



# THE BULLDOG BULLETIN

A Quarterly Publication for the Employees of Top Guard Security

Winter 2019

LEADING LADIES OF COASTAL VIRGINIA  
**CoVaBIZ** MAGAZINE



## Nicole Stuart

President,  
Top Guard Security

**N**icole Stuart begins her day at 4 a.m. scouring through a detailed report submitted by a team of quality control officers to review the whereabouts and activities of overnight security officers at various locations throughout Coastal Virginia. She then primps for work, readies her five young children for school, travels to her Norfolk office and is seated for her daily managerial huddle by 8 a.m.

Stuart is the president and co-founder of Top Guard Security, both the largest woman-owned business and largest security officer firm in Coastal Virginia. Stuart explains that she was once an aspiring attorney but found that her passion laid in business and people all along. "I grew up in the industry," she says. "My father owned a similar business, and I worked there doing small jobs and [eventually] took on bigger roles while I was in college and graduate school."

Discovering a need for private security officers on the Peninsula, Stuart and her husband, Chris, drafted a business plan and opened the doors to Top Guard Security in Stuart's hometown of Hampton in 1996. Like most startups, attracting clients and employees required a lot of self-promotion, but a call from the Norfolk World Trade Center in 2001 gave Stuart a big break on the Southside. Top Guard's presence on the Southside continued to grow, and in 2004, the City of Norfolk requested Top Guard to provide security services for various municipalities. That same year, Stuart founded an office in Ghent and commissioned 150 employees to report to Top Guard's newest office in Downtown Norfolk.

Twenty-two years later, Top Guard Security maintains its original office in Hampton, relocated the Ghent office to Granby Street and obtained two new locations in Richmond and the Shenandoah Valley. Top Guard also boasts over 900 employees, including the state's largest staff of campus security officers patrolling the campuses of Tidewater Community College.

"For many years, it was just [Chris and me]," remembers Stuart. "We were HR, accounting, operations, quality control. We were literally working

around the clock seven days a week, but it was just hard work that allowed us to see the business from every angle and gave us the perspective to support the local community and build something truly different."

Another aspect of Top Guard that separates the firm and its president from other companies and professionals in the industry is its Coastal Virginia Training Academy. Stuart explains that Virginia sets certain training requirements for armed and unarmed officers in the private sector. While she outsourced officers to train her employees for a number of years, she decided she wanted to have more control over instruction, thus establishing the academy in 2016. The academy offers her employees special training that goes beyond state requirements, including guidance in leadership and customer service.

Stuart's dedication to providing the highest quality of service and support to her employees and clients has been recognized by copious awards. Stuart's most notable honors include the title of Outstanding Businesswoman of the Year by the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce in 2012, one of 2015's most Influential Women of Virginia from Virginia Lawyers Media and the Giving Beyond the Suit Award by Dress for Success Hampton Roads in 2016.

Philanthropy is a passion of Stuart's, as she is heavily involved with the company's Top Guard Gives Back program. She partakes in charity walks with her children, sponsors communal events, donates to local causes and strives to support woman-owned businesses.

Stuart also gives back to the Coastal Virginia community by employing former military personnel and their spouses. In 2017, Top Guard was presented with the Virginia Values Veterans Governor's Award for employing 258 veterans, the largest number of veteran hires by a single Virginia company in 2016.

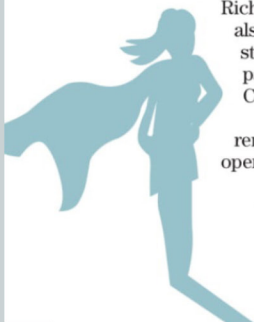
"We love working with people, and [Top Guard] gives us that platform," explains Stuart. "Not only are we working with the officers, our office staff and our clients but also those in the community."

