

## Response to Questions on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

**Request By:** Supervisor McKay

**Question:** What can uniformed officers do compared to what traffic enforcement officers can do?

**Response:** Below are the primary duties and authority associated with traffic enforcement officers and full police officers. It should be noted that the Department is currently budgeted for 18 traffic enforcement officers. This includes 8 Traffic Enforcement Officers I in Patrol, and 10 Traffic Enforcement Officers II in Operations Support. County traffic enforcement officers enforce parking ordinances in residential and commercial locations which do not require a sworn Law Enforcement Officer.

Traffic Enforcement Officers (P-11; Starting Salary of \$28,380)

- Require status as Special Police Officer only, and do not receive the same training and certifications as a sworn police officer
- Enforce applicable parking ordinances in and around Metro parking lots (e.g. handicapped parking and fire lanes)
- Enforce residential permit parking ordinance in the vicinity of Metro facilities and schools
- Enforce the street side parking ordinance in the vicinity of public roads
- Testifies in court
- Transport and operate SMART trailers
- Serve as crossing guard as needed/assigned
- Identify possible criminal activity, and summon police officers to respond/investigate

Police Officers (O-17; Starting Salary of \$43,564)

- Must receive certification as a Law Enforcement Officer, in the Virginia Crime Information Network (VCIN), and in firearms proficiency
- Fully armed
- Can respond to calls for service, initiate traffic stops, subject stops, and make arrests
- Typically patrol an area by vehicle or foot to maintain law and order
- Respond to emergencies as directed
- Investigate unusual or suspicious incidents
- Investigate criminal offenses
- Makes arrests and maintains custody
- Interviews suspects
- Testifies in court
- Prepares reports on investigations, offenses, arrests, and activities
- Participate in specialized patrols, DUI checkpoints, and vice or alcoholic beverage investigations