

**REPORT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES ON**

Crime Prevention Center Study

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



SENATE DOCUMENT NO. 12

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1994**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 263

Requesting the Department of Criminal Justice Services to study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a Crime Prevention Center.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 9, 1993

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 1993

WHEREAS, in 1981, the General Assembly established the Department of Criminal Justice Services to administer compulsory minimum training standards for law-enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, this agency's mission also includes administration of criminal justice in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, due to the rise in violent and non-violent crime, the Commonwealth is in need of a Crime Prevention Center to study and recommend methods to reduce the opportunity for crime; and

WHEREAS, such a center could provide crime prevention assistance and training, resource materials and research into methodologies to reduce crime; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Department of Criminal Justice Services be requested to study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a Crime Prevention Center to provide crime prevention assistance to the Commonwealth and its localities.

The Department shall complete its work and submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1994 Session of the General Assembly, in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

PREFACE

Senate Joint Resolution 263 requested the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a Crime Prevention Center to provide crime prevention assistance to the Commonwealth and its localities. The resolution noted that, due to the rise in violent and non-violent crime, the Commonwealth is in need of a Crime Prevention Center to study and recommend methods to reduce the opportunity for crime. The center could provide crime prevention assistance and training, resource materials, and research into methodologies to reduce crime.

The Crime Prevention Section located in the Division of State and Local Services in DCJS conducted the Crime Prevention Center study. The following activities were undertaken to complete the study:

- .. A focus group meeting of crime prevention practitioners was held in July 1993 to receive input on their crime prevention needs.
- .. A survey of local and state law enforcement agencies was conducted to assess crime prevention needs and existing crime prevention services.
- .. A survey of law enforcement training academies was conducted to assess their crime prevention training needs.
- .. A meeting of state crime prevention leaders from North Carolina, Maryland, West Virginia, Delaware, the District of Columbia, and Virginia was held to review and assess statewide crime prevention programs and services.
- .. Crime prevention related services provided by other state agencies and organizations were studied.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sir Robert Peel succeeded in influencing Parliament to pass the Metropolitan Police Act of 1929. The first Order of the Metropolitan Police was a triumph of clarity, simplicity and vision:

... it should be understood, at the outset, that the principal object to be attained is the prevention of crime. To this great end every effort of the police is to be directed. (1)

Executive Order 48, issued by Governor Wilder, established the Governor's Commission on Violent Crime. The order stated in part:

In making its recommendations, the Commission shall consider the following strategies, among others, for the reduction of violent crime and the fear of crime in Virginia: to prevent crime from occurring in the first place.

Recently the Virginia Crime Prevention Association published a model set of Crime Prevention Standards for law enforcement agencies. But what exactly is crime prevention? For this report, crime prevention is defined as the anticipation, appraisal and assessment of a crime risk and the initiation of some activity to reduce or remove that risk. This definition was developed by the National Crime Prevention Institute in 1968 and is the basis for law enforcement sponsored crime prevention programs throughout the United States. Crime prevention is the removal or reduction of the opportunity for crime. It supports, but is not, investigation, arrest, adjudication, incarceration, punishment or treatment. It focuses on the victim, not the offender.

In the fall of 1977, the Division of Justice and Crime Prevention (now the Department of Criminal Justice Services) initiated an effort to create an awareness in the law enforcement community of the need to provide crime prevention services. A survey revealed that only sixteen (16) law enforcement agencies were providing formal crime prevention services. However, a substantial number indicated they were willing to provide such services, but generally lacked the training and technical support to do so.

Since 1977, crime prevention programming has grown considerably in Virginia. A survey of crime prevention services conducted for this survey found that 161 law enforcement agencies are providing crime prevention services. This involves over 600 sworn officers and civilians providing a great variety of crime prevention programs.

The survey also requested that law enforcement respond to the following mission statement for a proposed Crime Prevention Center:

The mission of the Virginia Crime Prevention Center is to enhance public safety in the Commonwealth by promoting, supporting and improving crime prevention through leadership, policy development, training, technical assistance, research and innovation.

Ninety-five (95%) of the law enforcement executives responded that the mission statement was appropriate, while five percent (5%) stated it was too broad.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services has conducted or participated in a variety of studies of crime and crime prevention:

- .. Neighborhood Watch Study - HJR 50 (1983)
- .. Governor's Business and Industry Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention (1984)
- .. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Committee (1984)
- .. Building Code Security Needs Study - HJR 64 (1988)
- .. Violent Crime and Worker's Safety in Virginia Convenience Stores (1991)
- .. Violent Crime in Convenience Stores: Analysis of Crime, Criminals and Costs
HJR 149 (1992)
- .. Governor's Commission on Violent Crime (1993)

Interest in crime prevention goes beyond local law enforcement. There are a variety of organizations and groups throughout the state offering crime prevention programs and services which target particular crime issues:

- .. Virginia Crime Prevention Association - crime prevention training, technical assistance and resource material addressing all areas of crime prevention
- .. Virginia Department of State Police - general crime prevention services, DARE - drug abuse, and HEAT - auto theft
- .. State Council of Higher Education - campus sexual assault
- .. Virginia Council on Coordinating Prevention - crime prevention in low income housing communities
- .. Virginia Partnership for the Prevention of Youth Violence - youth violence prevention
- .. Virginia Polytechnic and State University - small retail business crime prevention

The support of crime prevention by local law enforcement, citizen support of crime prevention with over 300,000 households participating in Neighborhood Watch, and the commitment of a variety of statewide organizations and associations demonstrates a strong need for a centralized point to provide crime prevention leadership. The Department of Criminal Justice Services has provided this leadership since 1977.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services is responsible for law enforcement and private security training standards and regulation; criminal justice grant funding; aid to localities with

police departments (599 funds); criminal justice research; criminal justice policy development; and support services for crime prevention, law enforcement, corrections, juvenile justice, victim/witness services, courts and research. Providing this broad range of services under one criminal justice agency provides a unique opportunity to incorporate crime prevention philosophy, programs, and services into the various components of the criminal justice system.

Senate Joint Resolution 263 requested DCJS to study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a crime prevention center. Based on the continuing growth of local and statewide crime prevention programs, the desirability to establish a Crime Prevention Center is evident. The feasibility of establishing a Crime Prevention Center is also quite evident. DCJS has been providing crime prevention services since 1978. However there is no legislative mandate for DCJS to perform this activity. A legislative mandate for DCJS to establish and maintain a Crime Prevention Center would give greater recognition to crime prevention. It would also serve to institutionalize state supported crime prevention services and programs. In many states, statewide crime prevention services have been discontinued or greatly reduced because there was no mandate to provide the services or because they were too dependent on federal funding. Virginia should not risk the loss of leadership in the design and provision of crime prevention services and activities.

