
Bill Hobgood

Bill Hobgood is a 35-year veteran with the City of Richmond Virginia who has dedicated his past 37-years to Public Safety. Bill began his career in 1972 at the age of 17 as a Police Dispatcher for Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) while attending college. He began his tenure with the City of Richmond in 1974 as a Senior Communications Officer for the Bureau of Emergency Communications. In 1979, Bill was invited to work with a programmer from the City's Data Processing Department and coordinate the development of a Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System. In view of the lack of resource availability from Data Processing, Bill self-learned programming on a Data General platform and completely wrote, from scratch, Richmond's CAD System. This system was implemented on March 31, 1981. In recognition of Bill's hard work and success with the CAD Project, Bill was presented Richmond's first ever Communications Officer of the Year award. His position was reallocated to Senior Programmer in 1983. He was re-assigned to the Department of Information Technology in 1986 where he progressed through the ranks to his present position as Project Manager. He oversees a team of nine System Developers dedicated to the support of Public Safety and Justice Applications. Bill took on the role of Project Manager to oversee the acquisition and implementation of a new Intergraph CAD System which replaced the original CAD on September 11, 2007.

In addition to Bill accomplishments for Richmond, he also implemented and supported CAD Systems for James City County and York County, Virginia. Bill took a leading role in the successful implementation of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) – Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA) Alarm Pilot Interface implemented initially at York County and subsequently at the City of Richmond. The pilot resulted in an American National Standard in 2009 entitled the "External Alarm Interface Exchange". The project has received national recognition. The City of Richmond and Intergraph were jointly award the IJIS Institute's first ever Innovation Award in 2009. The City of Richmond and York County were jointly awarded the Governor's Technology Award for Innovation in Local Government in 2009. Both localities were recognized as 2009 Crown Communities by American City and County magazine directly as a result of the alarm project.

Bill was presented the Richmond Police Department's Telecommunicator of the Year award in 2003. He received the City of Richmond's highest employee recognition in 2006: the Sherwood Reeder award. In August, 2007, he was presented APCO's first ever Information Technologist award. In March, 2009, Bill received the E9-1-1 Institutes' 9-1-1 Technician award.

Bill has served as Past President for the North American Data General Users Group, the Law Enforcement Data General Users Group, and the National Association for Technology in Public Safety. He currently serves as a steering committee member for the Public Safety Data Interoperability (PSDI) Project and Chair for APCO's Data Transfer Committee.

Bill is a native Richmonder where he continues to live and work. His family includes his wife of 35 years, Sylvia, and his two children Chad and Casey.