



*“Leaving our fingerprint on the community.”*

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*“True Blue” is an informal group of Richmond Police Department officers that donate their time and energy in an effort to better their community in ways other than enforcing the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.*

*These officers, in their free time and “on-duty” time (when circumstances permit), participate in volunteer work, fund-raisers, and other activities that focus on making the City of Richmond a better place to live for everyone of all ages.*

*The word “Blue” in the term “True Blue” refers to the color of the uniform that these officers wear. The word “True” refers to being loyal to his/herself and his/her community. By being “true”, these officers are making an extra effort to strengthen police-community relations by becoming more involved in community projects and self-initiated activities that benefit the citizens of Richmond.*

*We, as members of “True Blue”, want to leave our positive “fingerprint” on the community by working hand in hand with established charitable organizations and by serving Richmond in our own capacity.*

*We are...”True Blue”.*

## True Blue Mission Statement

It is the mission of “True Blue” to make the City of Richmond a better place to live in numerous ways, whether it be through education, through positive environmental actions, or by assisting other pre-established charitable organizations. By providing volunteer services and working hand in hand with members of the community, we strive to not only create a more positive relationship between the Richmond Police Department and the citizens of Richmond, but to also make the City of Richmond a more desirable place to live. With interests in our city’s youth, environmental awareness, and other areas, “True Blue” is a well-rounded, flexible group of Richmond Police officers, that desire to make the extra effort to touch the lives of others in a non-law enforcement, service-oriented capacity.

## True Blue Background

*True Blue* was created with the intentions of forging a more positive relationship between the Richmond Police Department and the citizens that the department serves. There are several different venues that *True Blue* aspires to become involved in. Some of these include making a positive environmental impact, making contact and sharing time with children, and assisting other pre-existing service-oriented organizations.

In helping to make the community a cleaner place to live, members of *True Blue* may make note of areas that are littered with trash and, in their free time, come together to clean up these areas (with the landowner’s permission, of course, if applicable). We can also assist in cleaning up city-owned property, if feasible. Another option is to assist our senior citizens in cleaning up their yards.

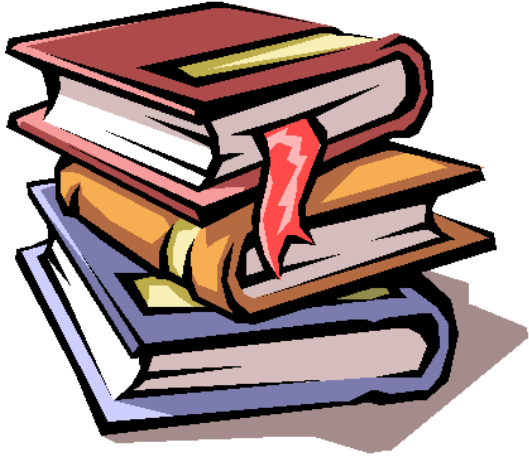
Since children are our future, it is important to teach them the differences between right and wrong from a young age in an effort to deter them from making the wrong choices in life. By being in the public, we can be seen and interact with children in a positive manner, giving them further role models to look up to. It is a possibility that we can work hand in hand with the Madison County Public Library to organize book drives to obtain children’s books that can be delivered to lower income children.

As far as working with other service organizations, there are several in the City of Richmond that we can work hand in hand with. We already, as a department, have members that work with *Habitat for Humanity* and “Shop with a Cop”. With *True Blue*, we may be able to assist not only these organizations, but others, in a more structured way.

This is by no means a definitive or exhaustive list of activities that *True Blue* can become involved in. *True Blue* is intended to be composed of several officers that can perform volunteer work on a very flexible schedule. The plan is to obtain information sheets on each member in order to ascertain his or her availability to assist in these situations. With the assistance of others in the Richmond Police Department, *True Blue* can make a very positive impact on our community.

*True Blue*  
Project Ideas





## *True Blue's* “Open Book” Project

### Overview:

The purpose of this project is to collect new or gently used books for children in order to expose them to the joys of reading and being read to. This doesn't necessarily have to be limited to focusing on lower-income homes, but priority should be placed with that demographic.

### What's needed:

- Officer's time and energy
- Large cardboard boxes (to be decorated with info/pics) for collection of books
- Possible collaboration with the Madison County Public Library
- Flyers/website/newspaper notifications
- Permission from businesses to place boxes/flyers at their stores
- List of children that qualify to receive free book (also list of qualifications to determine who fits criteria)
- Time frame decided (when to collect; when to stop; when to distribute)
- Etc.



*True Blue's*  
“Project Green”

**Overview:**

The purpose of this project is to assist in beautification efforts of the City of Richmond, be it on private property (with permission), on city property, or rights of way. Officers may observe for areas that need attention and make a note of the locations. Once an e-mail address is set up, citizens may contact us and provide locations that we may be of assistance in.

**What's needed:**

- Officer's time and energy
- Garbage bags/gloves
- Simple observation while officer's are patrolling (to notice areas that need attention)
- Vehicle to transport garbage/etc.
- Permission to be on private property
- Etc.