RECOMMENDATION

Establish a Virginia Crime Prevention Center within the Department of Criminal Justice Services by amending the duties of the Department in Section 9-170 in the Code of Virginia. The mission of the Crime Prevention Center will be to provide crime prevention training, technical assistance and resource material to individuals, local governments, organizations and state agencies. Additional funds are not required to establish the Crime Prevention Center, however additional funds would allow for the expansion of services to meet needs identified by chiefs and sheriffs of local and state law enforcement agencies.

INTRODUCTION

Sir Robert Peel succeeded in influencing Parliament to pass the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829. The first Order of the Metropolitan Police was a triumph of clarity, simplicity and vision:

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Executive Order 48, issued by Governor Wilder, established the Governor's Commission on Violent Crime. The order stated in part:

In making its recommendations, the Commission shall consider the following strategies, among others, for the reduction of violent crime and the fear of crime in Virginia: (1) to prevent crime from occurring in the first place; (2) to solve crime when it occurs and to strengthen the criminal justice system through new laws, procedures, resources and techniques which will expedite verdicts, provide meaningful sanctions and protect the rights of all persons; and (3) to reduce criminal recidivism by equipping offenders with the skills and perspectives to return to society as productive citizens.

Recently the Virginia Crime Prevention Association published a model set of Crime Prevention Standards for law enforcement agencies. The foreword to the standards offers an excellent introduction to crime prevention. (2)

The need to address crime is as old as civilization itself. And, while we have always struggled with whether to punish or rehabilitate criminal activity, there has never been any question that the best alternative to "illegal" behavior is prevention.

Yet while history is filled with examples of punishments for given crimes, the evolution of prevention is not as easily identified. Perhaps this is due, in some part, to the militaristic viewpoint that tends to prevail in history. Or, maybe it is because prevention is not considered as exciting as investigation, arrest and sanction.

In any case, prevention as a basis for policing was formulated in England with the passage of the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829. Prevention was the ultimate goal of the organized police force and the prevention philosophy translated into practice. Thus, English law enforcement chose not to arm themselves. Armament was viewed as a reaction to crime, not a way to prevent it.

Over the ensuing years, however, the prevention tradition established by Robert Peel in England was overshadowed by a growing emphasis on investigation, arrest, and punishment. This was likely due to the growing impact of criminal activity. For example, the White Rabbit Gang which operated in New York in the early part of the twentieth century, was largely responsible for the decision of the New York Police to arm themselves. The gang's activities and increasing influence meant officers had to spend greater amounts of time responding to crime instead of preventing it. This established

a cycle in which criminal activity would evolve to a higher level, then enforcement would have to respond with increasingly punitive strategies which moved further and further away from the prevention tradition.

It wasn't until the early 1970's that prevention again assumed importance in police efforts. The growing burglary rate in the United States forced the National Sheriff's Association to develop a national Neighborhood Watch program. Since the inception of Neighborhood Watch two decades ago, the burglary rate has dropped consistently. Today it is about half of what it was twenty years ago.

The success of such programs fueled renewed interest in prevention strategies. In recent years, community policing and problem oriented policing, both of which are grounded in prevention, have grown rapidly, both in the United States and in other western countries. This trend towards prevention-based policing underscores the need to establish standards by which local law enforcement agencies can gauge their crime prevention efforts.

But what exactly is crime prevention? For this report, crime prevention is defined as the anticipation, appraisal and assessment of a crime risk and the initiation of some activity to reduce or remove that risk. This definition was developed by the National Crime Prevention Institute in 1968 and is the basis for law enforcement sponsored crime prevention programs throughout the United States. Crime prevention is the removal or reduction of the opportunity for crime. It supports, but is not, investigation, arrest, adjudication, incarceration, punishment or treatment. It focuses on the victim, not the offender.

The National Crime Prevention Council further refined the crime prevention definition when it developed the following 10 principles of crime prevention: (3)

Crime prevention is: (1) everyone's business, (2) more than security, (3) a responsibility of all levels of government, (4) linked with solving social problems, and (5) cost effective.

Crime Prevention requires: (6) a central position in law enforcement, (7) cooperation by all elements of the community, (8) education, (9) tailoring to local needs and conditions, and (10) continual testing and improvement.

The Code of Virginia Section 15.1-138, Powers of the Police Force, defines crime prevention as an important mission for law enforcement:

Each policeman shall endeavor to prevent the commission within the county, city, and town, of offenses against laws of the Commonwealth and against the ordinances and regulations of the county, city and town; shall observe and enforce such laws, ordinances, and regulations; shall detect and arrest offenders against the same; shall preserve the good order of the county, city and town; and shall secure the inhabitants therein from violence and their property from injury.

Crime Prevention Success Stories

The crime prevention philosophy of reducing the opportunity for crime has been used very successfully to address a wide variety of crime problems. The Direct Deposit Program, established by the Department of Treasury, has been very effective in eliminating the theft of Social Security benefits. The opportunity was removed by making sure that the monthly Social Security check was not available for theft. The Department of the Treasury estimates that 16 million potential crimes are prevented because 16 million people participate in Direct Deposit.(4) Not only is this a good crime prevention program, it is also good business management.

Since the mid 1970's, 1,621 law enforcement officers' lives have been saved because of the use of soft body armor. (5) The KEVLAR Survivors' Club, a joint project between the International Association of Chiefs of Police and Dupont, estimates that the typical police killing costs government nearly \$1.5 million in survivors' benefits and officer replacement costs. The body armor does not prevent the crime but it does reduce the potential loss when an assault does occur. Officer safety has also been improved because of police officer survival training, which teaches police officers how not to become victims of crime. Again, as was the case with Direct Deposit (where a crime prevention strategy became good business) soft body armor also has spin-off benefits. The KEVLAR Survivors' Club data base shows that 42% of the saves involved traffic accidents. Thus, crime prevention has helped improve traffic safety.