—Grace Silipigni

As seen in 2018  
August/September

**CoVaBIZ**  
MAGAZINE

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CoVaBiz.com



# 35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Leaders' Breakfast

The Urban League of Hampton Roads, Inc. and Old Dominion University held the 35th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Leaders' Breakfast, which featured the keynote speaker, the Honorable Jerrauld "Jay" Jones. Top Guard proudly sponsored a "Dreamer Table" for the event.

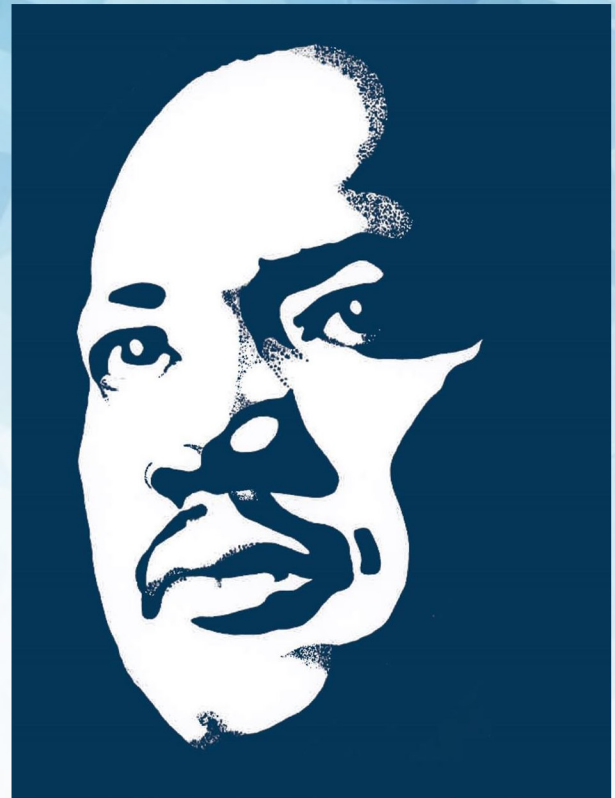


**OLD DOMINION**  
UNIVERSITY



**Urban League of Hampton Roads, Inc.**

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.*



**LEGACIES:**  
Celebration of Unity, Service and Leadership

**Top Guard's management team attended the 2018 ASIS GSX Conference. The conference brings together security industry leadership from around the world to exchange best practices across the security industry.**



Due to his attention to detail and proactive patrolling, 1st Sgt. Francis noticed and reported Data Room equipment malfunctioning. His report led to an analysis that identified crucial Life Safety systems that were not receiving power and weren't working. 1st Sgt. Francis actions ensured the campus he patrols remains a safe and secure environment!



Officer Rebecca Waring received a Commendation Award for her Customer Service skills, as well as her willingness to assist with the training and development of new Security Officers.



**Jefferson Lab Staff spent October passing out Fire Safety lollipops.**



**FIRE SAFETY & PREVENTION MONTH**

*Top Guard would like to take a moment to remember the life of a beloved officer, Captain Fred Witlow.*



Slowly and steadily a mural is taking shape in the Neon District of Downtown Norfolk. The critically acclaimed artist, Sam Wetly, began work in October and anticipates being finished by the printing of this issue. The 16th mural of his Great American Series is entitled "Remembering the Honored Fallen." The mural's website will provide opportunities for soldiers and military families to tell their stories honoring fallen heroes. Top Guard Security is a proud supporter and sponsor of the mural.

Top Guard Security, routinely recognized for its commitment to Veteran hiring, is led by Nicole Stuart. Nicole is the granddaughter of Master Chief Woodrow "Woody" Maust, Ret. U.S. Army Air Corps/U.S. Air Force, who served in World War II in the Indo-China Theater.



Upon polling the staff in our four offices and finding that 15 had been directly impacted by a close family member with breast cancer, Top Guard was honored to make 15 \$50 donations on their behalf to "Real Men Wear Pink," to further breast cancer research.

