

The Sheriff's Volunteers in Partnership or VIP program continues to expand in manpower and services provided to the citizens of Henderson County through the Sheriff's Office. The program, headed by VIP Director Bob Noble has been supported by over 100 volunteer workers. These men and women volunteer their time to provide Sheriff Office services to the public. These services include non criminal fingerprinting services, funeral escorts and traffic directing services at large events and telephonic service of subpoenas. These volunteers also man telephones and provide directory information and other services of a non emergency nature, to citizens who need information or direction from the Sheriff's Office.

According to Sheriff Rick Davis the Volunteers in Partnership provided 15,980 free man hours of essential services to the county freeing up deputies to handle tasks that require the services and expertise of sworn personnel. "By volunteering their time and service, the VIPs free up our paid personnel and deputies to render other essential services. We would still have to provide these services by utilizing our paid staff and sworn personnel. These civic minded professionals choose to commit to working scheduled hours, in their uniform, because they care for their community and enjoy serving their fellow man. Our VIPs are always courteous, bright and helpful and they bring lots of varied experiences and backgrounds to the Sheriff's Office. Many come from other professional jobs including retired military and law enforcement as well as corporate leadership."

Most deputies can remember when much of what the VIPs handle, fell to deputies working the road. In addition to patrolling our zones and handling emergency calls, officers were expected to carry out these other services as well. These folks are a tremendous asset to the Sheriff, the deputies, and the community on the whole. They allow us to better coordinate the various services they provide to the community as well. Under the Sheriff's Director of Operations the VIPs actually coordinate their own division and sections to include recruiting other volunteers, scheduling services, functions and training, and raising money for needed equipment. We can't say Thank You enough for all that they provide for us.

Captain Charles McDonald