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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sgt. James Parker

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Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Department Wins Statewide and International Awards

The fourth time was a charm for Sgt. James Parker. For the past three years he has submitted entries to the Virginia Association of Police Chiefs' *Smart, Safe & Sober* competition and for three years he was disappointed. Fortunately, he embodies the "never give up" mentality that is characteristic of most members of the Dinwiddie Sheriff's Department and made another submission this year. His hard work and dedication was finally realized when Dinwiddie County won first place in the state. Sgt. Parker, Maj. William Knott and Lt. Darrell Hayes traveled to the VAPC Annual Conference in Roanoke, Virginia earlier this week to accept the award.

Winning the state award automatically placed Dinwiddie County in the International Association of Police Chiefs' competition where they were up against over 400 departments from throughout the nation and around the world. Dinwiddie County placed third in this competition! Sgt. Parker will travel to the International Association of Police Chiefs' annual conference in San Diego, CA in the fall to accept the award on behalf of Dinwiddie County.

When asked to comment on the award, Sheriff D.T. "Duck" Adams stated "I am honored that our department received this prestigious award and am extremely proud of the job that my officers do each and every day."

The Smart, Safe & Sober partnership was formed in 1997 and includes the Virginia Association of Police Chiefs, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, Virginia Department of State Police, Virginia Sheriff's Association and DriveSmart Virginia ®. This partnership, through a variety of education campaigns and enforcement initiatives, strives to reduce fatalities and injuries on roadways.

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