



## For Immediate Release

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## **U.S. Marshals Make 40 Homicide Arrests in 2017 300 Fugitives Captured, 500 Warrants Cleared**

**NORFOLK, Va.** – U.S. Marshals are wrapping up another successful year of tracking down violent fugitives. Dozens of fugitives wanted outside of Virginia were arrested locally, and hundreds of Hampton Roads fugitives were tracked down all over the country.

Overall, the Norfolk-based U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force made 305 arrests this year, clearing 503 outstanding felony arrest warrants. Gang members, drug dealers, murderers, child predators, rapists, and armed robbery suspects were among those arrested. More than 40 fugitives wanted by outside jurisdictions were tracked down and arrested here in Hampton Roads.

“Behind every violent crime there are numerous victims. We are proud to do our part in ensuring fugitives on the run are brought to justice, which is often the first step in healing for those affected by violent crime,” said Bobby Mathieson, U.S. Marshal for Eastern Virginia.

Throughout 2017, U.S. Marshals pursued leads around the country and tracked down fugitives who tried to run, making arrests in 18 different states. Some of the states Hampton Roads fugitives were captured in this year were Montana, Nevada, California, New Mexico, and Texas, along with several states up and down the east coast.

This year was highlighted by an increase in the number of homicide arrests. A total of 43 fugitives were arrested on murder charges this year, as compared to 30 homicide arrests made in 2016. Hampton Roads homicide fugitives alone were captured in eight states around the country, while nine murder suspects wanted by outside jurisdictions were apprehended in Hampton Roads.

Apart from tracking down wanted fugitives, U.S. Marshals in Norfolk also used their investigative resources and capabilities to [safely locate](#) three abducted Portsmouth children in New York. U.S. Marshals have the authority to immediately support missing child cases, per the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015.

U.S. Marshals are continuing to investigate the whereabouts of several fugitives who are still on the run. More information on fugitives wanted by the U.S. Marshals in Norfolk can be found [here](#).

“The success we saw this year would not be possible without the established partnerships of our task force agencies, and I would like to thank our law enforcement partners for their efforts and commitment to tracking down wanted fugitives throughout the year,” Mathieson said.

The U.S. Marshals-led Fugitive Task Force consists of law enforcement officers from the U.S. Marshals, Chesapeake Sheriff’s Office, Newport News Police Department, Portsmouth Police Department and Norfolk Police Department. The main objective of the task force is to seek out and arrest violent offenders with outstanding federal and state warrants.

The U.S. Marshals Service, America’s first federal law enforcement agency, arrested more than 25,000 federal fugitives, 63,000 state and local fugitives and 11,000 sex offenders in 2016. Our investigative network and capabilities allow for the unique ability to track and apprehend any fugitive who attempts to evade police capture, anywhere in the country. For more information on the U.S. Marshals, please visit our website. [www.usmarshals.gov](http://www.usmarshals.gov)

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