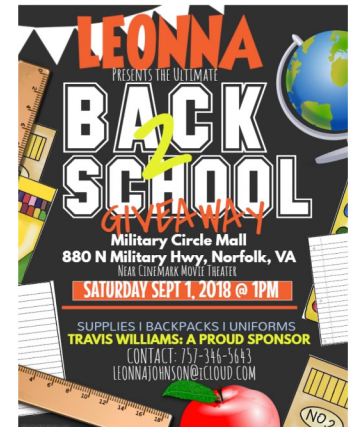


*Our steadfast initiative to give back to the community and all those we serve.*

**Top Guard has pledged to donate five times this year to the Y on Granby in honor of their five year anniversary.**



*Top Guard donated to the "Back 2 School Giveaway" to provide school supplies for local students.*



## Hurst Hospitality House

*Top Guard was honored to donate to the Hurst Hospitality House, which provides a place to stay for families who live 40 miles or more away from Winchester Medical Center. So far this year, the Hurst House has provided 1,734 usages for more than 330 different guests.*

*"It really means a lot for family members to be able to stay close to their loved ones during a medical crises."*

**Account Manager Mike McMillian was recognized by the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve with it's Patriot Award.**

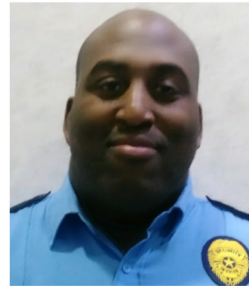


## **Assistant Account Manager, Andrea Craig, International Scholar Laureate Program**

Peninsula Assistant Account Manager, Andrea Craig, is being honored and recognized by the International Scholar Laureate Program (ISLP). This program recognizes academic excellence and achievement. As a result of her recognition, the ISLP is offering her the opportunity to be a part of the United States Delegation overseas to Australia, representing her University and the Golden Key International Honor Society. Ms. Craig is currently pursuing a degree in Health Care Administration with the desire to for a career in Emergency Management.



Officers at Norfolk State University are dedicated to keeping students safe. Officer Arin Gordon reported a group of non-students using drugs. Security Officer Catalina has been a great asset to the campus, reporting cars that have driven without permission through the gates containing intoxicated non-NSU students. Great job to both officers for looking out for the safety of the NSU campus!



Security Officer Robert Hosick was recognized by a customer at his site, calling his actions a "true example of helping your neighbor." We are honored to have such a great officer working for us.



When Officer Shami Brown noticed a strong gas odor at his site, he was persistent in alerting appropriate authorities to get it thoroughly investigated. His dedication to solving the problem resulted in the discovery of two gas leaks.

**Thank you for your conscientiousness!**

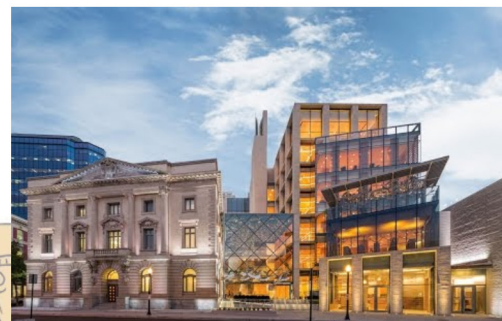
Security Officer Adarice Lowe was recognized by the Chief Safety and Security Officer at his site for his exceptional work.



Slover Library honored S/O Triverdale for "Stepping up and taking ownership!"



Lieutenant Herrera earned an empathetic "job well done" from his client rep.



# Lenny Lyon, MBA (Ret.) U.S. Navy Captain

We're pleased to announce that Leonard "Lenny" Lyon will be joining the firm as Top Guard Security's new Chief Operating Officer.

Lenny's appointment is a clear reflection of the company's past, present and future. We are the gold standard for providing site security, as evidenced by our 23 straight years of growth. Looking to our future we want to be prepared to sustain that growth while continuing to provide the same level of personal service that made us successful.



