

The Calvert Recorder

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Lt. McDowell gets rare chance to attend FBI academy

No Calvert sheriff's officers have been to training since '79

By Steve Schuster
Staff Writer

Lt. Dave McDowell with the Calvert County Sheriff's Office will soon be following in his father's footsteps, and will be participating in an elite training program at the FBI National Academy.

"We were granted a slot in the program and Sheriff [Mike] Evans (R) nominated me. Sheriff Evans sees the big picture — to make the agency better. He values merit and continuing education. We are very lucky to have a sheriff who supports ... deputies wanting to broaden their knowledge in their respective field," said McDowell, who is the patrol commander for the sheriff's office.

McDowell has been with the Calvert County Sheriffs Office for more than a decade.

Before working in Calvert County, McDowell got his start with the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police Department and has nearly 16 years of law enforcement experience.

McDowell, who has been married for 10 years, lives with his wife and two children in Calvert County.

McDowell will be in Quantico for 10 weeks starting April 2, but he will return home to Calvert County on the weekends to be with his family.

The program he will attend is an executive law enforcement leadership mini-college course, which will emphasize academics and physical fitness.

"It's a real career enhancement opportunity, a real honor," McDowell said.

McDowell's father, Col. Vincent Ducellier, is a retired graduate of the FBI National Academy and worked as a colonel with the Prince George's Police Department before retiring.

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McDowell said that the program he will attend is not a new agent-training program.

His program will focus on management philosophy and on supervising personnel. McDowell said he is very grateful for this opportunity and loves his job.

Attending the FBI academy “is something I’ve wanted to do since I entered into law enforcement. I work with the best men and women in the state of Maryland every day, and if I can learn something new to benefit us all, then it’s worth it,” McDowell said.

Evans said he has worked hard for this opportunity.

“When I was elected in 2002, I began talking to the FBI about getting a slot in their program. Calvert County hasn’t had someone [in the FBI’s program] since 1979. So, we started the process of getting a slot. We had [several people who qualified including] a couple of first sergeants, [but] Lt. McDowell is the future of our agency. He had the interest, and after reviewing a couple of other candidates, he was selected,” Evans said.

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