



VALOR AWARDS



**SERGEANT
JOSHUA BOWERS**



**DEPUTY
JAMES YOUNG**

Carroll County Sheriff's Office

On March 28, 2025, in the Lambsburg community of Carroll County, Deputy James Young and Sergeant Joshua Bowers of the Carroll County Sheriff's Office responded to an armed and dangerous wanted subject at the Love's Travel Center. The suspect was wanted for a road rage incident involving the shooting of another truck driver earlier that same day in the Greensboro, North Carolina area, and was also wanted in Maryland for another violent offense. The suspect posed an immediate and significant threat to the public and to responding law enforcement officers.

The suspect initially refused to exit his parked tractor-trailer and told the deputy, "No...ya'll are going to have to kill me." The tactical team assembled and attempted to get the suspect to exit the truck. Eventually, the suspect climbed out of the driver's door but refused to comply with commands to get on the ground and show his hands. After the suspect ultimately went to the ground, he reached for a handgun from his waistband and fired directly toward the group of law enforcement officers. The suspect shot Deputy Young in the thigh and Sergeant Bowers in the torso. Both were transported for medical treatment and survived their injuries. The suspect was shot and killed during the incident.

Despite being wounded, Deputy Young and Sergeant Bowers demonstrated remarkable courage, resolve, and professionalism under extreme and life-threatening conditions. Their actions during this incident reflected an unwavering commitment to duty and the protection of others, even at great personal risk. Their response helped prevent further harm to civilians and fellow officers and exemplified the highest standards of law enforcement service.



VALOR AWARDS

INVESTIGATOR EDWIN P. CLARK, JR.

Henry County Sheriff's Office



On June 17, 2024, Investigator Ed Clark of the Henry County Sheriff's Office, alongside investigators from the Henry County Sheriff's Office, the Martinsville Police Department, and the United States Marshals Service was engaged in a coordinated operation to locate and apprehend Timothy Howell. Mr. Howell was wanted on serious felony charges, including malicious wounding, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

During the operation, investigators developed intelligence indicating that he was at a nearby residence. As Investigator Clark and assisting personnel approached the property, Investigator Clark observed Mr. Howell standing near a camper positioned at the edge of the residence, adjacent to a wooded area. As Investigator Clark brought his patrol vehicle to a controlled stop, Mr. Howell attempted to flee on foot behind the camper toward the woods. Without hesitation, Investigator Clark exited his patrol vehicle and pursued Mr. Howell to prevent his escape and protect the surrounding community. As he rounded the corner of the camper, Investigator Clark encountered Mr. Howell at close range. In that instant, Mr. Howell produced a firearm and deliberately pointed it directly at Investigator Clark.

Confronted with an immediate and deadly threat, Investigator Clark acted decisively and with extraordinary courage. In defense of his own life and the lives of fellow officers, he drew his service weapon and discharged multiple rounds, striking Mr. Howell in both arms and immediately stopping the threat. As a result of Investigator Clark's swift and accurate response, Mr. Howell dropped the firearm and fell to the ground, preventing what could have been a tragic and deadly outcome.

Investigator Clark and the assisting investigators quickly secured Mr. Howell and took him into custody. Despite having just faced a life-threatening encounter, Investigator Clark immediately transitioned from neutralizing a threat to preserving life, rendering life-saving medical aid alongside fellow officers. Because of their rapid and effective response, Mr. Howell's life was saved.

Mr. Howell was transported to a local hospital for further treatment and later recovered from his injuries. Following his recovery, he was prosecuted for the aforementioned offenses. He ultimately stood trial and was found guilty of the charges against him.

Investigator Clark's actions on June 17, 2024, exemplify the highest standards of law enforcement service. His bravery under direct fire, calm decision-making under extreme pressure, and disciplined use of force prevented further violence and undoubtedly saved lives. His conduct reflects strength of character, unwavering resolve, and an unshakable commitment to protecting others, even at great personal risk.



VALOR AWARDS



**LIEUTENANT
STEVEN BODEK**



**DEPUTY
SETH CAVENESS**



**CANINE DEPUTY
SLATE WHITE**

Nelson County Sheriff's Office

On Saturday, May 24, 2025, Sergeant Steven Bodek, Deputy Seth Caveness, and Canine Deputy Slate White of the Nelson County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to Crabtree Falls, a scenic tourist attraction in the County of Nelson known for its beautiful, but dangerous, waterfalls and hiking trails. This call for service was for two hikers who had fallen off the hiking trail, and both had fallen more than fifty feet into the rocks and rushing water of the Piney River. Eyewitnesses to this incident said that both women fell while attempting to take a photograph of the sunset. These ladies had stepped off the public walking path to capture the photograph when they both lost their footing and fell over the embankment.

Deputies Caveness and White were the first two deputies to arrive on the scene. After parking their patrol vehicles at the Crabtree Falls parking area, both deputies walked in the approaching darkness for approximately one-half mile until they reached the complainant, who observed both hikers fall. Using flashlights, the deputies were able to locate a woman approximately fifty feet below them. The woman was in the water of the Piney River, holding onto a rock, which was keeping her from being swept away by the rushing river currents.

Deputy Caveness notified the Shift Commander, Sergeant Bodek, of the situation via radio transmission. Sergeant Bodek had just arrived at the parking area and assumed "Incident Command" as he waited for additional search-and-rescue personnel to arrive.

Deputy Caveness and White descended the fifty-foot embankment in the dark, which was encompassed by sharp rocks and tree roots. Once down the embankment, the deputies navigated to the edge of the river, where they spoke with the woman clinging to a river rock. Deputy White had a 30-foot Canine lead on his person at this time, and he was able to toss the end of the lead to the woman. With the lead in hand, Deputies White and Caveness were able to pull her out of the water. At the time of this rescue, Sergeant Bodek was providing instruction and directions to additional search-and-rescue units who were arriving on location to assist in the rescue of the second hiker.

After a lengthy nighttime search, the second hiker was located downstream from where the first had been rescued. The second hiker had fallen an additional 150 feet over several waterfalls. First Responders recovered the body of the second hiker, partially submerged in the water.

The rescued hiker was transported to UVA Medical Center for minor injuries and observation, and she was released several days later.



VALOR AWARDS

DEPUTY SCHUYLER M. SIBLEY

New Kent County Sheriff's Office



On August 3, 2025, New Kent County Sheriff's Deputy Sibley was off-duty, spending the day with his family in Colonial Williamsburg. When Deputy Schuyler Sibley and his family were walking back to his truck to leave, they were passing by Mellow Mushroom when he observed several people running out of the restaurant. One woman with a child yelled to everyone that there was a man with a gun inside, pointing it at people. Deputy Sibley instructed his family to return to the truck, and he rushed to the entrance of the restaurant.

He observed a man with a gun in his hand. He identified himself as a law enforcement officer and ordered him to drop the gun. The man was compliant, placing the gun on the floor. The man and several other employees informed Deputy Sibley that he wasn't the offender, and the gun came from a co-worker who had brandished the gun and threatened to shoot another employee. The witnesses said the suspect ran out as Deputy Sibley came in. They pointed out the suspect to Deputy Sibley as the suspect ran through the parking lot. The manager secured the firearm for responding units, and Deputy Sibley chased after the suspect on foot.

He closed in on the suspect as he entered Duke of Gloucester Street, where there was a multitude of civilians and tourists. Once Deputy Sibley was able to get his hands on the suspect, he assisted him to the ground. He restrained the suspect until a Williamsburg Police Officer arrived on the scene.