

Officer William L. Simmons - JMUPD

“2011 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year”

Officer William L. Simmons has been a certified law enforcement officer for over 17 years, first with the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office and most recently with the James Madison University Police Department. During his five years with this agency, Officer Simmons has performed duties as a patrol officer and received certification as a Bicycle Officer. Officer Simmons is currently assigned to the Joint Patrol Task Force, which was formed in conjunction with the Harrisonburg Police Department to combat alcohol violations and victimization of J.M.U. students living in the off-campus housing complexes. Officer Simmons is a Life Member of the Clover Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.

Officer Simmons constantly finds opportunities to improve and educate himself to the benefit of the law enforcement and J.M.U. community. Officer Simmons is currently certified as a General Instructor, Bicycle Patrol Officer, O.C. Instructor, First-Aid/CPR Instructor, ASP Instructor, Rape Aggression Defense Systems (R.A.D.S.) Instructor, MILO Operator and Field Training Officer. Officer Simmons uses his certifications not only to instruct members of this agency but is also a constant presence at the Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Training Academy to assist in the training of law enforcement officers from many jurisdictions. Officer Simmons uses his training as an Instructor to present programs to students and hall staff members designed to enhance their personal safety and awareness.



Officer Simmons also gives of his time to research, identify and apply for Grants to benefit this agency with training and equipment. In 2009 and 2010, Officer Simmons was instrumental in obtaining grant funding through WalMart and the National Automobile Dealers Association for the purchase of First-Aid / CPR training materials. This equipment has been used by this agency, the Training Academy and community organizations to certify individuals in First-Aid / CPR as required.

Officer Simmons continuously makes himself available to assist with any additional manpower needs of this agency. Officer Simmons will, without hesitation, work outside of his assigned duty schedule to assist this agency with meeting manpower mandates and regularly volunteers to work most of the Special Events that he is available to work.

Officer Simmons is a valuable member of this agency and is becoming essential to other local law enforcement agencies due to his commitment to learning and his willingness and ability to instruct other law enforcement officers, which benefits our agency and the entire community.



Recognized April 12, 2011 by the Kiwanis Club of Harrisonburg, Virginia.