



Newport News Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Sheriff's Office Maintains State Funding

The General Assembly early Saturday morning (February 28, 2009) reached an agreement on the state's budget. They restored proposed cuts to sheriffs departments across the Commonwealth, including the Newport News Sheriff's Office.

The original budget proposal included a seven percent cut to sheriffs. For the Newport Sheriff's Office, that meant \$500,000 – a dollar amount that could only have been trimmed by reducing staff and jeopardizing vital services.

Gabriel A. Morgan, Sheriff of the City of Newport News, and his counterparts from across the Commonwealth traveled to Richmond and met with members of the House and members of the Senate. They pleaded their case by demonstrating the risk to public safety if the proposed budget cuts were realized.

Virginia legislators used federal stimulus money to preserve some services that had faced cuts. Among those preserved services are those performed by deputy sheriffs.

Sheriff Morgan says, "I am very thankful to both House and Senate conferees for seeing the need to restore the cuts and ensure that the citizens of the Commonwealth have adequate law enforcement services."

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For more information, contact Lt. Kathleen Carey at 757-926-8747 or 757-813-6139.