



5TH EDITION—2018

# CSCJTA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## FEDERAL GRANT AWARDED

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Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Training Academy was awarded an almost \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The grant will fund a program that will train officers from our member agencies on how to handle violent extremism and massive crowds like those in July 2017 in Charlottesville.

The academy bought 100 full riot suits, including the shields and headgear.

The academy is implementing the training in three phases: the first to be a 5-day Crowd Management Train the Trainer course held March 5–9, 2018 followed by a Command and Control for Crowd Management held March 12–13, 2018 with the third phase being a 3-day Crowd Management Operator/End User Training held March 14–16, 2018.



Once training is complete the academy plans to have a Homeland Security Exercise and Program Coordinator come and lead 5 roundtable meetings to develop a regional response team. They will plan a mass-scale emergency event for officers to practice their skills at the Shenandoah Regional Airport on September 28, 2018.

## ACADEMY STAFF UPDATES

### Administration

Andy McNally—Executive Director

Heather Gearheart— Office Manager/  
Training Coordinator

Jean Fiske—Records/Registrar

Laurie Skinner—Accreditation Manager /  
Administrative Assistant

### Operations

Steve Arney—Assistant Director

Aaron McFarlane—Senior Training Coordinator /  
North Campus Supervisor

Matt Bosserman—Training Coordinator

Bobby Landes—Training Coordinator

Christopher Knott—Training Coordinator

# Member Agency Spotlight



The Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail (ACRJ), located in Albemarle County, was opened in 1974 as a result of the City of Charlottesville and the County of Albemarle deciding to build a regional jail for housing local inmates and closing the doors of their outdated jails. The employees from the city and county jails were combined and became employees of the new regional jail. The name originally given to the facility was the Albemarle-Charlottesville Joint Security Complex. It was later changed to the Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail in 1996. The jail detains both pre-sentenced and sentenced inmates from the City of Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle and Nelson. The jail also holds federal and state inmates on a temporary basis.



The operating capacity of the jail was rated at 84 inmates when it first opened. Through the years, the inmate population has grown. One of the quickest and most effective ways to increase capacity was to double-bunk cells. This raised the capacity from 84 to 131 inmates. Renovations and expansions throughout the years have raised the rated capacity to 329 inmates. The jail population is currently around 450 inmates and at times has been as much as 600 inmates.

Since the opening of the jail, there have been 9 superintendents, including the current superintendent, Colonel Martin Kumer. Colonel Kumer has been employed by the jail for 21 years and has served as Superintendent since April 18, 2014. The jail currently employs 106 sworn staff and 56 civilian staff. Of the 106 sworn staff, 70 sworn staff make up our 4 security shifts (2 day shifts and 2 night shifts). The remaining 36 sworn staff and 56 civilian staff work in various positions/departments within the jail.



**Inmate Education/Programs:** The Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail provides high quality educational programs to those incarcerated here. Education has been shown to reduce recidivism, or the likelihood of an inmate returning to jail. In a recent Rand Corporation study of recidivism rates nationwide, attaining a GED while incarcerated was shown to reduce recidivism by 55%. ACRJ follows the Virginia Department of Corrections policy established by the Virginia Legislature that anyone without a GED or High School Diploma is mandated to attend academic classes. The Education Department at ACRJ offers classes in Adult Basic Education, GED/ High School Equivalency, Special Education, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Career Readiness Certification (CRC). Religious programs, trade programs, substance abuse programs, and various other evidence-based programs as well as transitional services are provided to the inmates. The ultimate result is providing offenders the resources to become responsible and productive members of our society.

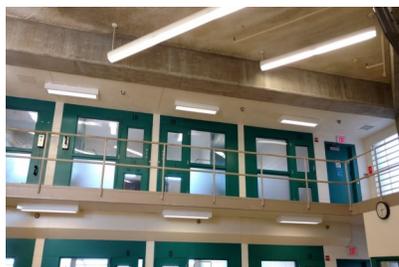
Community Engagement: The Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional jail has organized/participated in and donated to local food drives, held golf tournaments with portions of the proceeds donated to local charities, provided donations to local schools, and organized/participated in various holiday fundraisers/donations, among others. We are members of the local Evidence Based Decision Making Council and the Community Criminal Justice Board. This allows the jail along with community service providers and local law enforcement to make decisions based on local data and trends. We use this information and cutting edge research to develop policies that work cohesively with each agency to provide better outcomes for tax payers, citizens and employees. These programs have compiled tens of thousands of community service hours. The inmates have satisfied hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines and court costs. All while saving local tax payers almost \$750,000 in labor costs.

Each day inmates from our facility go out into the community to do litter pickup, graffiti removal and many other duties assigned by our local VDOT residencies. We also have a weekend crew of female inmates that respond to requests from local residents regarding trash along roadways.

Supporting Local Law Enforcement: The Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail supports local law enforcement in many ways including assisting with events such as the Foxfield Races (horse races) and the University of Virginia football games. ACRJ assisted local law enforcement with the August 12, 2017 “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville. ACRJ works with local law enforcement and Magistrate’s Office to provide transportation for arrestees at these types of events; the Magistrate’s Office will operate from a mobile office and individuals who are committed to our custody are transported from the event to the jail by ACRJ staff. This allows law enforcement to remain at these events, avoiding the need for the arresting officer to leave the event for long periods.



