



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TOWN OF PURCELLVILLE POLICE DEPT. CELEBRATES GRADUATION OF  
FOUR OFFICERS FROM THE ACADEMY**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va. JUNE 19, 2019** — Today the Purcellville Police Department celebrated the graduation of four Purcellville Police officers from the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy. The event was held this morning in Fairfax at George Mason University. The academy session began in January and concluded today with 105 recruits becoming officers or deputies within the Northern Virginia area.

The recruits attend rigorous training which is in compliance with the standards required by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The recruits study four modules of legal, patrol, criminal investigations and skills. The recruits are tested on and must pass all state mandated objectives/criteria as well as complete all performance-based tests. Some of the critical performance based tests include CPR, control tactics, firearms training, and driver training.

The Town is pleased to welcome the following into the ranks of sworn officers serving the Town:

- Officer Alexander Burkett
- Officer George “Trey” Hammond III
- Officer Hannah Nelius
- Officer Lauren Ritter

Officer Burkett was recognized during the graduation ceremony for having the second highest academic score among all police officer recruits. He concluded the academy with final grade of 97.11%. Officer Hammond received the “Top Shot” award with a firearms score of 99.86%.

These officers will be paired with field training officers for approximately three months. At the successful conclusion of the field training program, each officer will be a solo beat police officer and will begin their career of serving and protecting our community. We are very pleased to have them on board with us! Please join us in welcoming them to our community!



*(From L - R – Chief Cynthia McAlister, Hannah Nelius, Trey Hammond, Lauren Ritter, Alex Burkett, Deputy Chief Dave Dailey)*

### **The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

Purcellville is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 10th year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is recognized as one of the safest towns in Virginia. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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