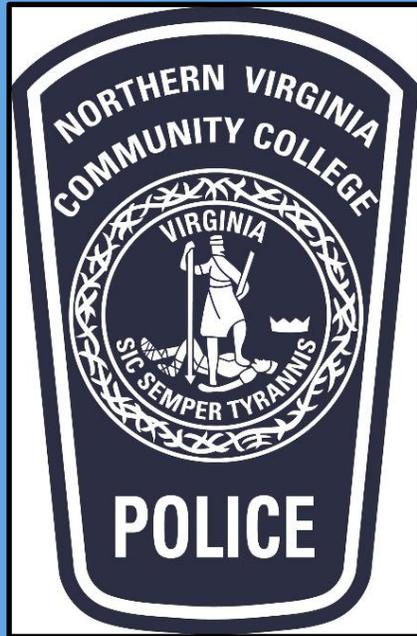


NOVA PUBLIC SAFETY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022



Major Jacoby with NOVA' Polices three newest members:
Officers, Muhtaj, Moore, and Tran (L to R)

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NOVA Police Overview

The new semester brings many new people to our campuses; most are students but there are also many new faculty and staff members. Most have relatively little contact with NOVA's college police so they may be unaware of the role we play, both in keeping our campuses safe and serving the NOVA community to enhance NOVA's academic experience and mission.

The NOVA Police Department is a fully certified law enforcement agency. Our officers undergo the same training as municipal law enforcement

Download the **FREE** LiveSafe
Mobile Safety App

Police can be reached 24/7/365 @ **(703) 764-5000**

NOVApolice@nvcc.edu

NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu

officers, completing approximately 1000 hours of initial training alongside officers from Arlington and Loudoun counties; Alexandria, Manassas and Fairfax cities; Airport and Metro Police; and a host of other northern Virginia agencies. Incumbent officers are required, by state statute, to complete biennial legal and cultural diversity training, and annual firearms certification. As a result, NOVA officers have the same authorities and responsibilities (e.g., conduct traffic stops, conduct criminal investigations) as our municipal and state colleagues.

NOVA Police protect our campuses via regular foot, bicycle and vehicle patrol, the operation of a 24/7/365 state-of-the-art dispatch/communications center (703-764-5000), and the distribution to all NOVA community members and their friends and families of the free LiveSafe Mobile Safety App (sign up at www.nvcc.edu/livesafe). We also respond to reported crimes on campus, although we are proud to note reported crime on campus has been reduced by 90% over the last 10 years! A major cause for this improvement in campus safety and security is our continuing professional development at the academy and an active outreach program, discussed below, that empowers campus community members to play a positive role in their own safety and security.

We also protect our campuses through our close integration with our municipal colleagues. We observe and participate in their training, local officers attend our firearms and active shooter training, and we conduct campus familiarization tours for local responders to facilitate crisis interoperability. We receive notifications of intelligence and local criminal activities affecting campus security.

As noted above, our outreach program is one of the most important components of our service to NOVA. We conduct 100-150 empowering presentations annually in college classrooms, workplace meetings, and convocations as well as at local community and national venues. These presentations include active shooter response, dealing with difficult people, what to do if stopped by the police, bystander intervention, and crimes against women. (See the full list of presentations, available in-person and virtually, on the last page of this newsletter.)

A second major area of service is our participation in campus and college-wide committees and activities. We are members of campus threat assessment teams, the college-wide Behavioral Intervention Team, the college's International Committee, and the Classified Employee forum. Over the last five years, NOVA officers have served as social hosts for 15 international students in the Community College Initiative program, which NOVA oversees for the US State Department. We are also members of a college-wide DEI committee and teach this curriculum on our campuses.

Finally, we serve NOVA by responding to access requests to locked classrooms and laboratories, operating lost and found on each campus, offering safety escorts on campus, and providing vehicle assistance, to mention only a few areas of service.

NOVA Police are proud to be an integral contributor to the NOVA experience and achievement of its academic and societal mission.

NOVA Police Host International Students

In late July, more than 30 international students arrived at NOVA for one year of study under the auspices of a US State Department Program, the Community College Initiative (CCI). NOVA administers the CCI program, held at about 15 community colleges throughout the county, for the State Department.

NOVA participating students come from about 15 countries, including Colombia, Dominican Republic, Turkey, Indonesia, Brazil, Ivory Coast, India and South Africa. The students take classes from NOVA and participate in internships related to their majors.

What You Need to Know About Phone Scams

For the past six years, NOVA Police officers have served as social hosts for 20 CCI students. As social hosts, we ensure the students experience the rich tapestry of American culture. Social host activities may include hosting them at our homes for an occasional meal or holiday celebration; taking them to a religious service; meeting them on campus to discuss their progress in classes; explaining US social, political or cultural events and traditions; answering questions about travel; talking about policing in the US; etc. In addition to social host activities, the students visit local museums, sporting events and government buildings as part of their familiarization with the United States.

NOVA Police enjoy participating in the CCI program because it is a great opportunity to help a student get the most out of America, make a positive impression about law enforcement (often lacking in their home countries), learn about a foreign culture, and develop friendships with students that last for years. NOVA officers still communicate regularly with many of their former CCI students.



Lt. John Weinstein with several CCI students



Sgt. Nicole Fisher with her CCI students

Faculty and staff members who are willing to donate a few hours each month to play a positive role in a young international student's life should contact Min Young Jun, the program coordinator, at mjun@nvcc.edu, for more information.



BE PREPARED FOR EXTREME HEAT

Extreme heat often results
in the highest annual
number of deaths among all
weather-related disasters.

In most of the U.S., extreme heat is a long period (2 to 3 days) of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees.



Greater risk



Can happen anywhere



Humidity increases the feeling of heat as measured by a heat index

IF YOU ARE UNDER AN EXTREME HEAT WARNING

Find air conditioning, if possible.



Check on family members and neighbors.

Avoid strenuous activities.



Drink plenty of fluids.

Watch for heat illness.



Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Wear light clothing.



Never leave people or pets in a closed car.

DOWNLOAD

LiveSafe Mobile Safety App

The free LiveSafe Mobile Safety app is available to all NOVA faculty, students, staff and their families and friends. This tool can empower you to stay safe, keep your campus safe, put potentially life-saving information at your fingertips, and facilitate timely interaction with NOVA responders in the event of an emergency or need for assistance. Download LiveSafe at iTunes or Google Play. It is easy and fast, or go to www.LiveSafeMobile.com.

2022 NOVA POLICE TRAINING

NOVA Police conduct an extensive community outreach program. The following topics are available for presentation to faculty, students, clubs, staff, and community organizations via **Zoom or in-person**. For in person or ZOOM additional topics, please contact us at novapdoutreach@nvcc.edu.

Selected Topics:

Active Shooter Response

Dealing with Difficult People

Creating Safe Classroom Environment

Staying Safe on the Street/Self-Defense Considerations

Alcohol/DUI Awareness

Stop the Bleed Tourniquet Certification

Recognizing/Reporting Suspicious Behavior

Dealing with Mental Health Issues

Bystander Intervention

Writing in the Workplace

Everything you Ever Wanted to Know About the Police

Ticket Avoidance Strategies

Human Trafficking

Gangs and Drugs

Civilian - Police Interactions

Dealing with Disobedience