



About Us

The Chincoteague Police Department is the primary law enforcement agency charged with protecting the nearly 3,000 yearly residents and approximately 1.4 million yearly visitors of Chincoteague Island. The Department consist of ten sworn officers who are responsible for enforcing criminal and traffic laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the ordinances of the Town of Chincoteague. In addition, officers perform numerous accident investigations annually and assists with traffic control at busy intersections during peak summer months.

The Department's dispatch center oversees answering calls from the public, 911 transfers for police emergencies and after-hours Town of Chincoteague business. In 2017, the dispatch center answered approximately 6,000 calls for service for the Chincoteague Police Department, the National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife. The Chincoteague Police Officers made just under 200 arrests and issued over 1,000 uniform summonses.

Training is very important to the officers of the Chincoteague Police Department, which is reflected by its impressive staff of instructors. The Chincoteague Police Department is proud to have on staff a total of six Department of Criminal Justice Services General Instructors. Specialties include a RADAR Instructor, two Firearms Instructors, an ASP Instructor, three Chemical Weapons Instructors, a Terrorism Awareness & Prevention Instructor, an FST Instructor, two Field Training Officers and two Certified Crime Prevention Specialists. The Department is proud to be a member of the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy in Newport News.

In 2012, The Chincoteague Police Department became an Accredited Agency with the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). State accreditation is the best measure of an agency's compliance with professional law enforcement standards, as determined by the VLEPSC. The Commission consists of Virginia sheriffs and police chiefs selected for their expertise and knowledge. Adherence to an acknowledged body of professional standards may help protect an agency against a variety of potential liability problems. In 2016, the Chincoteague Police Department went through their 1st re-accreditation successfully, with the entire department in compliance. The Chincoteague Police Department currently is the only law enforcement agency on the Eastern Shore of Virginia that is an Accredited Agency.

The Chincoteague Police Department provides the citizens and visitors of Chincoteague Island a safe and peaceful place to live and visit. Everyone is encouraged to report all suspicious activities to the police department and remember, if you must drink...choose a designated driver.