



# 2021 Annual Report

## Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

### *Local Probation & Pretrial Services*

*\*Serving the localities of Prince George, Hopewell, and Surry\**

*Prepared by: Denise D. Waff, Director*





# Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

## Local Probation & Pretrial Services



### 2021 Annual Report

#### RIVERSIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT

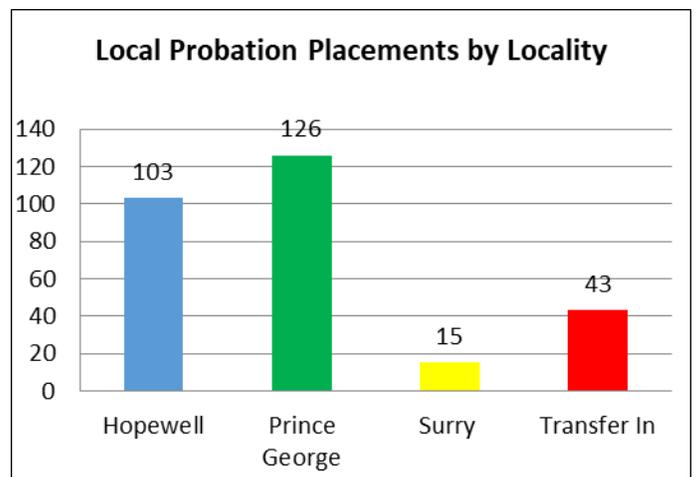
The Agency provides education, training, and treatment designed to encourage positive changes and meet the rehabilitative needs of offenders. We are committed to enhancing public safety through the utilization of evidence-based practices to reduce the rate of recidivism while promoting efficiency and economy in the delivery of correctional services. We are dedicated to improving quality of life and public safety by being professional and non-judgmental with respect to individual needs; being proactive through accountability, empathy and encouragement to support offenders; and creating awareness to empower individuals to make positive changes resulting in an alternative lifestyle to live productively and lawfully.

#### AGENCY FUNCTIONS

Riverside Criminal Justice Agency facilitates local involvement and flexibility in responding to crime and jail overcrowding in the communities of Prince George, Hopewell, and Surry. In 2021, our Agency provided pretrial, local probation, drug court, and related services to 762 adult offenders/defendants who were ordered into the program by the Circuit, General District, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts within the jurisdictions of Prince George, Hopewell, and Surry. Our Agency serves the upper portion of the Sixth Judicial District, and staff are devoted to supervising offenders and defendants safely and effectively in the community. Information provided to the courts on offenders and defendants has been deemed invaluable by the members of the judiciary; the supervision and accountability necessitated by staff is second to none. The agency also serves additional functions by providing services designed to enhance the local criminal justice system. Agency personnel also serve as administrative staff for the Community Criminal Justice Board, which functions as an advisory body to the three participating jurisdictions on criminal justice issues. Staff also serve on various committees with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Virginia Community Criminal Justice Association, and Prince George County.

#### Local Probation

The Agency is dedicated to providing appropriate post-sentencing alternatives to Prince George, Hopewell, and Surry, in accordance with Virginia State Code 19.2-303.3, for certain offenders with the goal of reducing recidivism. The program allows the participating localities to operate and utilize local community-based probation programs and services specifically designed to meet the rehabilitative needs of selected offenders while reducing the rate of jail overcrowding; it also allows for greater flexibility and involvement in responding to the problem of crime in these communities. The goal of the program is to provide more effective protection of society and to promote efficiency and economy in the delivery of correctional services. Furthermore, the program provides supervision for the performance of community service and offers offenders the opportunity to make restitution to victims of crime through financial reimbursement. This extends benefits to the community as recipients of the unpaid community service work as well as the return of offenders who have had the opportunity for rehabilitation to society. In 2021, the probation staff provided supervision to 287 individuals between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.



# Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

## Local Probation & Pretrial Services

The following services were provided to those offenders:

- Substance Abuse Testing
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Anger Management Classes
- Domestic Violence Groups
- Community Service

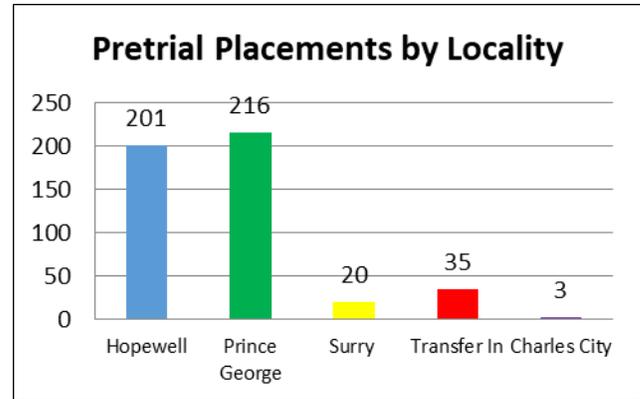
Offenders may also be required by the Courts to perform community service and pay applicable court costs and restitution amounts. In regards to public safety, the most important data we collect involves the percentage of offenders whom have a new arrest while under supervision or who have technical violations that cannot be safely mitigated in the community.