For the last 20 years the jail handles all processes for local law enforcement. This allows the officer to return to duty instead of spending time processing the arrestee. In addition, several years ago we began serving warrants for our law enforcement agencies. This keeps the officer on patrol as opposed to leaving their beat to come to the jail to serve a warrant.



# Instructor Spotlight



**Sergeant Tim Lansberry**

**Page County Sheriff's Office**

**General Investigations Division**

Tim Lansberry grew up in Page County. He graduated from Luray High School and attended Blue Ridge Community College's Criminal Justice Program. He joined the Luray Fire Department in 2002 and currently holds the position of President. Tim started his career in public safety in 2003 when he joined Shenandoah County's Emergency Communications Center as a Communicator.

In May of 2005, Tim left Shenandoah County ECC to accept a position as a patrolman with the Luray Police Department. Tim attended the Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Training Academy 108th BLE Class and spent 2 years working as a patrolman. He then began working with the investigations section of the department while working patrol. In 2009, Tim was promoted to full time investigator for Luray Police Department.

In March of 2010 Tim accepted a position with the Page County Sheriff's Office as an investigator. From 2010 to August 2014 Tim worked in the investigations division of the Sheriff's Office, specializing in fire investigations. He has attended the Virginia Fire Marshal Academy NFPA 1033 and the National Fire Academy's Arson program.

In August of 2014 Tim was promoted and spent a year back on a patrol squad as a Sergeant. In August 2015 Tim transferred back to the Criminal Investigations Division as the General Investigations Sergeant. His role there is to oversee and supervise other general investigators and assist in their case assignments. Tim works a wide variety of cases including Financial & Welfare Fraud, Arson and other major crimes. He obtained his general instructorship in 2010 and currently serves as the lead instructor of the basic crime scene week of the basic law school. Tim has worked a wide array of cases and uses his experience to help new recruits understand the basics of correct crime scene safety and processing.

Tim is also a trained negotiator and has been through many leadership, management and communications courses, Reid Interviewing and Interrogations, among many other forensic classes. He has been accepted to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science Academy and is currently awaiting a date to attend.

Tim lives in Luray with his wife Amanda and their son Carter. They will be joined by their new son/brother Carson in May. "I really enjoy teaching at the academy. I hope the new recruits find whatever knowledge I impart on them, useful and helpful as they begin their journey."

# Academy Staff Spotlight



## Heather Gearheart

Office Manager / Communications Training  
Coordinator

Heather Gearheart was hired July, 2013 at the Academy in the position of Executive Assistant. She quickly moved forward and took on the Training Coordinator for Communications while performing the duties of the Executive Assistant. Shortly thereafter she started the position of Office Manager / Training Coordinator. As her duties are geared more towards the Office Manager side, she still coordinates the Communications classes held here at the Academy.

Prior to the Academy she was a 911 Dispatcher for Central Dispatch located in Buena Vista, Virginia, dispatching for Buena Vista PD, Lexington PD, VMI and all Fire/Rescue in Rockbridge County.

Although she loved her job and what she did she was expecting her first child and wanted a more set schedule and not on rotating shifts.

Originally from Rockbridge County she now resides in Augusta County with her husband Tyler and 2 boys, Drennon and Grady and expecting their third to arrive in September.

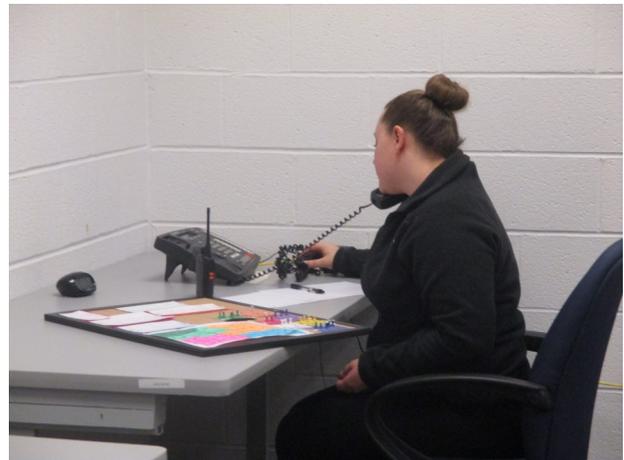
# 137th Basic Law Enforcement



# 119th Basic Jail Officer



# 79th Basic Communications



## Upcoming Classes

**LawFit - April 17 - 19, 2018:** Registration Fee: \$400.00 per person. For registration information go to the LawFit web site: [www.lawfit.org](http://www.lawfit.org) or contact Dr. David Bever: 703-424-6154 or email: [dbever@lawfit.org](mailto:dbever@lawfit.org).  
Deadline: April 3, 2018

**CTS 4-day Instructor Certification Program - June 19 - 22, 2018:** Registration Fee: \$795.00 per person. For registration information go to the Combined Tactical Systems web site: [www.combinedsystems.com](http://www.combinedsystems.com)  
Deadline: May 9, 2018

**Professional Leadership Academy - August 6 - 8, 2018 (come back October 1 - 3, 2018 for second half):** Registration Fee: Free for Member Agencies / \$750 for Non-Member Agencies. Please register through Jean Fiske at [jfiske@centralshenandoahacademy.com](mailto:jfiske@centralshenandoahacademy.com)  
Deadline: July 23, 2018

**CTS 2-day Cell Extraction Instructor Course - September 25 - 26, 2018:** Registration Fee: \$350.00 per person. For registration information go to the Combined Tactical Systems web site: [www.combinedsystems.com](http://www.combinedsystems.com)  
Deadline: August 15, 2018