Today, violence in convenience stores is a serious issue, but if the Southland Corporation had not adopted an aggressive crime prevention approach to make their stores less attractive targets for robbery in the early 1970's, our convenience store crime problem would be significantly greater. A study conducted for the convenience store industry found that from 1976 to 1986, the number of convenience store robberies decreased 65%, and the average dollar loss per robbery decreased from over \$130 to just over \$30. (6) These changes were brought about through prevention strategies which focused on employee training, reducing cash on hand, and changes in management and store design. Today, convenience stores are again experiencing serious violent crime threats because of late night store hours and only one or two clerks being on duty.

The growth in Neighborhood Watch and better home security through better locks and alarms seem to have had an impact on burglary. In 1992, the burglary rate in Virginia was its lowest rate since 1969. In 1992, there were 45,217 reported burglaries or 719 burglaries per 100,000 persons. This is 18,803 fewer burglaries than in 1980 when there were 64,020 burglaries - a decrease of 29% in reported offenses and a 40% decrease in the rate per 100,000 persons. (7)

When we do not direct resources toward prevention, we incur tremendous criminal costs, uncounted costs to victims, and the perceived loss of community safety. Through several studies of convenience store crime, DCJS found that the correctional costs of those persons convicted just for convenience store robberies in one year are \$12 million.(8) Aggressive crime prevention can be part of the solution to the prison overcrowding problem.

BACKGROUND

In the fall of 1977, the Division of Justice and Crime Prevention (now the Department of Criminal Justice Services) initiated an effort to create an awareness in the law enforcement community of the need to provide crime prevention services. At the outset, a survey was distributed to 150 law enforcement agencies throughout the state to determine the existing level of services and the interest in expanding them. The survey revealed that only sixteen (16) law enforcement agencies were providing formal crime prevention services. However, a substantial number indicated they were willing to provide such services, but generally lacked the training and technical support to do so.

The next step was to devise a plan for increasing the number of jurisdictions providing crime prevention services. The plan had to be compatible with the limited resources DCJS had available for the effort, 25% of one staff member's time. The decision was made to create a statewide crime prevention association, the activities and direction of which could be coordinated by DCJS staff.

DCJS sponsored the Virginia Crime Prevention Association's (VCPA) organizational meeting in Richmond on May 25, 1978. Seventy-five (75) law enforcement officers and volunteers joined the Association in 1978. Today, the Association has 461 members. To assure continued coordination between the Association and DCJS, the Association's by-laws were written to include a DCJS staff member as a permanent advisor to its Board of Directors.

While DCJS was working to establish the VCPA and providing assistance to several law enforcement agencies, the 1978 General Assembly passed Senate Joint Resolution 51 which called for the establishment of a Sexual Assault Resource Center within the Secretariat of Public Safety. H. Selwyn Smith, Secretary of Public Safety, requested that DCJS proceed with plans to implement the resolution.

In the course of its work, DCJS staff met with Secretary Smith and persuaded him that the Resource Center should be responsive to all crime prevention related needs, not just those pertaining to sexual assault. Initial plans called for obtaining a federal grant from the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to cover the start-up costs and initial operations of the Resource Center. But Secretary Smith decided against seeking grant funds.

DCJS staff then provided Secretary Smith with a scaled-down crime prevention workplan and two options for implementation. The first option recommended that DCJS devote a full-time position to the program and obtain an additional person by contract. The second option recommended that the entire effort be housed at the Department of State Police because of its personnel resources. Secretary Smith decided in March 1980 that DCJS should assign one staff member full-time to this effort in order to direct a statewide crime prevention program.

Because of budget constraints, DCJS was unable to employ a contractual position to fulfill the manpower requirements of the plan. One staff person, working in the Law Enforcement Section, began working with local law enforcement and state agencies and organizations to

encourage them to develop the capability to deliver crime prevention services. Although a number of agencies and organizations were targeted as potential service deliverers, three were selected for major concentration: the Virginia Crime Prevention Association, the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, and the Virginia Department of State Police.

DCJS staff planned to work with the Virginia Crime Prevention Association to create a network of crime prevention practitioners to develop programs, conduct training and provide technical assistance. The Cooperative Extension Services was recognized as a valuable asset because it had an extension agent in every county and most cities. A plan was developed for the State Police that involved the development of local crime prevention councils and augmentation of local crime prevention services when necessary. Other targeted agencies and organizations included the American Association of Retired Persons, the Virginia Farm Bureau, the Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs, Central Fidelity Bank, and others.

In 1981, an additional staff person was employed to assist with the DCJS crime prevention effort. Grant funds were also used to employ a temporary employee to provide public information assistance for the crime prevention initiative. In 1981, the Department of Criminal Justice Services also became a member of the National Crime Prevention Coalition (NCPC). This organization was created by the U. S. Department of Justice and several national organizations to support a national citizens' crime prevention campaign. McGruff, the Crime Prevention Dog, serves as the national symbol for this effort.

From 1977 to 1986, DCJS relied on in-house resources to support the statewide crime prevention effort. In 1986, federal funds (Justice Assistance Act) became again available to support crime prevention programming. DCJS used these funds to develop resource material and to contract with two regional training academies to provide crime prevention training. At the same time, the Virginia Crime Prevention Association employed an Executive Director and, in cooperation with DCJS, began to expand its efforts.

During the 1989 General Assembly session, Delegate Creekmore introduced a \$350,000 budget initiative to maintain a statewide crime prevention program. A budget initiative of \$160,000 was also introduced by Delegate Robert B. Ball, Sr. Eventually an amendment of \$160,000 to the DCJS budget was passed to maintain a statewide crime prevention program. The budget amendment authorized two full-time staff positions.

The crime prevention budget allowed DCJS to expand its crime prevention services with more training, technical assistance and resource material. Because of limited staff and yet a growing demand for crime prevention training and technical assistance, DCJS entered into a contract, through a competitive bid, with the Virginia Crime Prevention Association to provide crime prevention training, technical assistance and resource material. This contract has been maintained with the VCPA through an annual competitive bid. With the creation of a budget for crime prevention, a separate Crime Prevention Section was created within DCJS. Prior to its creation, crime prevention services were performed through the DCJS Law Enforcement Section.

Federal grant funds were again made available for crime prevention when the Justice Assistance Act program was transformed into the Anti-Drug Abuse Act grant program. This grant was used to fund local and state agency crime prevention activities. A crime prevention grant was awarded that expanded DCJS crime prevention activities by adding two new temporary positions to meet the expanding demand for crime prevention services.

