



Sheriff Timothy C. Carter
SHENANDOAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
109 West Court Street • Woodstock, Virginia 22664
(540) 459-6100 FAX (540) 459-6114 Email: sheriff@shencosheriff.com
www.shencosheriff.com



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we start a new school year, I would like to take a moment to share a few thoughts with you. A new school year brings with it lots of opportunities and challenges. This transition may be a stressful time for your child as they make new friends and get back into the groove of the school day while the summer is still fresh in their minds. These pressures can impact decisions that children make. The Sheriff's Office works closely with school counselors and teachers to reduce bullying and negative peer pressure that may happen. I suggest now is a good opportunity to open the lines of communication with your child and remind them that if bullying or peer pressure occur, report it to you or a trusted adult that can help.

The Sheriff's Office staff is dedicated to providing many learning opportunities during the school year. For the fall semester we have planned to facilitate our D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program in the 5th grade. In Kindergarten thru 4th grade we offer the Governor's Class Action Program on rules and citizenship and while in middle school - Virginia Teens and the Law. We also plan instruction throughout the year with all high schools on Virginia Rules, Fatal Vision, and R.A.D. (Woman's Self Defense Classes). Please inquire on any of the programs I have mentioned through the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office web site www.shencosheriff.com.

We also have been very active this past summer. We successfully completed our second Sheriff's Leadership Camp for middle school aged children. Our Back-to-School Supplies drive during Virginia's tax free weekend was a tremendous success. This effort provided over 365 backpacks to children throughout the county. I am so thankful for the outpouring of volunteers and donations.

In 2010 the Commonwealth of Virginia saw a drug sweep the state that was legal and very dangerous. I am referring to K-2, also known as Spice or Salvia, and the drug Bath Salt. During the last several years, the United States watched this drug move through communities leaving in its wake health problems, and in some cases, death from the use of these drugs. This past July, lawmakers passed laws making these substances illegal to possess or sale. Last year the Sheriff's Office witnessed an increase in activity with K-2 and Bath Salts. Working closely with school officials to educate staff, parents and investigate rumors of use of the drugs was a top priority and hopefully successful in deterring the use.

With no new full-time positions allocated by Shenandoah County government in this fiscal year, I remain concerned that the Sheriff's Office still has less School Resource Officers than we did two years ago.

This coming year we will continue our efforts on educating students before drugs and peer pressure can take hold, and we will work very closely with Shenandoah County Public Schools on matters to improve school safety, atmosphere, and support educational goals for our students. If you or a group would like more information on any of the programs I have mentioned, you can find them on line at our web site www.shencosheriff.com along with contact information to have a presentation presented to your group.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim'.

Timothy C. Carter
Sheriff