



## Newport News Sheriff's Office

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: **Immediate**

DATE: **February 27, 2009**

NN Sheriff Gabe Morgan Appointed

by

Governor Tim Kaine

Governor Timothy M. Kaine appointed Sheriff Gabriel A. Morgan to the Interagency Civil Admissions Advisory Council. The appointment was announced January 30, 2009.

The purpose of the Interagency Civil Admissions Advisory Council is to study issues related to the provisions of Virginia law regarding the emergency custody, temporary detention, admission, and involuntary inpatient and outpatient treatment of persons with mental illness. The council will propose recommendations and provide advice addressing those issues. The council will also improve the coordination and effectiveness of the implementation of those recommendations.

Since 2007, Sheriff Morgan has been a member of the Commission on Mental Health Law Reform... a commission established by the Honorable Leroy R. Hassell, Sr., Chief Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court. Hassell appointed Morgan to the commission. The commission is taking a holistic approach to the overall mental health system. Areas being addressed include closing the gap in access to services, reducing criminalization of people with mental illness, improving treatment choices, and helping young people with mental health problems and their families before these problems spiral out of control.

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