- Community Service Hours Performed: 7,744 hours
- Average Length of Supervision:
  - Misdemeanants 212 days
  - Felons 304 days
- Rate of Closure:
  - Successful 58%
  - Unsuccessful 42%
    - Technical violations 47%
    - New Arrest 9%
    - Absconded 44%

### Pretrial Services

Riverside Criminal Justice Agency is committed to providing more effective protection of society by establishing programs which will assist judicial officers in discharging their duties pursuant to 19.2-119 et seq. Thus, pretrial services was established to provide better information and services for use by judicial officers in determining the risk to public safety and the assurance of appearance of persons held in custody and charged with an offense, other than an offense punishable by death, who are pending trial or hearing. The Program seeks to diminish the disparity that exists due to determining a defendant's pretrial detention status based on his/her financial situation. The goal of the program is to enhance public safety by presenting investigative information to the Court to assist in making more informed bonding decisions, and by providing appropriate supervision and services to pretrial defendants, while reducing jail overcrowding caused by the detention of pretrial defendants.

In 2021, the pretrial services staff provided intensive supervision services to 475 defendants between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.



A total of 543 investigations were conducted with reports being forwarded to the courts; 80 inmates refused the pretrial interview. The following bond conditions were provided to defendants and monitored by staff for those placed on pretrial supervision from the courts or the magistrates:

- Alcohol Testing
- Substance Abuse Testing
- Refrain from Alcohol
- Abstain from Drug Use
- Curfew
- Electronic Monitoring

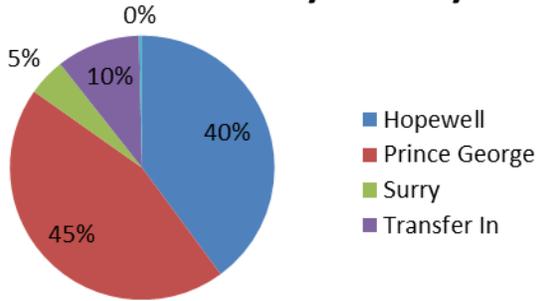
Throughout the year, various types of data is collected on defendants placed on pretrial supervision to include but not limited to the types of bonds defendants receive and success rates. In regards to public safety, the most important data we collect involves the percentage of defendants that have a new arrest while under supervision or who fail to appear in court.

- Defendant Placements by Release Type:
  - Secured Bond 63%
  - Personal Recognizance 9%
  - Unsecured Bond 28%
- Defendant Placements by Risk Level:
  - High Risk 37%
  - Average/Above Average Risk 30%
  - Low Risk 33%
- Average Length of Supervision:
  - Misdemeanants 92 days
  - Felons 174 days
- Rate of Closure:
  - Successful 67%
  - Unsuccessful 33%
    - Fail to Appear in Court 52%
    - New Arrest 42%

# Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

## Local Probation & Pretrial Services

### Total Placements by Locality



### Drug and Alcohol Testing

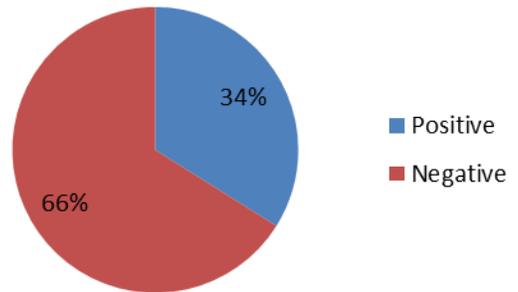
Drug and alcohol testing and monitoring is a major component to local probation and pretrial services supervision. All offenders placed on local probation are subject to random drug and alcohol testing. Only defendants ordered by a judicial officer to receive drug and alcohol testing are subject to testing under pretrial supervision. Over 2,800 drug tests were performed during 2021 and almost 1,500 alcohol tests were performed as well.

### Offender/Defendant Demographics

Statistics are also maintained on the demographics of the individuals with whom we work.

