

Contact: Sheriff name  
Tel.: Sheriff phone  
Email: Sheriff email

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **SHERIFF APPEALS TO CITIZENS TO JOIN THE VIRGINIA SHERIFFS' INSTITUTE**

Richmond, VA – **January 17, 2023** -- In response to the need for improved, widespread public safety awareness and to assist local sheriffs in protecting the lives and property of citizens throughout Virginia, Sheriff \_\_\_\_\_ today announced a campaign that encourages \_\_\_\_\_ County/City residents to become associate or business members of the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute (VSI).

Membership appeals will be mailed week of February 13, 2023. Individuals choosing to join the voluntary program can do so for as little as \$25, while businesses can show their support with a \$40 contribution.

The tax-deductible contributions will help the VSI provide relief to families of deputies or sheriffs killed in the line of duty, in an effort to relieve personal and financial distress relating to such incidents.

In addition, the VSI provides essential programs to improve the training of law enforcement officers, public safety and crime prevention outreach, and MUCH needed scholarships to Virginia students pursuing criminal justice degrees.

“Our associate membership drive has taken on greater importance than ever before,” said Sheriff \_\_\_\_\_. “The funding is vital to helping us carry out our mission of making our communities safer places to live, work and play.”

Residents wishing to become associate or business members can sign up for the program online at [www.vasheriffsinstitute.org](http://www.vasheriffsinstitute.org).

###

- more -

Founded in 1981, the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute (VSI) is a statewide law enforcement organization supported by Virginia's Sheriffs and is registered with the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The Virginia Sheriffs' Institute is a non-profit, professional and educational organization dedicated to the preservation of peace and the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Virginia. If you would like more information about the VSI or its associate or business membership program, please contact Mr. John W. Jones, Executive Director at (804) 225-7152 or email [vsavsi@virginiasheriffs.org](mailto:vsavsi@virginiasheriffs.org).