



NEWS

JANUARY 2020

Eleven Deputies Graduate from Criminal Justice Academy

Congratulations to the [11 deputy sheriffs who recently graduated from Session 141 of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy](#)! Deputy Carlos Cañas was named class president and spoke at the December 16 graduation ceremony at George Mason University. The deputies successfully completed nearly six months of training including emergency vehicle operations, firearms training, defensive and control tactics, crash investigation, basic legal training, jail and courthouse procedures, and other key areas.



Operation Elf Serves Children of Inmates During the Holidays

Nearly [200 children of Alexandria inmates received toys, games, books and other gifts](#) this holiday season, thanks to Operation Elf supporters and the Sheriff's Office. The week before Christmas, families visited the Sheriff's Office to select donated toys, books, games and even gift cards for kids who have a parent incarcerated at the Adult Detention Center. This annual program helps inmates and their families stay connected during the holidays, which encourages a smoother transition once ex-offenders return to the community.



Deputies and Association Reach Out to Families

The Alexandria Sheriff's Association and deputies appreciated the chance to help local families as the holidays approached. Lieutenant Sean Casey, Deputy Sami Hurtado and Deputy Morgan Garner partnered with Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker's team to serve dinner to dozens of families at Casa Chirilagua's family night. The Sheriff's Association continued its tradition of adopting a family in need through the City's [Holiday Sharing program](#). Thanks to donations from the Association and its members, [Sergeant Andrea Diaz, Deputy Phillip Leger and Deputy Marvia Anderson were able to deliver gifts](#) on the family's wish list in time for Christmas.



Deputies Engaged in Youth Outreach

The Sheriff's Office continues to work closely with Alexandria City Public Schools and encourages deputies to get involved with different outreach opportunities. Deputy Myrna Juarez and Deputy Sahar Sherzai are tutoring students at Jefferson-Houston and [Sergeant Valarie Wright and Deputy Morgan Garner are both mentors to girls Charles Barrett](#). Several [deputies, including Lieutenant Sean Casey, are reading to students at MacArthur](#) and ASO recently welcomed members of Ramsay's safety patrol on a visit and vehicle demonstration at the Office.



Next Drug Take Back January 25

Make cleaning out your medicine cabinet your New Year's resolution! Safely dispose of old or unwanted medications at the [Drug Take Back Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 25](#) at the Neighborhood Pharmacy (2204 Mount Vernon Avenue), Police Headquarters (3600 Wheeler Avenue), First Baptist Church (2932 King Street) and Fire Station 210 (5255 Eisenhower Avenue). If you can't make it, use these [permanent drop off locations](#).

