



CHRISTIANSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mark A. Sisson, Chief of Police

10 East Main Street
Christiansburg, Virginia 24073
Telephone (540) 382-3131
Fax (540) 382-0877

*******FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE*******

Police Department Putting Crime Mapping Program to Good Use

Date: October 7, 2011

CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA - With the implementation of new crime mapping software five months ago, the Christiansburg Police Department now has new tools to identify hot spots for crime and better ways to proactively develop a variety of crime reduction strategies.

Under the old system, which included placing pushpins on a map of Christiansburg and generating a separate weekly crime report, information was difficult to gather and share amongst all police divisions and shifts.

Now, using a crime analysis system called CrimeView by the Omega Group, all reported criminal activity is logged on an internet-based map that offers a variety of sorting and trending tools to help the police department.

The system is also easily accessible to citizens so they can remain informed of what is going on in their community. Simply visit www.crimemapping.com/map/va/christiansburg or click on the "Crime Mapping" link under www.christiansburg.org/police.

To give examples of the kind of information being collected and utilized, take a look at the following three links.

The first details all crimes during the month in a pin mapping format:

<http://tinyurl.com/monthlycrimemap>

The second link is a typical weekly crime report:

<http://tinyurl.com/weeklycrimereportexample>

The third is a monthly trends report, which details the frequency of crime, the number of specific crimes and even produces crime type by day of week. This data is utilized during staffing discussions and extra enforcement initiatives (please note: you may need to download free Microsoft Silverlight software to view the trend report):

<http://tinyurl.com/monthlytrendreport>

The system was purchased with a Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and includes five years of maintenance service.

####

Contact: Becky Wilburn
Public Relations Officer
Town of Christiansburg
bwilburn@christiansburg.org
(540) 382-6128