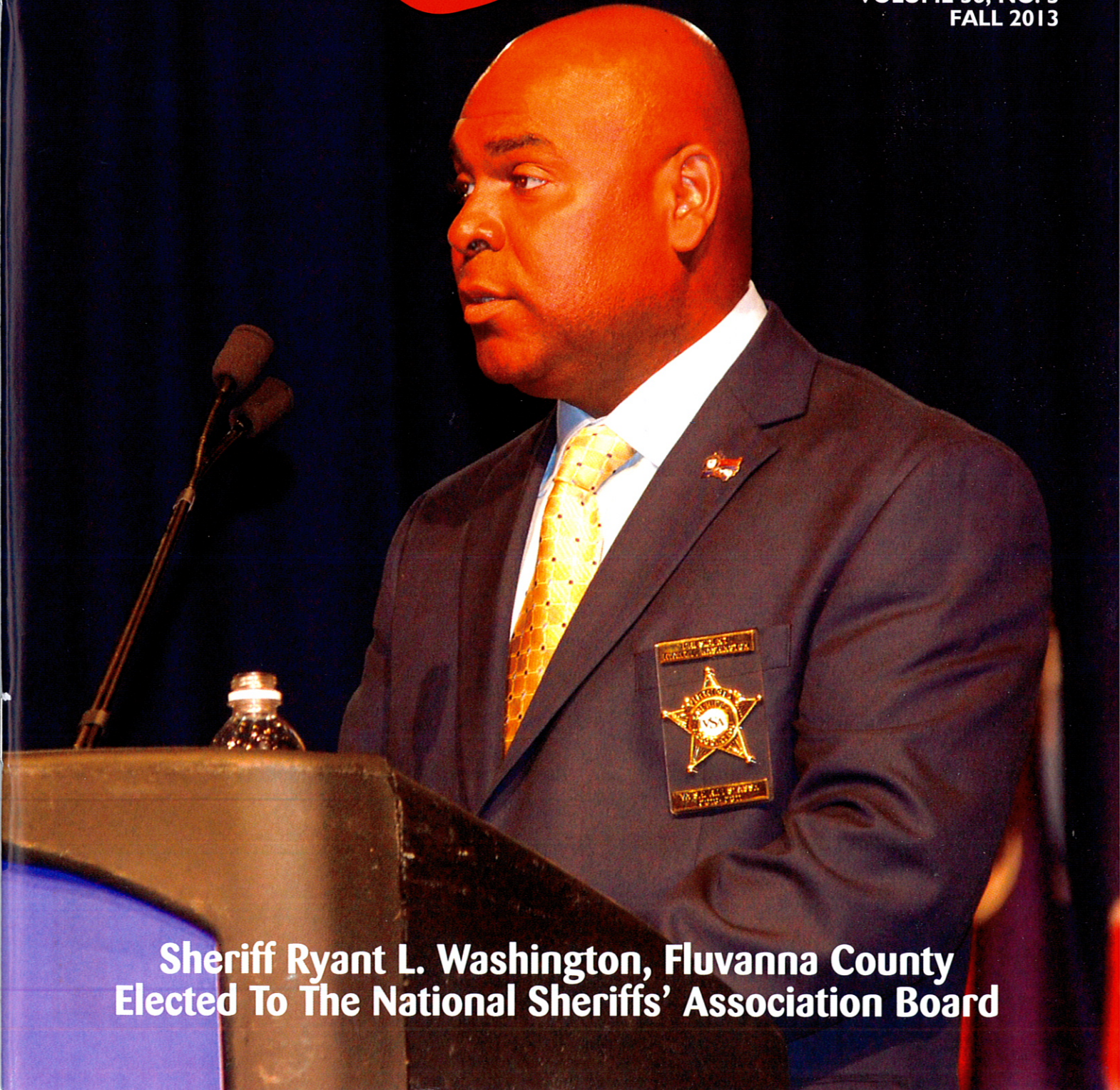


VIRGINIA Sheriff



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**Sheriff Ryant L. Washington, Fluvanna County
Elected To The National Sheriffs' Association Board**

THE NEWPORT NEWS SHERIFF'S OFFICE EARNS RE-ACCREDITATION FROM THE VLEPSC

LIEUTENANT KATHLEEN CAREY, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

On Thursday, June 6, 2013, the Newport News Sheriff's Office earned re-accreditation from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). Seeking VLEPSC accreditation is strictly voluntary. An independent evaluation of the agency ensures best practices are exercised by the Newport News Sheriff's Office. Accreditation standards provide norms against which an agency's performance can be measured and monitored, boosting public confidence in how their community is being served in crime prevention and control.

In April, 2013, VLEPSC certified assessors spent three days going through files, randomly interviewing Deputies to test their knowledge, touring the facilities, riding along with civil enforcement Deputies and conducting other functions for their audit. There were zero deficiencies noted. The Newport News Sheriff's Office complied with all 187 standards set forth by VLEPSC.

With a 100% score, the Newport News Sheriff's Office went before the VLEPSC accreditation board on June 6, 2013. The executive board consists of representatives selected by the Virginia Sheriffs' Association (VSA) and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP). The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) provides oversight.

Following the meeting, Sheriff Gabe Morgan proclaimed to the staff, "It is with great pride that I

announce that the Newport News Sheriff's Office earned accreditation by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. Although it was truly a team effort, I would like to personally thank Major Betty Thomas, Lieutenant Gerald Grogan and Deputy Nathan Jones for being the 'tip of the spear' on this initiative." Thomas is the Sheriff's Office Professional Standards Bureau Chief. Grogan and Jones fall under her command.

VLEPSC accreditation indicates that participating Virginia agencies are systematically measured and evaluated on policy and procedure. Law enforcement professionalism is advanced through the establishment of professional standards. There is a formal mechanism by which all accredited agencies across the Commonwealth of Virginia are measured. Delivery of services is more effective and efficient. Cooperation and coordination among all components of the criminal justice system is promoted. The appropriate level of training for law enforcement personnel is ensured. Ultimately, public confidence in law enforcement is enhanced.

VLEPSC accreditation remains in effect for four years. It is a coveted award that symbolizes professionalism, excellence and competence.

Again, Sheriff Morgan stated to all personnel for the outstanding effort exhibited in this achievement, "We were able to achieve this accreditation with no files returned. This was only possible because of the hard work of each and every member of the 'NNSO Team.' I am proud to be your 'coach.'"



Chief Timothy Longo, VLEPSC Chairman, presented Newport News Sheriff Gabe Morgan and representatives of the NNSO with the Certificate of Accreditation. Pictured are Major Betty Thomas, NNSO Professional Standards Bureau Chief; Chief Longo; NNSO Deputy Nathan Jones; NNSO Lieutenant Gerald Grogan; and Sheriff Morgan.



Newport News Sheriff Gabe Morgan addresses the VLEPSC board as part of the accreditation review process.