- Average Age: 34
- Gender:
  - Male 73%
  - Female 27%
- Race:
  - White 46%
  - African American 51%
  - Other 3%
- Employment:
  - Employed 50%
  - Unemployed 50%

### Drug Tests

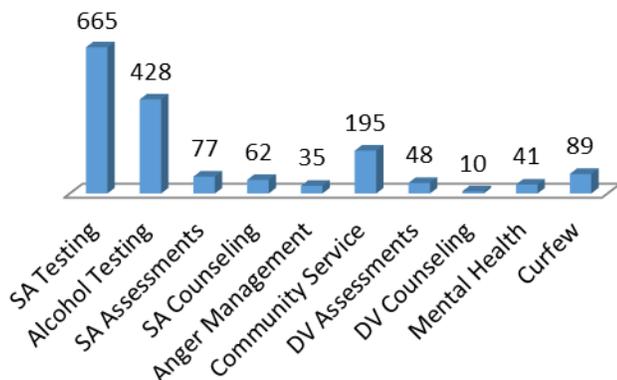


- Total Drug Tests 2,851
- Positive 967
- Negative 1,884

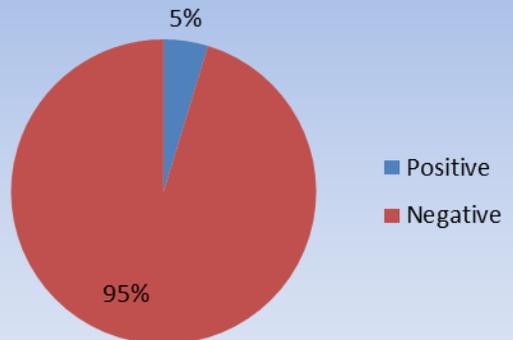
### Annual Service Referrals

In working with our offender and defendant populations, the Local Probation and Pretrial Services Staff make numerous types of referrals each year. For defendants placed on pretrial supervision, treatment and services are totally voluntary unless ordered as a condition of bond by a judicial officer.

### Combined Service Referrals for 2021



### Alcohol Tests



- Total Alcohol Tests 1,467
- Positive 69
- Negative 1,398

# Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

## Local Probation & Pretrial Services

### Drug Court

The Hopewell, Prince George, Surry Adult Drug Treatment Court celebrated its 19<sup>th</sup> year of operation. In 2021, the Drug Court received a grant from the Supreme Court of Virginia in the amount of \$90,000 to assist with program operations. The Drug Court Program moved under the Circuit Court in late 2020, and in May 2021, Lori Henley was hired as the first Drug Court Coordinator. RCJA continues to work closely with the Drug Court Program to serve this high-risk population.

The Drug Court Team consists of the following members:

The Honorable W. Edward Tomko, III	Drug Court Judge
Ms. Lori Henley	Coordinator
Mrs. Susan O. Fierro	Prosecutor
Sheriff Bucky Allin	Prince George
Mrs. Mary K. Martin	Defense Attorney
Mr. Isaiah Lee	Probation
Ms. Jessica Spears	Treatment (Merakey)
Deputy Robert Vaughan	Prince George
Deputy Austin Moon	Prince George
Ms. Rachel Turner	Administrative

To date, we have had 242 referrals to Drug Court since its inception in 2002. This has resulted in 115 placements into the program. Each year, our referrals to the program have continued to increase.

Despite the pandemic, we celebrated one Drug Court graduation in 2021, with three participants completing the program. Family members tell us what a difference Drug Court has made in the lives of the participants. Many of our graduates remain in touch with the team and often speak to current participants about their successes after the program.



Pictured: I. Lee, Graduate, Judge Tomko, Graduate, S. Fierro

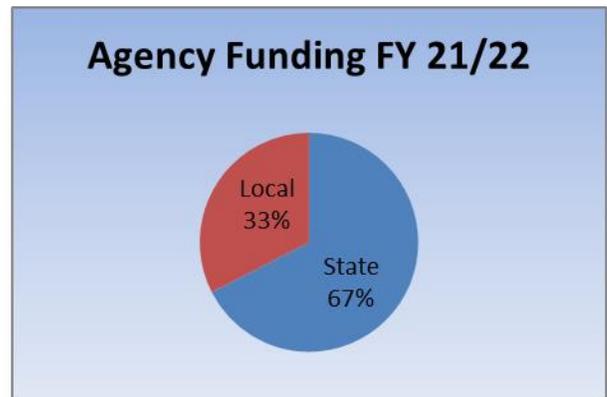


Pictured: R. Vaughan, Graduate, Graduate, A. Moon

### Agency Funding FY 21/22

The total budget for FY 21/22 for Local Probation and Pretrial Services was \$1,022,011. RCJA received state grant funds in the amount of \$721,437. The remainder of the budget provided is by monies from the three localities to whom we provide services and through the collection of supervision fees from offenders. The breakdown of state and local funding is as follows:

- State Funding 67%
- Local Funding 33%

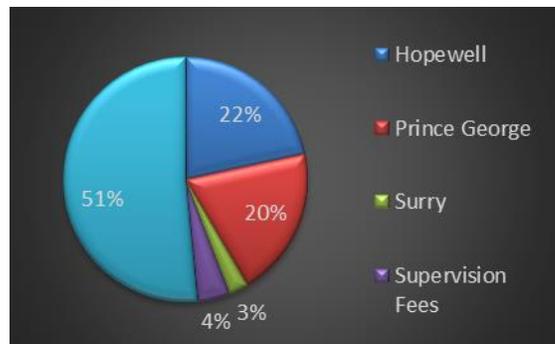


Local funding provided by the localities of Prince George, Hopewell, and Surry is prorated each year based on combined program usage of local probation and pretrial services.

