

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Contact:**

Debbie George

757-514-4106

757-374-1770

### **New Officers Join Department**

Suffolk Police Department's numbers grew by six recently, with the graduation of Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy's Basic Law Enforcement class last month. While at the academy, the new officers received training that included firearms, driving, defensive tactics, accident investigation, criminal and traffic laws, patrol techniques and first aid and c.p.r..

These officers have returned to the department and are currently attending five weeks of in house training. Once the classroom portion is complete, the officers will complete several weeks of field training with Field Training Officers.

The new officers include:

***Officer Robert Plowman**, age 28, is originally from Reno, Nevada. He chose the Suffolk Police Department because he had heard only good things about the department and wanted to serve the community he lives in. Plowman's family, parents Mark and Shonna Plowman and brother Jason are very supportive of his new career. Plowman has many interests and is a talented automotive painter, whose work has appeared in magazines.*

***Officer Andrew Fenneman**, age 49, is from Columbus, Ohio. When not working, the retired military man loves spending time with his family, wife Shari, daughters Tonya, Chantilly, Felicia, Holly and Niya and son Joshua. Fenneman*

*hopes to have a positive impact on the Suffolk community. He now calls Suffolk his home.*

**Officer Kenneth Cross**, is originally from Tampa, Florida. The thirty-three year old chose the Suffolk Police Department because of the size of the City and the resources and equipment the department has available. Cross has been married for eleven years and has two sons and a daughter. In addition to being a police officer, father and husband, Cross is also a business owner.

**Officer Joseph Bowden**, age 38, is originally from Fayetteville, North Carolina. Bowden was a police officer in North Carolina before joining the Suffolk Police Department. His biggest challenge in the academy was defensive tactics. Bowden, his wife Donna and daughter Chloe currently live in Carrollton.

**Officer James Sobers Jr.**, age 23, is originally from Florida. He chose the Suffolk Police Department because of its size and opportunities for advancement Sobers' found legal research exams to be his biggest challenge in the academy. His family and loved ones were extremely supportive during the academy. In his off duty time, Sobers likes to rock climb and go white water rafting.

**Officer Jay Burton** is originally from Bainbridge, Maryland. The thirty-eight year old believes that learning Suffolk's streets and neighborhoods will be his biggest challenge. Burton's family includes his father Jay and brothers Richard, Timothy and James (Green) and sister Robin Hardy. Burton currently calls Suffolk home and hopes to be the best officer he can possibly be.