During the 1992 General Assembly session, an additional \$26,450 was authorized for additional crime prevention training and technical assistance for DCJS. Currently, the Crime Prevention Section is operating with \$186,450 of general funds and \$164,879 of federal funds.

CURRENT CRIME PREVENTION SERVICES - DCJS

During 1992, the Crime Prevention Section at DCJS, in cooperation with the Virginia Crime Prevention Association delivered the following crime prevention services to law enforcement, civic and professional associations, businesses, schools, and others.

Figure 1

MAJOR CRIME PREVENTION SERVICES PROVIDED OR FUNDED BY DCJS IN 1992

- Served as lead staff to the Governor's Commission on Violent Crime.
 - Provided 15 crime prevention training courses training 545 persons.
 - Participated in 9 training programs and conferences reaching 1,235 persons.
 - Provided technical assistance to 285 agencies and organizations.
 - Conducted 6 school safety and security assessments.
 - Managed the 1992 Governor's Community Crime Prevention Awards Program.
 - Distributed 390,000 crime prevention brochures and booklets.
 - Managed 19 crime prevention grants for local and state agencies of \$1,026,640.
 - Made presentations to 26 organizations reaching 1,360 persons.
-

CRIME PREVENTION LEGISLATIVE MANDATES - DCJS

Currently there are three legal mandates relating to crime prevention which directly impact the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Criminal Justice Services Board

A representative of the Virginia Crime Prevention Association serves on the Criminal Justice Services Board. Section 9-168 of the Code of Virginia states that the Governor must appoint to the Criminal Justice Services Board "one member representing the Virginia Crime Prevention Association selected from among names submitted by the Association". This legislation was patroned by Delegate Thomas Moss of Norfolk.

McGruff House

The McGruff House Program was established in 1989 as the result of legislation patroned by Senator Mark Early of Chesapeake. Section 9-173.4 of the Code of Virginia authorizes localities to participate in the McGruff House Program. A McGruff House is a home where a child in immediate emotional or physical danger or who is in immediate fear of abuse or neglect may seek temporary refuge or assistance. The Virginia McGruff House program was developed after a model created by the National Crime Prevention Coalition and the State of Utah.

The legislation directed the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop regulations to administer the program and to provide assistance to localities wishing to implement it. Presently there are nearly 1,000 McGruff Houses in twenty (20) localities which sponsor the program.

Crime Prevention Specialists

The Crime Prevention Specialist legislation directs the Board of Criminal Justice Services to promulgate regulations establishing minimum standards for certification of Crime Prevention Specialists. Section 9-173.15 and 9-173.15 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the chief executive of any state or local law enforcement agency to designate one or more employees as Crime Prevention Specialists. The duties of the Crime Prevention Specialist are to provide citizens, businesses, and other units of government assistance and information on programs which reduce and prevent crime. This legislation was patroned by Delegate Glenn Croshaw of Virginia Beach.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services is currently following the requirements of the Administrative Process Act to develop regulations for the designation of Crime Prevention Specialists.

CRIME PREVENTION STUDIES

Over the years there have been many crime prevention related studies conducted by the Department of Criminal Justice Services or in cooperation with other state agencies. The most significant studies include:

Neighborhood Watch Study - HJR 50 (1983)

A study conducted on behalf of the Secretary of Public Safety by the Department of Criminal Justice Services to compile information about the status of Neighborhood Watch programs in Virginia and to develop a model Neighborhood Watch plan and publicize the effectiveness of Neighborhood Watch throughout Virginia. The study found that nearly 200,000 households in 120 cities, counties and towns were participating in Neighborhood Watch.

A model Neighborhood Watch Program Guide was developed and distributed throughout the state and training seminars were offered to law enforcement agencies and citizens' groups. Since 1985, the Virginia Crime Prevention Association and the Department of Criminal Justice Services have cosponsored a statewide Neighborhood Watch seminar. Approximately 500 individuals have attended this seminar in each of the last three years.

Governor's Business and Industry Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention (1984)

Governor Robb appointed 18 people representing a broad spectrum of business and industry to a Business and Industry Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention in 1984. The goal of the committee was to assist in strengthening the role Virginia's businesses and industries play in crime prevention activities throughout the state. Staff for the committee was provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Department of State Police.

The committee developed three main objectives:

Community Crime Prevention: To develop a mechanism wherein government, business and industry, services and civic organizations, education, and other community interests can work to support and maintain local crime prevention services.

Employee Crime Prevention Services: To develop, within major businesses, the desire and capability to provide employees with crime prevention services which enhance their safety and security at home, in transit to and from work, and at the worksite.

Statewide Services: To improve the capability within state government, in statewide associations, and in organizations with crime prevention interests to promote, develop and improve the delivery of crime prevention services statewide.

The committee made twenty-three (23) recommendations to improve community crime prevention and to improve crime prevention services for business and industry services. The committee also recommended that the state should provide a sufficient level of funding to maintain a statewide crime prevention program. It also recommended that the state's crime prevention program should continue to be housed at the Department of Criminal Justice Services and that the Department of State Police provide direct services to the public in areas of the state where services were insufficient or lacking.

As a result of the work of the committee, a Business and Industry Crime Prevention Guide was developed and distributed throughout the state, business crime prevention training seminars were organized through local chambers of commerce and retail merchants associations, school-based crime prevention programs were implemented in several localities, and additional crime prevention training was made available to law enforcement personnel.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Committee (1984)

In 1984, Frank White, Secretary of Transportation and Public Safety, appointed a multi-disciplinary committee to study and make recommendations about the potential for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) to reduce crime. The committee presented twenty-three recommendations to Secretary White to implement CPTED strategies to address crime. Some of the recommendations included:

The Bureau of Insurance should establish rules requiring insurance companies in Virginia to offer attractive policy premium discounts to homeowners who have met minimum residential security standards.

The Department of General Services should establish contract incentives to encourage bidders on state construction projects to provide bid proposals which address security needs through CPTED.

The architecture schools at the University of Virginia and Virginia Polytechnic and State University should study the role of architecture in crime prevention to determine if educational requirements relating to security and crime should be established.

There were also recommendations concerning law enforcement training, crime reporting and others. Secretary White directed the Department of Criminal Justice Services to work to implement as many of the recommendations as possible. However, no additional funds were provided to support the implementation of the recommendations.

