

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Contact:**

Diana L. Klink  
757.514.4104  
757.359.1845

Tim Kelley  
757.514.4103  
757.871.3039

### **SUFFOLK POLICE ACHIEVES FORENSIC RE-ACCREDITATION**

SUFFOLK, VA (November 7, 2017) Suffolk Police's Forensic Unit, led by Lurena Huffman, has been approved for ANSI-ASQ re-accreditation. In 2016, the unit received the first accreditation of a forensic unit in Hampton Roads. ANSI-ASQ stands for American National Standards Institute /American Society of Quality Control.

Huffman, the Suffolk Police Department Forensic Unit leader, served as a Police Officer for 8 years and Forensic Investigator for 6 years with the Norfolk Police Department before coming to Suffolk in March 2014.

There are limited accreditation bodies in the United States for forensics, and this particular body was chosen for accreditation because it has an outstanding reputation and is responsible for the Department of Forensic Science Lab accreditations. Suffolk was only the second forensic unit in the Commonwealth of Virginia to achieve the ISO 17020 accreditation when they received the honor in 2016.

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Accreditation is based on assessment of an agency's technical qualifications and competence for conducting specific testing, calibration, and/or inspection activities within the scope of ISO/IEC 17020 and any relevant field-specific standards included in amplification documents.

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