



## Newport News Sheriff's Office

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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### Deputy Drug Dog Digs Up Money for Newport News Sheriff's Office

The Newport News Sheriff's Office nets nearly \$9,000.00 thanks to the good work of one of its K-9 Teams. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) announced the distribution of funds early this week.

The money comes from the DCJS Forfeited Asset Sharing Program in which law enforcement agencies lay claim to money seized during criminal investigations.

On July 29, 2008 Corporal Wayne Hill and his canine partner Kwade, got a call from neighboring Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office asking for assistance with a traffic stop. The rental car, suspected of carrying drugs, was pulled over at the base of the James River Bridge in Newport News. Kwade alerted to the trunk of the car where a small amount of marijuana was found. The big discovery came when Kwade sniffed out a bag laced with drug residue. In the bag was \$62,000 in drug money.

After months of court procedures and standard review, DCJS determined to award the Newport News Sheriff's Office a percentage of the seized drug money. The exact amount is \$8,924.98.

The K-9 Teams were launched by the Newport News Sheriff's Office in 2006 as an additional tool used to take a bite out of crime. Each of the canines has been donated FREE of charge from various agencies. None were paid for by tax dollars. Yet their services directly benefit the people who live and work in the City of Newport News.

The explosives dog has helped speed the court docket in response to bomb threats. The narcotics dogs have curtailed attempts to smuggle contraband into the Newport News City Jail. The canines are assigned to handlers who work in Civil Enforcement or Court Security. In this way, the handlers continue with their primary duties serving court ordered papers and protecting the safety of those visiting the three city courthouses.

In addition, as is evidenced by the set of circumstances noted above, the K-9 Teams assist other agencies, including the Newport News Police Department and Newport News Public Schools. These collaborative relationships help beef up law enforcement and protect our children in school, resulting in a win-win for citizens.

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