Lenny comes to us after a 27-year distinguished career of Naval service where he was a member of the Navy Bomb Squad. During his time, he provided security to Navy Bases, Ships, and even for the President of the United States. He also led Navy training to teach weapons, maritime patrols, and site security; and ran multiple 24/7 operations centers onboard a Carrier during Operation Iraqi Freedom and for the entire Atlantic Navy Fleet. We are excited that Lenny has "walked in each of your shoes" during his 27-years, but what is most exciting is his expertise in Process Management and fixing problems. He has a long history of getting out and talking to the people of the organization, capturing the problems they see on a daily basis, and developing solutions to fix them once and for all. As he visits your site, please take a minute to give him a warm Top Guard welcome, and talk to him about anything you think we could do better to serve you and our customers.

Lenny grew up on the east side of Cleveland, as a die-hard Browns fan. He is married to Carrie Lyon and has two sons, Gunner and Hudson. Lenny's hobbies are working out, golf and home repair. He makes a yearly pilgrimage to Walt Disney World or Universal Studios and his favorite food by far is pizza.



# Grand Illumination Parade 2018



For the fifth year, Top Guard participated in the Norfolk Grand Illumination Parade. Staff, clients and friends of the firm were invited to participate in this exciting event to kick off the holiday season. Volunteers and their families were balloon handlers and parade walkers. It was a fantastic event!







# Top Guard wishes to acknowledge and thank these security professionals who have achieved the following levels of service since the last publication of employee longevity:

Maurice Reddick  
 Matthew Sims  
 Mary Thomson  
 David Cook  
 Kenya Hayden  
 Steven Nunery  
 Raekwon Brooks  
 Alvin Hill Jr  
 Anthony Beautreau  
 David Robinson  
 Robert Nannery  
 Marie Harvey

Kenneth Payne  
 Norman Thomas  
 David Sturt  
 Rossie NaBors  
 Valentina Bailey  
 Michael Bayron  
 Charles Flippen  
 Donald Sears  
 Hector Baerga  
 Trena Sims  
 Troy Willingham  
 Drew Strohschein  
 Jenetta Roberts  
 Yusef Abdul-Laatif

Anthony Jackson  
 Terry Buchanan  
 Grecian Standley  
 Mareio Overton  
 Brandon Johnson  
 Carl Richardson  
 Sherita Robinson  
 Shannon Walden  
 Marvin Snyder  
 Donna Carroll  
 Juan Hutchins  
 Mitchell Coleman  
 Michelle Alston  
 Jordan Harris

Antonio Francis  
 Jeremy Smith  
 Mitch Wilson  
 Juan Mejia  
 Anthony Monte  
 Christine Kroel  
 John Raguth  
 Bernice McTier  
 LeTisha Nichols  
 Krista Hollingshead  
 LeRoy Hampton  
 Kiara Mason  
 Patrick Jackson  
 Benjamin Callahan

David Gainey Jr  
 Constance Jennings  
 Pharaoh Ramsey  
 Bert-D Arc Fils-Aime  
 Calvin White Jr  
 David Nabors Jr  
 Anthony Beautreau  
 David Robinson  
 Robert Nannery  
 Collette Allen  
 David Lampley Jr  
 Terisa Soso  
 Joshophate Smith  
 Jeremy Thomas

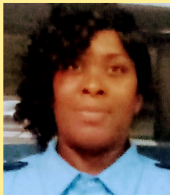
Tyrone Key  
 Walter Lewis  
 Natasha DeVillars  
 Celestine Smith  
 Kentrell Sullivan  
 Krystopher Falcone  
 Samuel Wilson  
 Jeremy Kelley  
 Mynisha George  
 Nadiyah Royal  
 Anna Sealey  
 Cornelius Burton  
 Leisha Blake  
 Titus Collins

Debra Garrett  
 Eric Bissett  
 Keith Olandt  
 Jada Douglas  
 Darryl Bazemor  
 Robert Taylor Jr  
 Bryant McCright  
 Keith Williams  
 Christopher Moritz  
 Carolyn Miller  
 Michael Stoskopf  
 Lateeyah Gammage  
 Kevin McEachin  
 Sheldon Clarke

