

Sheriff C. O. Balderson Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office



Date: 10/02/2019

A State Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

To: Charles R. Walsh, Jr., LCSW

Executive Director

Middle Peninsula Northern Neck CSB

Subject: Notification of the Closing of Kilmarnock CIT RASC Center

The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office just received the announcement of closure of the Kilmarnock RASC Center. The loss of the RASC Center is extremely detrimental to providing mental health care for the citizens of Westmoreland County, as well as, all mental health care patients of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. As a rural Sheriff's Office we like many other jurisdictions are understaffed, we currently staff two deputies per shift, covering 253 square miles. The Kilmarnock RASC Center helps to relieve much of the staffing problems which comes with an Emergency Custody Order, and Temporary Detention Order. While we appreciate the Gloucester RASC Center remaining open, this site provides no relief to the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office or the mental health patients of Westmoreland County due to the distance the Gloucester RASC Center is from this jurisdiction. The Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office will continue to seek CIT Training for its staff, however, we hope you will reconsider closing the Kilmarnock RASC Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lieutenant C.M. Smith #5

Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office

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