The report has served as a guide for CPTED initiatives in Virginia and remains in use today. Some CPTED accomplishments which resulted from this report include: the use of CPTED strategies by approximately forty (40) local law enforcement agencies, inclusion of law enforcement in the community planning process, the addition of basic security requirements to the Uniform Statewide Building Code, a requirement for the inclusion of CPTED in campus

construction for all colleges and universities, an amendment to the state's law on zoning defining "protection from crime" as one of the purposes of zoning, and the creation of a Governor's Community Crime Prevention Award for CPTED Achievement.

Building Code Security Needs - HJR 64 (1988)

A study was conducted by the Virginia State Crime Commission, with assistance from DCJS, to examine the need for security requirements within the Uniform Statewide Building Code. The study recommended that the Board of Housing and Community Development incorporate such crime prevention security requirements, as it deemed feasible, into the Uniform Statewide Building Code. The Board of Housing and Community Development agreed with the recommendation to establish minimum security standards in the Building Code and on March 1, 1989 minimum security standards for all new multi-family construction became effective.

Violent Crime and Workers's Safety in Virginia Convenience Stores (1991)

In 1990, because of concern about rising convenience store crime expressed by Delegate George Heilig, the Virginia State Crime Commission requested that the Department of Criminal Justice Services begin collecting information on the nature and scope of the problem in Virginia.

DCJS examined the convenience store crime problem from a national, as well as a state perspective. It found that many localities were using or considering legislation to address convenience store crime, and that nationally, the convenience store industry was conducting its own study of the problem. Available information indicated that violence in convenience stores was a serious problem throughout the nation.

In Virginia, local law enforcement agencies were surveyed to develop an understanding of the problem in Virginia. The study found that most of the victims of convenience store violence were women working alone from 9:00-P.M. to 5:00 A.M. In 1988 and 1989, the following violent crimes took place in convenience stores:

- .. 6 Homicides
- .. 4 Abductions
- .. 6 Rapes
- .. 7 Other Sexual Assaults
- .. 12 Malicious Woundings
- .. 923 Robberies
- .. 62 Attempted Robberies

The study made recommendations concerning improving the state's crime reporting system, conducting a study of violent convenience store criminals, and mandating basic and enhanced security requirements for convenience stores. The Crime Commission supported these recommendations and supported legislation during the 1992 General Assembly to establish

security standards for convenience stores. However, because of concerns expressed by the retail business community the sponsoring legislator withdrew the legislation and requested that the Crime Commission and DCJS continue to study the issue.

Violent Crime in Convenience Stores: Analysis of Crimes, Criminals and Costs HJR 149 (1992)

This resolution requested that the Crime Commission and the Department of Criminal Justice Services conduct further study of the convenience store crime problem. It requested further study on the incidence of convenience store violence, an estimate of the correctional costs related to convenience store violence, a study of the convenience store offenders, and recommendations for improved safety in convenience stores.

The study results found 148 convictions for offenders exclusively robbing a convenience store in 1991. It was estimated that those offenders would have total correctional costs (jail, prison and parole) of \$12 million. The study also estimated that the number of offenders presently serving time in Virginia prisons for exclusively robbing a convenience store exceeds 500 persons.

Because of the difficulty in collecting information about the nature of convenience store crime, the report again recommended that improvements be made to Virginia's crime reporting system and that the Crime Commission continue to explore legislative initiatives pertaining to workplace safety.

Because of the continued concern by the retail industry about workplace security standards, no legislation was introduced during the 1993 General Assembly. However, Delegate Heilig did organize a Retail Store Safety Committee involving representatives from convenience stores, other businesses, and the law enforcement community to work on cooperative strategies to address retail store crime and in particular convenience store crime.

Governor's Commission on Violent Crime (1992-1993)

In response to the growing rate of violent crime and the fear of crime, Governor Wilder appointed a Commission on Violent Crime to advise the Governor on: how the Commonwealth could further address and reduce the escalating frequency and impact of violent crime; the cause of, and offenders responsible for, violent crime; the role of firearms and firearms trafficking in violent crime; and violent crime committed by juveniles.

One of the three designated subcommittees was the Crime Prevention Subcommittee, and its task was to consider strategies "to prevent crime from occurring in the first place." The Crime Prevention Section of the Department of Criminal Justice Services provided lead staff support to the Crime Prevention Subcommittee.

The Crime Prevention Subcommittee addressed its mission by looking at those strategies which could change environments which foster the development of violent behavior and those which reduce opportunities for violent crimes to occur.

Legislative recommendations made by the Crime Prevention Subcommittee in 1992 focused on:

- .. firearms - to reduce their availability
- .. serious juvenile crime - to share more information
- .. schools - to increase school safety
- .. witness protection
- .. children and youth
- .. cultural diversity
- .. workplace crime
- .. comprehensive community planning
- .. data analysis
- .. crime prevention through environmental design

Because firearms violence had been determined to be a significant issue, the Governor decided to give priority to those recommendations which focused on firearms and violence. However, two crime prevention recommendations were finally made law. The SHOCAP program authorizes localities to form committees to share information about serious juvenile offenders. The state zoning law was amended to make protection from crime one of the purposes of zoning.

The Crime Commission continued a second year of work and developed budget proposals to address violent crime for the 1994 General Assembly. The crime prevention budget initiatives approved by the full Commission include:

- .. Establishing a Statewide initiative on mentoring.
- .. Establishing more Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs (CASA).
- .. Developing a grant program to fund local community crime prevention councils.
- .. Funding a position to develop curricula for law enforcement training on community policing.

CRIME PREVENTION CENTER SURVEY

In late summer 1993 the Crime Prevention Section sent a survey to local and state law enforcement agencies and law enforcement training academies. The survey requested law enforcement to respond to a Mission Statement that had been developed for a proposed crime prevention center, to respond to questions about the need and importance of services a crime prevention center could/should provide, and to describe the current level of crime prevention services.

Responses were received from 147 local, campus, and state law enforcement agencies. This represents about 50% of all law enforcement agencies in Virginia. It is assumed that the majority of law enforcement agencies which did not respond to the survey are not providing crime prevention services. The majority of those not responding included small town police departments and small county sheriff's offices. Approximately 25 large, medium, and small police and sheriff's offices which did not respond to the survey are known to provide crime prevention services.

The Mission Statement proposed for the Crime Prevention Center stated:

The mission of the Virginia Crime Prevention Center is to enhance public safety in the Commonwealth by promoting, supporting and improving crime prevention through leadership, policy development, training, technical assistance, research and innovation.

