

Volunteers In Police Service

Volunteers of all ages are serving their community through their local, county and state law enforcement agencies. The V.I.P.S. are Recognized by the International Chiefs of Police Associations, Citizens Corps, USA Freedom Corps, United States Department of Justice, and USAonwatch as citizens aid in their own community with Home Land Security.



Serving the Community with:

- ♥ Citizens On Patrol (COPS)
- ♥ Administrative / Clerical
- ♥ Police and Fire Dispatching
- ♥ Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- ♥ Police Explorer Scout Post #2961
- ♥ Community Security Services

Volunteers In Police Service

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Service, Pride, Patience, Courtesy, Vigilance

**Become a Volunteer
 Make a Difference**

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PROGRAM HISTORY

In his 2002 State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush announced the creation of the USA Freedom Corps, an effort to foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility, building on the generous spirit of the American People. The Citizen Corps programs are part of the USA Freedom Corp initiative and share the common goal of helping communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to crime, natural disasters, and other emergencies.

One of the Citizen Corps programs is the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Program. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) is managing and implementing the VIPS Program in partnership with and on behalf of the White House Office of the USA Freedom Corp and the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice. The program's goal is to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers.

As the growth in Florence indicates a larger population, and homeland security is now a household word, there is an imminent increased case load and burden on emergency services.

Volunteers are unpaid positions within the Florence Police Department and are considered "Uncompensated employees" who are covered under workman's compensation and risk management for accident and injury.

TYPES OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers in Police Service are for adults 18 years of age and above who are interested in serving their community through law enforcement.

There are many different types of volunteer programs and volunteer opportunities, including:

- **Administrative Clerical** duties such as filing, investigative duties with gun tracing and community sex offender notifications, fingerprints, education and awareness programs.
- **Citizens On Patrol Services (COPS)** with active security patrols on business and house watches, speed monitoring, handicapped parking violations, funeral and traffic escorts, traffic accident and crime scene traffic control, school zone monitoring, motorist assists, fire scene security.
- **Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)** with Chaplain and Family-Victim Assistance, and referral resources.
- **Security** within specific community areas.
- **Fleet Services** monitoring and fleet maintenance, scheduling, troubleshooting and repairs.
- **Recruiting** for volunteer membership is an open and on-going process.



The Florence Police Explorer Post #2961 is a worksite-based program for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade and are 14 years of age, or are 15 years of age but have not yet reached their 21st birthday.

Law Enforcement Explorer posts help youth to gain insight into a variety of programs that offer hands-on career activities. For young men and women who are interested in careers in the field of law enforcement, Exploring offers experiential learning with lots of fun-filled, hands-on activities that promote the growth and development of adolescent youth.

The Exploring Program was established in 1983. Some participants have gone on to become police officers, sheriff's deputies, detention officers, dispatchers, and corrections officers.