Henry Moore Jr  
 John Bynum Jr  
 Curtis Poole  
 Lawrence Johnson  
 Lola Peterson  
 Chantavia Brown  
 Matthew Notaro  
 Andrea Maboya  
 Albert McNeal Jr  
 Richard Denshuick  
 Shelia Eaton  
 Kenneth Mobley  
 Shavon Engram  
 Tyrone Washington

## 2018 OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

July



Ebony Pearl  
CITY OF NORFOLK

July



Francisco Rosario  
MARITIME

July



Aundrea Boyd  
COMMERCIAL

July



Lauretta Johnson  
TCC

July



Anthony Jackson  
PENINSULA

August



Julian Tyree  
CITY OF NORFOLK

August



Charlene French  
MARITIME

August



Shakirra Jones  
COMMERCIAL

August



Bert-D Fils-Aime  
TCC

August



Joel Perry  
PENINSULA

September



Kenneth Portal  
CITY OF NORFOLK

September



Jennifer McCaw  
MARITIME

September



Cornelius Burton  
COMMERCIAL

September



Calvin Cowart  
TCC

September



Glen Veney  
PENINSULA



Richard Williams  
 Corey Teague  
 Jefferson Chisolm Jr.  
 Frank Alfano  
 Gregory Gallup  
 Spencer Robinson  
 Valerie Williams  
 Pansy Cherry  
 Alexander Brown  
 Chantae Goodwin  
 Quentin Thornton



Calvin King  
 Richard Van Rees  
 Thelma James  
 Kevin Holloway  
 Chad Jones  
 Vincent Detell

## OFFICERS OF THE 3rd QUARTER



Brandon Johnson  
NA



Jasmine Lamb  
AAFES



Rory Kearney  
Richmond



Paul Taylor  
JLAB

## 3rd QUARTER SUPERVISOR

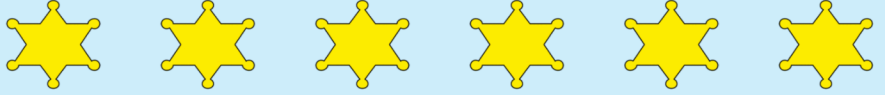


Charles Robinson



# Thank You Officer DeVillais!

Security Officer Natasha DeVillais is shown receiving her Employee Referral Bonus Check (symbolically). Bravo to Officer DeVillais for her thoughtful recommendation of potential officers. Call Debbie Madsen at 757-961-8210 to find out how you can earn a referral bonus too!



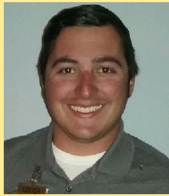
## 2018 OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

October



Nikki Williams  
CITY OF NORFOLK

October



Charles Lester  
MARITIME

October



John Philpotts  
COMMERCIAL

October



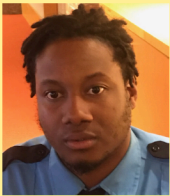
Antonio Francis  
TCC

October



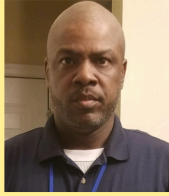
Dorothy Kelley  
PENINSULA

November



Rodney Lee  
CITY OF NORFOLK

November



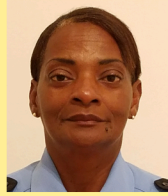
Marshall Mason  
MARITIME

November



LeTissha Nichols  
COMMERCIAL

November



Thelma James  
TCC

November



Marina Caine  
PENINSULA

December



Rodney Barnes  
CITY OF NORFOLK

December



Charles Simmons  
MARITIME

December



Darnell Elder  
COMMERCIAL

December



Rufell Davis  
TCC

December



Kesha Thomas  
PENINSULA

# CVTA



Do you want to further your security officer training? Take classes through the Coastal Virginia Training Academy! Learn more online.



## OFFICERS OF THE 4th QUARTER



Nathaniel Green  
AAFES



Virgil Watson  
NA



Philip Riley  
RICHMOND



Sean Rousseau  
JLAB

## 4th QUARTER SUPERVISOR



Chris Curtis