Respondents were asked to respond to the Mission Statement as being appropriate, too broad or too narrow. The returned surveys reflected the following with regards to the DCJS Crime Prevention Mission Statement:

Figure 2

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RESPONSE TO PROPOSED CRIME PREVENTION MISSION STATEMENT

Appropriate:	95%
Too Broad:	5%
Too Narrow:	0%

Seven (7) departments stated that the Mission Statement was too broad. Some of those identifying the Mission Statement as too broad stated that they needed more staff before they could offer crime prevention services which would cause them to need the assistance of DCJS. One law enforcement executive did state that crime prevention was not needed and suggested the solution that " the best way to stop crime is to have a deterrent which we no longer have, the jails are hotels provided by the ACLU & funded by the citizens."

The law enforcement agencies were also asked to rate the importance of and need for crime prevention services. They were asked to rate both need and importance on a scale with 5 being the greatest and 1 being the least. The average ratings of the respondents were:

Figure 3

LAW ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIZATION OF NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF CRIME PREVENTION SERVICES BY A CRIME PREVENTION CENTER

	NEED	IMPORTANCE
crime prevention grants	4.5	4.4
training for crime prevention personnel	4.2	4.2
crime prevention brochures	3.9	3.8
crime prevention audio-visuals	3.7	3.6
public awareness activities	3.7	3.8
technical assistance	3.6	3.6
training for citizens-schools-businesses	3.5	3.6
training for other law enforcement personnel	3.4	3.5
local crime prevention staff	3.4	3.5
crime prevention policy/legislation	3.3	3.3
crime prevention research	3.2	3.3

The chiefs and sheriffs rated crime prevention grants as the primary need and the most important services. The next most needed and important service was training for crime prevention

personnel. Receiving the lowest ratings of need and importance were crime prevention research and policy/legislation. It was recommended that this staffing be provided by the state through a budget amendment or through grants to localities.

Crime prevention services were provided by 136 (95%) of the responding departments. As was stated earlier, approximately 25 of the departments which have yet to respond to the survey do provide crime prevention services. Thus it is estimated that 161 Virginia law enforcement agencies are providing some level of crime prevention services. Of those responding departments providing crime prevention services, 50 departments (38%) have a designated crime prevention unit. A total of 672 personnel are involved in providing crime prevention services. Some of these personnel perform crime prevention related duties all of the time, some provide the services part of the time in addition to other duties, and some provide services as they are needed.

There are three primary categories of crime prevention officers: Crime Prevention Generalists, DARE officer, and School Resource Officer. The Crime Prevention Generalists provide a broad variety of crime prevention services to the communities they serve. These services include development and support of Neighborhood Watch; home, business and school security and safety assessments; advising planners, developers and architects on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design; personal safety training and many other services. DARE officers provide drug abuse related services, primarily to fifth and sixth graders. Limited services are also provided to other school children and to parents in some communities. In many localities School Resource Officers provide a variety of crime prevention services to the schools where they are assigned.

Figure 4

Crime Prevention Officer Staffing:

	<u>Full Time</u>	<u>Part Time</u>	<u>As Needed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Crime Prevention Generalists	91	43	152	286
DARE Officer	157	75	20	252
School Resource	79	9	31	119
Civilian	12	1	2	15
Total	339	128	205	672

In several jurisdictions, personnel are assigned to both crime prevention and DARE duties. The number of civilians may seem small, but use of civilians to provide crime prevention services is growing. Civilians are also being used by several public housing authorities to provide crime prevention services to residents.

Thirty-two (32) departments reported having designated crime prevention budgets. Volunteers were used by 72 departments (53%), 29 departments (21%) sponsored crime prevention recognition programs, and 25 departments (18%) produced a regular crime prevention newsletter. About one third of the departments supported the National Night Out Against Crime, an annual program in support of Neighborhood Watch.

An indication of the growth of crime prevention is the number of departments using crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED). Thirty-eight (nearly 28%) of the departments use CPTED. They work with community planners, architects and developers to make sure that crime prevention is incorporated into new construction and rebuilding projects.

Neighborhood Watch is the key component of crime prevention services and 98 (72%) of the departments supported Neighborhood Watch, involving nearly 400,000 households. Many localities also sponsor business and employee watch programs. Because of the level of participation, Neighborhood Watch is the best supported citizen involvement program sponsored by local government.

The most widely supported program was DARE which was supported by 99 (73%) of the responding agencies. These departments estimated that the DARE program reached over 100,000 children during the most recent year. Another growing program is Police Explorers supported by 40 departments (29%) and involving 486 youth.

Figure 5

OTHER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

drug abuse prevention - 109 (80%)
child safety/abuse - 84 (61%)
home security - 76 (55%)
personal safety - 71 (52%)
school safety - 68 (50%)
auto theft prevention - 50 (36%)
crime stoppers - 66 (48%)
business crime prevention - 60 (44%)
sexual assault prevention - 58 (42%)
elder safety/abuse - 45 (33%)
community policing - 43 (31%)
victim/witness - 34 (25%)
domestic violence - 31 (22%)
low income housing services - 21 (15%)
hate crimes - 15 (11%)
handicapped safety - 12 (8%)
gang violence - 11 (8%)

Figure 6

CRIME PREVENTION RESOURCES

brochures - 99 (72%)
lock displays - 78 (57%)
videos - 77 (56%)
McGruff costumes - 73 (53%)
posters - 67 (49%)
slide tape programs - 55 (40%)
portable displays - 50 (36%)
puppets - 50 (36%)
DARE costumes - 35 (25%)
door/window displays - 28 (20%)
16 mm films - 20 (14%)
glass displays - 18 (13%)
alarm displays - 16 (11%)
robots - 16 (11%)
other costumes - 15 (11%)
lighting displays - 11 (8%)

OTHER STATEWIDE CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS

VIRGINIA CRIME PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

The Virginia Crime Prevention Association is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1978, to serve individuals, agencies and organizations engaged in local and state efforts to prevent and control crime. The VCPA currently has 460 members and there are four regional chapters: the Hampton Roads Crime Prevention Association, the Northern Virginia Crime Prevention Association, the Central Virginia Crime Prevention Association, and the Southwest Virginia Crime Prevention Association. The members include law enforcement, government officials, private security, business and community leaders, and concerned citizens.

The VCPA provides a variety of services to its members and to the residents of Virginia in compliance with agreements with DCJS and other organizations. Technical assistance, training, and resource material are available in the areas of program development, community crime prevention, youth crime prevention, community assessments, business crime prevention, public housing and others.

