

NEWS RELEASE

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New Vienna Police Department Opens to the Public

Sunny skies set the stage for the new Vienna Police Department ribbon cutting ceremony today outside the building located at 215 Center St. S. The new \$14 million police department features upgraded technology, security measures and a large community room.

"For the first time in 15 years, the entire police department will be under one roof," said Vienna Police Chief Jim Morris with appreciation as he thanked those who supported the project. "For the first time in the 75-year history of the department, we have secured parking for the cruisers and officers"

The building's secure areas include a sally port for suspect transfers to and from the station, a firing range for training purposes, an up-to-date crime scene processing facility, dedicated computer server space, secure Town archive and evidence storage space, a dispatch center and enough administrative and office space to accommodate all sworn and civilian personnel.

"Having this modernized, new police station gives our outstanding police officers the tools they need to work at a high level and continue to keep our community safe, which is a key component of making a community thrive," said Vienna Town Manager Mercury Payton.

The new building replaces the 1994 structure that had been located at the same address. At the time it was built, it was expected to support the police department for more than 20 years, and it was utilized for more than 25 years until the department outgrew the space. For years, detectives have operated out of the Vienna Town Hall basement, the bike team operated out of the nearby Bowman House basement, and property and evidence were stored in secure storage lockers on Mill Street.

"Chief Jim Morris was instrumental in the planning process," said Mayor Linda Colbert. "He worked with the Town Council and staff to prioritize police department needs, and today, we can celebrate a new police station that is safe, secure and will serve the Town of Vienna residents well for many years to come."

After the ribbon cutting, the public was invited to tour the new facility. The public is also invited to drop by to tour the building between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022.

Furniture for the new building is expected to be delivered in mid-September. Officers will then begin moving in from the former Faith Baptist Church building, which served as the temporary headquarters during construction.