



The CCPS All-Points Bulletin

July 2004

A Message from the Secretary

The Department was able to gain some ground in the General Assembly this year as we strive to get the resources and tools we need to better accomplish our public safety mission. A significant plus was the approval of legislation that gives Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers the authority to arrest for any criminal offense they have probable cause to believe occurred in the presence, and allows us to put civilian employees in some vacant jobs at the weigh stations so that more uniformed officers can work the roads. Emergency Management got funding to convert five disaster recovery positions from temporary to permanent, which will help us keep trained, experienced personnel in those programs. Victims Compensation received \$2.5 million in one-time funding to reduce the backlog of unpaid claims to crime victims, which will allow them to receive \$1.5 million in federal matching funds. The National Guard Soldiers and Airmen's Assistance Fund will receive \$250,000 to help provide emergency financial assistance to families of deployed members. The Guard will also get \$975,000 in state funds for a new armory in Caldwell County, which will free up \$7 million in federal funds assigned to that project. Butner Public Safety will receive \$150,000 for each of the next two years to purchase a new pumper/tanker fire truck to replace their 1968 model. We were finally able to get money to increase salaries in Alcohol Law Enforcement as approved by the Office of State Personnel several years ago to bring Agent salaries more in line with those of other law enforcement officers across the state. Unfortunately, not all the news was good. The legislators eliminated the Boxing Commission and assigned those duties to ALE. We got only \$500,000 of the \$10 million in funding Governor Easley wanted for the VIPER project to help build interoperable communications across North Carolina. We will continue to seek federal and state funds for VIPER, and have designated some of the 2004 Department of Homeland Security funds to go toward building part of that infrastructure.

Bryan E. Beatty

From the Human Resources Office

The 2004 Session of the General Assembly approved salary increases for most state employees, including those at the max of their salary range. The legislative increase will be either \$1,000 or 2.5% - whichever is greater - and will be included in the August paychecks. The raise will be retroactive to July 1. Basically, employees who make less than \$40,000 a year will get a \$1,000 raise and those who make more than \$40,000 a year will get a 2.5 % raise.

Comings & Goings

Welcome to our new employees: **Connie Faison**, Fiscal; **Stacy Cox**, **Jenny Dixon**, **Daniel Huthmacher**, **Bradley Long**, **Keith Patterson**, and **Michael Penland**, ALE; **Chris Call**, **Jeffrey Peters**, and **Craig Smith**, EM; **Sheila Driver**, NCNG; **Lesandra Dunn**, SHP.

Good luck to our recent retirees: **Jean Young**, NCNG; Lts. **J.D. Plyler** and **G.A. Smith**, Trps. **J.T. Hofmann** and **J.A. Wilburn**, and VEOI **S.W. Winstead**, SHP.

Date and Time for Future CCPS iForums

Wednesday, August 25 – 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. – guest to be announced

Set the Safe Driving Standard

As employees of the state's lead public safety agency, we should be setting the standard for safety, and that includes safe driving. A rash of major traffic crashes over the last few weeks suggests that drivers throughout North Carolina could use a refresher on safe driving habits. Please share the following with your family and friends:

- Pay attention: driving requires 100% of your attention span
- Obey the speed limit and use safety restraints properly
- Leave plenty of room between you and the car in front of you in case you have to stop suddenly
- Use proper signals when changing lanes or turning
- If another driver cuts you off or shows evidence of 'road rage' – let it go; do not retaliate
- In construction zones and bad weather, it may be necessary to travel under the allowed speed limit to ensure safety

Stay safe: we like having you as a co-worker!

Congratulations!

Angela and Greg Hayes (ALE and SHP respectively) welcomed son #2 on July 21st. Hudson Caviness Hayes weighed in at eight pounds.

The following people have reached state government service milestones as of June and July 2004. Please congratulate these fellow CCPS employees on their achievements. 30 years: **Francis Baker** and **Mike Robertson**; 25 years: **Jimmy Ray**, **Sandra Strickland**, and **Faye Willingham**.

From the Benefits and Safety Office

- Have your requests for health benefits been denied by your insurance company?
- Do you have questions about how your health insurance coverage works?
- Do you want to learn more about what "managed care" manages?
- Do you know your rights and responsibilities as a health benefits consumer?

The Managed Care Patient Assistance Program (MCPAP), housed in the Department of Justice, has been established to assist consumers with questions and give advice about managed care health insurance.

Created as part of the North Carolina Patient's Bill of Rights that became law in 2001, the Managed Care Patient Assistance Program can help consumers negotiate grievances, appeals, and external review processes. Program services are available to members of the State Health Plan.

Patient assistance specialists with MCPAP may act as intermediaries between consumers and their health insurers. Specialists can also answer general questions about health insurance, HMOs, prior approval processes and utilization review procedures. In addition to answering consumer inquiries, specialists are available to give presentations to groups on general health insurance issues.

Contact the Managed Care Patient Assistance Program by phone at 919-733-MCPA (6272), toll free in North Carolina at 1-866-867-MCPA (6272) or via e-mail at MCPA@mail.jus.state.nc.us.

N.C. Police Corps Scholarships on Hold for One Year

The **N.C. Police Corps** has conducted an annual selection process for candidates and agencies since 1997 with outstanding results. There are presently 65 participants in college, 15 in the academy and 45 serving officers across the state. Fifty agencies are participating in the Police Corps program and 30 agencies have officers assigned.

Unfortunately, because of budget restrictions placed on the program by the Congress, the N.C. Police Corps will not conduct a selection process this year. We anticipate that we will resume our selection process in the fall of 2005. We do expect to conduct an academy in 2005 for the 27 participants that will graduate next spring as well as continue to train Police Corps participants from other states.

Please contact Janet Sauls or Neil Woodcock at 919-773-2823 if you have questions concerning the Police Corps or visit our web page at www.ncpolicecorps.org.