



Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail

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VPRJ PROVIDES MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITY FOR BOY SCOUT

Williamsburg, Virginia – The Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail had the privilege to assist a young man in the process of earning his Crime Prevention Merit Badge for his local Boy Scout troop. On Saturday, February 8, 2020, Lt. John Meyers, Director of Training at VPRJ, offered a tour of the jail to 13 year old Dalton West and his father, Scout Master of Troop 962, David West. Lt. Meyers, an Eagle Scout himself, took his guests through a tour of the administrative section of the jail as well as VPRJ's Master Control Center and briefing room.

“After being contacted by the family and speaking with them, this was a request that we wanted to accommodate as best we could,” said Superintendent Colonel Witham. “While we are a correctional facility and our primary duty is to care for the individuals committed to our custody, our inherent function is to serve the public. Assisting a member of the National Boy Scouts of America, a community based organization whose mission it is to cultivate the next generation of leaders in our nation, goes to the very heart of who we are as an agency. We are proud that we were able to assist this young man in earning his merit badge and wish him the greatest success as he continues to serve his community.”

The Crime Prevention Merit Badge is earned by completing multiple objectives, including the prospective earner visiting a jail, detention facility, or criminal court hearing and discussing the experience with his counselor. Dalton West currently holds the rank of Star Scout, and is in the process of attaining the rank of Life Scout, with plans to attain the highest rank of Eagle Scout. Throughout the tour, Lt. Meyers explained the process of commitment of individuals to the facility from the point of their arrest to their release, and also allowed his guests to view a populated housing unit from an outlook located above the unit.