During the past year, the VCPA conducted five training programs for nearly 150 persons. The VCPA also furnished speakers and resource persons to 21 agencies and organizations, and distributed 200,000 pieces of crime prevention material.

The VCPA conducts an annual conference which attracts over 100 crime prevention supporters. It also conducts the Statewide Neighborhood Watch Conference in association with DCJS. It publishes a quarterly newsletter and manages a crime prevention officer exchange program. The VCPA has been a member of the National Crime Prevention Coalition since 1984.

The VCPA contracts with the Virginia Council on Coordinating Prevention to provide crime prevention training and technical assistance to public housing authorities and residents. Additionally the VCPA has contracts with the housing authorities in Danville and Bristol to provide crime prevention services. These contracts are funded through anti-drug funds made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Another focus area of the VCPA is school safety. In cooperation with the Department of Education and DCJS, the VCPA participated in seven (7) school safety training workshops and thirteen (13) school safety and security assessments over the past two years. The VCPA also recently published a booklet of Crime Prevention Standards: A Guide for Virginia Law Enforcement Agencies. The booklet provides 40 standards for the organization and administration of crime prevention services.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

The Department of State Police assigns nine (9) personnel on a part time basis and calls upon all staff as needed to provide crime prevention services. Typically, the State Police provide crime prevention services in localities which do not have the resources to provide them. The State Police also manage a State Employee Watch program and conduct security surveys of garages authorized to perform motor vehicle safety inspections. During the past year, State Police personnel made nearly 1,100 presentations on a variety of crime prevention topics and conducted over 700 security surveys. They also manage two statewide crime prevention programs, DARE and HEAT.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) is a cooperative effort between the State Police, the Department of Education, local schools, and law enforcement. Based on a program developed in Los Angeles, the State Police have trained local and state law enforcement officers to go into schools to teach children about drugs and how to resist them. Originally this program was funded by a grant from DCJS to the State Police. Training funds are now provided to the State Police from a federal grant, and in some localities, Drug Free Schools funds are being used to employ DARE officers for school instruction.

The DARE Program focuses primarily on teaching youth how to resist drugs, but crime prevention material is also included in the instructional material. The DARE program is offered primarily to fifth and sixth graders through a sixteen week program. A DARE officer visitation program has been established in which DARE officers provide short classes on drugs and safety to kindergarten through the fourth grade. DARE is also being taught in middle and high schools in some areas, and some localities have also developed parent components to the program.

In many localities, the DARE program has grown beyond the initial intent of the program of teaching drug resistance strategies to youth. DARE officers also engage in a wide variety of crime prevention activities. Some law enforcement officers are responsible for DARE as well as crime prevention.

A representative of DCJS serves on the DARE Board of Directors.

Help Eliminate Auto Theft (HEAT)

The Help Eliminate Auto Theft Program (HEAT) is a cooperative program between the Department of State Police, the Attorney General's Office, the Department of Motor Vehicles and local law enforcement agencies. Established by state legislation in 1992, the main focus of the program is an auto theft tip hotline which pays rewards of up to \$10,000 for information about auto thefts. The program is funded through an assessment of insurance carriers writing comprehensive automobile insurance policies in the state.

At the end of each year, funds that are unused after rewards and program administrative costs have been paid can be used at the discretion of the Superintendent of the State Police to fund auto theft investigation and prevention activities. As of September 1993, twenty three (23) local law enforcement agencies had applied for HEAT program grants.

A public service advertising campaign which primarily promotes the rewards features of the program has also been initiated. State Police personnel have been making presentations on auto theft to community and civic groups. In cooperation with the Department of Education, the State Police have developed an auto theft curriculum to be made available to the state's 2,500 public and private driver's education classes.

A representative of DCJS serves on the HEAT Advisory Committee.

STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The State Council of Higher Education provides campus crime prevention services to the 79 public and private colleges and universities throughout the state. The primary focus of the services, funded by a grant obtained through DCJS, is campus sexual assault. The campus safety initiative has:

- .. established an advisory task force on campus sexual assault
- .. conducted a student survey on sexual assault
- .. conducted three statewide conferences on sexual assault
- .. developed a quarterly newsletter on sexual assault
- .. conducted regional workshops on sexual assault
- .. established a clearinghouse for information on campus sexual assault
- .. developed a model sexual assault policy for colleges and university
- .. conducted campus site visits and provided technical assistance

COUNCIL ON COORDINATING PREVENTION

The Council on Coordinating Prevention, through the Safe Neighborhoods Program, has been providing crime prevention services to low income housing communities since 1990. This activity has been funded through anti-drug grant funds provided by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Working with the 28 local housing authorities, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, crime prevention services have been made available to over 120,000 low income housing residents.

The Safe Neighborhoods Project has also developed a manual, Crime Control in Public Housing, which is being used throughout the country. The program has also provided greater coordination of services in low income and public housing communities. The Virginia Crime Prevention

Association has provided crime prevention training and technical assistance to housing authority staff and residents.

These services have been provided because the majority of public housing authorities and low-income property managers have little experience in drug abuse or crime prevention. When the project began in 1990, there was a lack of coordination between local law enforcement agencies and low income housing officials.

The program provides training and technical assistance to public housing authorities, low income property managers, low income housing residents, and law enforcement personnel on ways to reduce crime and drug abuse in low income housing communities. A key role played by the Safe Neighborhoods Project has been the technical assistance provided to public housing authorities on anti-drug grant applications to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is believed that, because of this assistance, Virginia has received one of the highest rates of HUD anti-drug funding in the country.

VIRGINIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PREVENTION OF YOUTH VIOLENCE

The Virginia Partnership for Prevention of Youth Violence (VPPYV) consists of approximately forty (40) state and local agency representatives from the private and public sector. The fields of mental health, law enforcement, education, juvenile justice, public health, recreation, crime prevention, substance abuse, and public housing are represented. Their goal is to develop, implement, and evaluate youth violence prevention services. The lead agency in the partnership is the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services.

The VPPYV has developed and distributed a Statewide Youth Violence Prevention Directory. It is also developing a youth violence prevention curriculum for law enforcement. This curriculum will focus on violence among African-American males. It will address conflict resolution, mediation, social skills, multi-racial and multi-cultural awareness, violence prevention strategies, and healthy alternative lifestyles.

