



Addison E. Slayton Jr. Scholarship

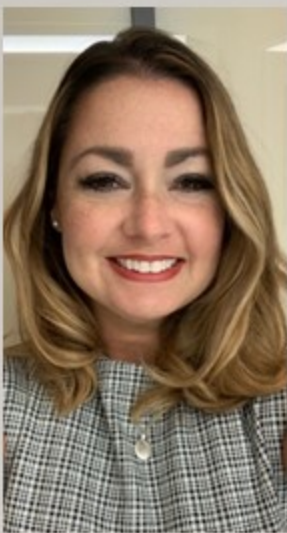
Lauren Wallace is an Emergency Management Specialist with Prince William County Office of Emergency Management (PWC OEM) and a student member of VEMA. Lauren was an Intern with PWC OEM for 9 months before she entered the competitive hiring process and was hired on as a Specialist. She oversees community outreach and engagement and enjoys her work helping individuals in the community become more prepared. Her goal is to encourage citizens to take care of themselves and their families before emergencies to enable them to lessen their stress and achieve a higher quality of life. She works to accomplish this through education, engaging media, and interactions that make people feel valued and empowered. She has especially enjoyed working with the Access and Functional Needs workgroup to gain better insight on how to reach individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs before, during, and after a disaster. She is pursuing a graduate degree in Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness from Virginia Commonwealth University. She plans to graduate in Spring 2021.

Lauren Wallace

Emergency
Management
Specialist,
Prince William County
Office of Emergency
Management



Symposium Scholarship



**Melanie Whorley
Clark**
Public Safety
Advocate;
Move Over VA



On October 11, 2018, Hanover County Fire-EMS experienced the tragic Line of Duty Death of Lieutenant Bradford T. Clark. Since Brad's death, his wife Melanie has made it her life's mission to carry on his legacy. She left a career in dental administration to focus on highway safety awareness within the fire service, change and enhance move over laws in Virginia and to raise awareness about the move over laws to its citizens and visitors.

On any given day, you can find Melanie at the Virginia State Capital meeting with lawmakers in the House of Delegates and Senate or speaking in front of a group of public safety professionals at conference's such as FDIC International, Texas Fire Chiefs, Drive Smart Virginia, Virginia Occupational Safety and Health annual conference to include a few. She also works closely with the Tunnel To Towers Foundation, who came to her aid in the early days after Brad's death.

Recently she launched a Move Over VA Facebook and Instagram page that highlights the service of a firefighter, police officer, or tow truck operator weekly for Move Over Monday. This is to remind motorists of the importance of Moving Over for all emergency personnel who work our dangerous roadways daily.

Melanie Whorley Clark of Hanover County, Virginia has received a Symposium Scholarship for attendance at VEMS 2020. Melanie was nominated by a peer who demonstrated the need for expenses to be covered. She has been instrumental in ensuring that responders are safe on the roadways with the passage of Virginia's Move Over Law. Also, Melanie is also receiving the Legislative Achievement Award for her work in ensuring the passage of this important law within the emergency management industry.