

Stuart Bowen's job is cool because he makes safety a priority for the citizens of the area. Bowen is Chief of Police for the town of South Hill, Virginia, a job he began in July of 2016. Bowen began training for this cool job at Southside Virginia Community College. A graduate of Halifax County High School, Bowen attended SVCC from August of 1993 to May of 1995, graduating with an Associate of Arts and Sciences degree in Administration of Justice.

He said, "SVCC was instrumental in laying the groundwork that led to my graduation from Longwood and the cutting-edge topics that I was exposed to at both schools gave me a leg up as I started my career and was able to quickly move into leadership roles in the police department."

Chief Bowen is also a graduate of Longwood University, attending from January of 1996 to December of 1998, at which time he received the Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology (Criminal Justice Concentration).

He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy at Quantico and Professional Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond.

He moved through the ranks at the Lynchburg Police Department, serving that city for 16 years. He worked as a Patrol Officer, Community Policing Officer, Special Operations Division, and Criminal Investigation Division. He notes one of the highlights of his career was as Acting Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division during two successful homicide cases in Lynchburg. Also, as Special Investigations Unit Commander (Vice, Gang, Intelligence Units), he helped to develop the department's intelligence lead policing model and, also had the opportunity to lead the Street Crimes and K9 Units.

During his career, he has received numerous awards including Field Operations Officer of the Year, two Honorable Service Awards, one Unit Citation and over 70 Department Commendations. He has received specialized training and participated in activities such as Breath Alcohol Operator, Taser Instructor, Special Deputy US Marshal (Operation Falcon) and sworn with DEA.