



May 31, 2024

To: VFSAAA Nominating Committee
From: Forensic Specialist Kelly R. Wells
RE: 2024 Nomination for Master Forensic Specialist Karyn Buhrman

I would like to nominate Master Forensic Specialist Karyn Buhrman of the Hampton Police Division for the VFSAAA Dr. Paul Ferrara Award.

Master Specialist Buhrman has been employed by the Hampton Police Division since July of 2000. In her almost 24 years of service, in addition to her regular duties of responding to major complex crime scenes, preserving and processing evidence, and providing courtroom testimony, she has mentored and trained junior Specialists in her unit. She regularly provides trainings to the Hampton Basic Law Enforcement Academy, Communications Academy, Youth, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, students and teachers of the Hampton and Newport News City Schools, high school and college interns, Special Investigations Units and Detectives. Additionally she has provided training for other law enforcement agencies, fire personnel, crime scene investigators, Commonwealth Attorneys and the public. She, herself has completed over 100 professional courses to stay up to date and an expert in her own right.

Master Specialist Buhrman is single mother who also has taught the importance of service to her son Colton by supporting him in multiple fundraisers for the American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge. She continues to set a shining example for him by participating with her fellow Specialists and Law Enforcement Officers in fundraisers for The Special Olympics.

Master Specialist Buhrman has received awards from the United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of Virginia, received the Chief's Coin for Excellence from Hampton Police Division, Civilian of the Year from Virginia Peninsula Crime Stoppers just to name a few. She has been a part of the Virginia Forensic Science Academy Alumni Association and the Eastern Director since 2008.

She is currently Hampton Police Division Latent Fingerprint Examiner and still continues to share her extensive crime scene processing skills not only with her own unit but with other agencies throughout Virginia. She has been instrumental in helping to solve numerous major crime scenes over the years with her experience, due diligence and over all hard work.

Karyn Buhrman is an outgoing and welcoming force of nature who you will never have a lack of conversation with. Her warmth and positivity is infectious to everyone she comes in contact with. She is a great example to others in her field.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly R. Wells". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "W".

Forensic Specialist Kelly R. Wells
Newport News Police
Forensic Services Unit
(757) 570-8658
wellskr@nnva.gov