



**BERKELEY COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
100 W. KING ST., MARTINSBURG, WV**



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

We began 2021 with five vacancies. Results from the Open Entry that was held November 14th, 2020 were received as our new administration, led by Sheriff N.A. Harmon and Chief T. A. Young, came into office. Of the applicants who achieved a passing score on that exam, we went on to hire Derek Walker, Jacob Northcraft and Jessica McNeal. Leaving us with two vacancies.

In February, the Commission held a hearing on the reinstatement of Cory Welcome. Upon review of the materials presented to the Commission, as well as files housed in our own office, the Commission agreed to the reinstatement of Cory Welcome. Given the circumstances of his termination, and the consideration of his promotional exam score achieved immediately preceding his termination, the Commission reinstated Mr. Welcome as Corporal. Leaving us with one vacancy.

The Commission held three Open Entries: April 17th, June 12th and September 11th, 2021. The first two rounds produced zero applicants to pass the written exam. The third round gave us eight who achieved passing scores on the written. However, zero went on to successfully pass their background checks.

We had three deputies resign/terminated. Sgt. Christopher Cochran, Dep. Brandon Humphrey and Dep. Deven Morris. Bringing our vacancy total to four.

With the resignation of Sgt. Chris Cochran, a promotional exam was given in February. This resulted in the promotion of Sgt. N. Schoppert. We did not need to hold an exam for Corporal, as it was filled by Cory Welcome.

The Council also later approved additional ranked positions in the Department resulting in our second promotional exam of the year in May. The results of this exam gave us Captain Trent Heckman, Lieutenant Ted Snyder, Sergeant Trampus Boyles and Corporal Richard Steerman Jr.

In July, the Council agreed to an additional Sergeant position, which resulted in a position for that rank as well as for Corporal. After giving a promotional exam in August, we promoted Sergeant Christopher Farmer and Corporal Jason Wolfe.

With the amendment to our Rules and Regulations, now allows for the hiring of pre-certified officers after successful completion of a written exam, we went on to test three pre-certified law enforcement applicants. This resulted in the hiring of Britney Conner, Will Henderson and Dennis Jenkins. Leaving us with one vacancy.

Our Department was also awarded the COPS grant in December. This brought our total number of uniformed deputies from 62 to 66, and created five total vacancies.

The Commission also made amendments to the Rules and Regulations to change the points for years of service from 1 point to 4 points per year.

Commissioner Scott Sheets resigned in January and was replaced by Betsy Plumer as the Deputy Sheriff's Association representative. Commissioner Linda Gutsell resigned in February and was replaced by David Skillman as the BAR representative. The Council appointed Jim Moffitt as their representative in May.

The Commission, Department and Association have made huge improvements overall. It should be noted that several changes have occurred, for the better, with the continued cooperation amongst these bodies.

Submitted: March 23rd, 2022 by Asst. Secretary Melissa J. Beavers