



## GASTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Post Office Box 1578  
420 West Franklin Boulevard  
Gastonia, NC 28052  
Telephone: (704) 866-3320 Fax: (704) 866-3314



### **The James W. Buie Scholarship**

James W. Buie joined the Gaston County Police Department in 1987, after graduating from Belmont Abbey College with a degree in Political Science. During his 30 year law enforcement career Buie served in every unit and function within the department. His leadership abilities and strong work ethic allowed him to rise through the ranks to become Chief of Police in 2011. Chief Buie was the first African-American Police Chief in Gaston County History.

This full tuition scholarship, valued at \$74,000 to be paid evenly over four years in partnership with Belmont Abbey College, has been created to strengthen local ties between Gaston County and the College, and increase the diversity of GCPD. Successful scholars will earn a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Belmont Abbey College, and secure employment with Gaston County Police Department upon graduation.

Applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Classification as a current sophomore at Belmont Abbey College
- Preference to residents of Gaston County and underrepresented populations
- BAC cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Pursuit of an undergraduate degree in criminal justice
- Demonstration of strong school and community involvement through volunteerism
- Clear Criminal History

Required Information for CURRENT BAC students:

1. Completed application
2. Unofficial BAC transcript
3. Three Letters of Recommendation (two of which must be from a BAC faculty member)
4. If selected as a finalist, you will be required to complete additional paperwork for participation in police intern activities including: polygraph waiver, information credit truthfulness, photograph fingerprint consent, and internship packet. You will also participate in an oral interview with the scholarship committee comprised of Gaston County and Belmont Abbey College officials.
5. The scholarship recipient will be expected to complete a degree in Criminal Justice from Belmont Abbey College and work for a minimum of five years with the Gaston County Police Department.



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## The James W. Buie Scholarship

### Personal Information:

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First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Preferred First Name
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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Email Address	Date of Birth	Cell Phone (If Applicable)
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Parent or Guardian Email Address	Home Telephone
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Intended Major/Path of Study Related to Criminal Justice: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been expelled or suspended from school? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please explain.

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? \_\_\_\_\_

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Reference #1	Email	Telephone
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Reference #2	Email	Telephone
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Reference #3	Email	Telephone
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**Significant Honors and Awards:** Please list, *in order of importance to you*, any honors or awards you have received during high school and college, both within and outside the classroom.

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Honor/Award Date Received Organization

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Description

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Honor/Award Date Received Organization

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Description

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Honor/Award Date Received Organization

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Description

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**Extracurricular and Leadership Activities:** Please list your primary extracurricular and leadership activities during high school and college, including summers, ***in order of their importance to you***. Please place an asterisk (\*) beside the three activities you wish to be given special consideration.

Activity	Participation Date(s)	Position Held
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		
4. _____		
5. _____		
6. _____		
7. _____		
8. _____		
9. _____		
10. _____		

**Please list any current and previous employment:**

Employer	Position	Date Range
Employer	Position	Date Range
Employer	Position	Date Range

**Community Service:** Please summarize three noteworthy community service/volunteer experiences below, your motivation for service, the population served, and what you learned from the experience:

Experience 1:

Experience 2:

Experience 3:

**Essay Questions:** Please attach a typed document with answers to the following essay questions. Please limit all response to the word counts provided.

- A. What exciting idea or experience from your recent studies or activities has sparked your interest? What have you done to explore this interest or how has it challenged you? (350 words)
- B. What makes you a qualified applicant for the James W. Buie Scholarship and how would the scholarship facilitate your pursuit of a law enforcement career? (350 words)
- C. The James W. Buie Scholarship includes summer internship opportunities. Describe in detail an ideal local criminal justice-focused summer internship that you would create and complete the summer after your freshman year of college. (350 words)
- D. What additional information do you feel is of importance to the selection committee that you were unable to include? Limit responses to one paragraph.

**In submitting this application, I authorize investigation of all statements contained in it, and it is understood and agreed that any misrepresentation by me in the application will be sufficient cause for cancellation of this application. I authorize the Gaston County Police Department to make any investigation deemed necessary and release the party contacted from all liabilities and damages for issuing same.**

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Signature

Date

**The application packet is due to Dr. Julia Beeman, Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at BAC, by February 15, 2017. Letters of Recommendation should be sent directly from the BAC faculty member to Dr. Beeman.**



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## The James W. Buie Scholarship School Counselor Recommendation Letter

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommender Name and Position: \_\_\_\_\_

To the applicant: Please sign one of the statements below:

Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Buckley Amendment), which gives students the right to inspect and review their education records, students may waive their right to see specific statements and letters of recommendation. In the belief that applicants, and the persons from whom they request evaluation, may wish to preserve the confidentiality of those evaluations, we are giving you the opportunity to sign one of the following statements:

I waive my right to examine this letter:

I do not waive my right to examine this letter:

The James W. Buie Scholarship was designed to recognize exceptional Gaston County students who are interested in pursuing a career in criminal justice. The ideal applicant will demonstrate a commitment to scholastic achievement, interest in a criminal justice-related profession, involvement in his/her school, and community service. This form is to be completed by a school counselor, teacher or community member knowledgeable about the applicant's character and achievements. Please use your expertise to assess the candidate's qualification for this scholarship. Please print in black ink or type. This form may be completed on additional pages clearly labeled with the applicant's name.

The following questions are provided as guidelines for the letter of recommendation:

In what capacity have you known the applicant and for how long?

Please give your assessment of the applicant's commitment to his/her school and community.

In what ways would the applicant have a positive impact on his/her college community, both in academics and extracurricular pursuits?

Please return your letter of recommendation in a sealed, signed envelope to the applicant **before** February 15<sup>th</sup>.



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