### Local Funding by Jurisdiction

The breakdown of funding from our three localities is as follows:

- Hopewell \$75,276
- Prince George \$69,131
- Surry \$9,217
- Supervision Fees \$15,000
- Fund Balance \$179,218



# Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

*Local Probation & Pretrial Services*

## RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD

The Riverside Community Criminal Justice Board is comprised of members from the local judiciary and communities of the three participating jurisdictions: Hopewell, Prince George and Surry. The local governing bodies appoint members, and each locality has equal representation on the CCJB.

Members of the board and of local government have an interest in ensuring that crime prevention and punishment options are designed, implemented, and operated in a coordinated, efficient, and effective manner to accomplish the established objectives.

Participation on the board is vital to the success of addressing crime and criminal behavior in the community. Board members and the local governments are accountable to the community for ensuring public safety.

In 2021, the CCJB met on January 6, May 19, July 7, and October 6.

On November 12, 2021, the **RCCJB 10th Annual Community Appreciation Breakfast & Awards Ceremony** was held at the Beacon Theatre in Hopewell. Our theme, "Persevering in a Pandemic: Lessons in Community Resilience," focused on the continuity of service delivery by community partners throughout the pandemic.

Speakers included Scharnelle Hamlin (Surry Victim/Witness), Deloris Jefferson (James House), Erick Herrmann (John Randolph Medical Center), Larry Turner (District 19 CSB), Susan O'Prandy Fierro (Prince George Commonwealth's Attorney), and Denise Waff (RCJA).

The **7th Annual Crisis Intervention Team Award** winners were PG Communications Officer Jeremy Martin (Dispatcher of the Year) and PG Police Officer Billy Blankenship (First Responder of the Year). The **4th Annual RCJA Staff Award** winner was William Norris (Exemplary Employee of the Year). Awards were presented by Derek Davis, Surry Commonwealth's Attorney.



Pictured: CA D. Davis, Officer B. Blankenship



Pictured: D. Waff, W. Norris



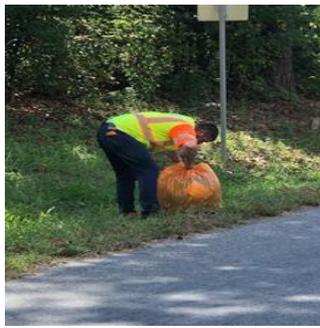
Pictured: Major E. Young, Officer J. Martin, PG Chief K. Early, PG Sheriff B. Allin

# Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

## Local Probation & Pretrial Services

### Keeping Prince George Clean

RCJA, in conjunction with the Prince George County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, the Prince George Police Department, the Prince George Sheriff's Department, and Prince George Buildings and Grounds Department developed the "CLEAN PRINCE GEORGE" initiative. From that stemmed the Litter Reduction Program, which the Courts have thoroughly supported. The program began in 2019 and has continued to grow in 2020 and 2021. The Litter Reduction Program gives offenders an opportunity to contribute to the community by performing roadside trash pick-up in Prince George County. The Courts have agreed to assign community service work to certain offenders on certain charges instead of jail time. Individuals are assigned a set amount of community service hours in which they pick up litter throughout the County. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, the Litter Reduction also offered safe and consistent way for offenders to comply with court-ordered community service while being socially distant and safe. The Hopewell Commonwealth's Attorney's Office has also joined the program in conjunction with the City of Hopewell Public Works Office. Retired Prince George Sheriff's Office Sergeant, Keith King, serves as RCJA's LRP Coordinator monitoring the hours and progress of the offenders. He works both weekdays Saturdays to accommodate the schedules of those who are employed.



To date, there have been 191 clients referred to the Litter Reduction Program and over 6,000 bags of trash picked up throughout Prince George County. Please feel free to contact RCJA if there are roads that are in need of sprucing up!



### Agency Staff

Denise Waff, Director  
Charlotte Walmon, Program Manager  
Rachel Turner, Office Manager  
Tracy Mangum, Office Associate II  
Amanda Elliott, Probation Officer  
Kaitlyn Newbern, Probation Officer  
Stacci Nutty, Probation Officer  
Isaiah Lee, Drug Court Probation Officer  
Chris Murphy, Pretrial Investigator  
Katie Worley, Pretrial Officer  
Angel Walston, Pretrial Officer  
William Norris, Pretrial Officer  
Sgt. Keith King, LRP Coordinator