The VPPYV has conducted two statewide seminars on violence prevention and is planning to conduct a series of local seminars on youth violence prevention. There is presently no funding for this project. Agencies are providing in-kind services and resources to support the VPPYV activities.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC AND STATE UNIVERSITY

The Virginia Tech Hampton Roads Continuing Education Center has been supporting a statewide crime prevention project for small retail businesses since 1991. Known as the Proem Project, it is funded through an anti-drug grant from the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The goal of the grant is to provide crime prevention training to small retail business managers and their employees. The program has provided training for 1,400 business managers and employees

and has trained 132 persons to serve as instructors. The instructors have been provided manager and instructor manuals developed by Virginia Tech.

The program has also been incorporated into the marketing education program in many high schools across the state. A separate training manual has been developed for students in marketing education classes. In Fairfax County, over 3,880 marketing education students are using the Business Crime Prevention Manual.

To continue the business crime prevention program after grant funds expire, Virginia Tech has been seeking support from NationsBank, VISA International and the Virginia Retail Merchants Association.

OTHER PREVENTION PROGRAMS

The programs just reviewed are the most significant statewide crime prevention programs which focus on preventing crime by removing the opportunity for crime. There are many other statewide activities which give some attention to crime prevention to address crime and related problems, some of the most significant programs include the following:

Victim/Witness Services

Victim/witness programs provide assistance to victims of crime. Although crime prevention services are not a primary consideration of these programs, they do provide services in this area. The Victim/ Witness Section of the Department of Criminal Justice Services provides technical assistance, training, grants, and policy development for local victim witness programs. There are currently 52 local victim/witness programs throughout the state. The Division of Crime Victims Compensation is responsible for providing compensation to qualified victims of crime. The Department of Health provides grants and assistance to local and state sexual assault, crisis intervention, and education programs.

Domestic Violence/Child Abuse

The Department of Social Services provides grants and technical assistance to develop programs aimed at preventing the factors causing child abuse/neglect and to provide services for victims of spousal abuse. There are currently 44 local domestic service programs. These programs and the Department of Social Services work in partnership with Virginians Against Domestic Violence, a non-profit organization which serves as the collective voice for victims of family violence.

Drug Abuse

The Office of Drug Policy in the Governor's Office administers funds from the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. These grants fund programs which seek to prevent substance abuse as well as other risk behaviors, focus on youth and families, and must include significant involvement by schools, community service boards and representative community organizations. The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services provides grants to enable communities to develop cooperative partnerships to provide innovative neighborhood based prevention services to high risk youth.

CRIME PREVENTION SERVICES IN NEARBY STATES

North Carolina

Statewide crime prevention activities in North Carolina are coordinated by the Crime Prevention Division located within the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety. It serves as a resource for information, literature, programs and technical assistance for citizens and law enforcement agencies in North Carolina. The Crime Prevention Division is a state agency which reports to the Secretary of Public Safety. It receives approximately \$650,000 in state funds and has a staff of eleven (11) full time employees.

The main areas of emphasis of the crime prevention program are: "Think Smart", a program to teach youth about the consequences of incarceration; youth crime prevention programs; Community Watch; sexual assault, rape and domestic violence prevention; older adults and special populations; crime prevention in inner-city and public housing communities; business crime prevention; Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design; Crimestoppers; and crime analysis. The Crime Prevention Division cooperates with the North Carolina Crime Prevention Officers Association to provide training and services.

Maryland

Maryland renewed its interest in state supported crime prevention services in 1989 when it established the Community Crime Prevention Institute within the Police Training Commission. At one time Maryland had a very strong statewide crime prevention program supported primarily with federal funding. The Maryland State Police were also a leader in providing crime prevention services but they discontinued their involvement in the late 1980's.

The major focus of the Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute is to provide crime prevention training for law enforcement personnel. It is also responsible for DARE officer training. An audio/visual library is maintained and public education materials are distributed. The Institute cooperates with the Maryland Crime Prevention Association to provide training and services.

West Virginia

West Virginia has no state agency providing statewide crime prevention services. A staff member within the Criminal Justice and Highway Safety Office has recently been directed to begin a statewide crime prevention initiative which will focus on establishing a statewide crime prevention coalition.

Tennessee - Kentucky

Neither Tennessee or Kentucky have a government supported statewide initiative for crime prevention. Tennessee has never had a statewide initiative. In Kentucky, a government-supported statewide crime prevention effort ended about five years ago.

Other States

The National Crime Prevention Coalition attempts to maintain contact with all states to keep abreast of statewide crime prevention activities. The two primary points of contact are state agencies in the public safety sector and state crime prevention associations. The most recent survey by the National Crime Prevention Coalition found the following state government support for statewide crime prevention programs activities.

States which have a state funded crime prevention initiative with dedicated staff include:

Arkansas, California, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin.

States which have a crime prevention initiative that is supported by the state's criminal justice agency or attorney general but without dedicated staff include:

Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Washington.

CONCLUSIONS

Interest in and support of crime prevention has grown significantly since 1978, when statewide crime prevention program services began in Virginia. Most localities are providing crime prevention services. Law enforcement agencies in 161 jurisdictions are providing crime prevention services and nearly 400,000 households are participating in Neighborhood Watch. Many private and public statewide organizations are also providing crime prevention services to selected audiences. The Department of Criminal Justice Services is in a unique position to coordinate and support the broad variety of programs attempting to address crime by supporting crime prevention programs which aim to prevent crime from happening in the first place.

Since 1978, DCJS has provided a significant amount of training, technical assistance, and resource material to local and state organizations providing crime prevention services. Ninety-five percent (95%) of the 136 law enforcement agencies which responded to the survey on crime prevention services responded that a Mission Statement establishing a Crime Prevention Center at the Department of Criminal Justice Services was appropriate.

In addition to working with many local and statewide, public and private organizations, the Crime Prevention Section also cooperates with many national organizations involved in crime prevention to develop more effective crime prevention programs and policy. Some of these include the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, the National Association of Convenience Stores, the American Institute of Architects, and the International Facility Managers Association.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services is responsible for law enforcement and private security training standards and regulation; criminal justice grant funding; aid to localities with police departments (599 funds); criminal justice research; criminal justice policy development; and support services for crime prevention, law enforcement, corrections, juvenile justice, victim/witness services, courts and research. Providing this broad range of services under one criminal justice agency provides a unique opportunity to incorporate crime prevention philosophy, programs, and services into the various components of the criminal justice system.

Senate Joint Resolution 263 requested DCJS to study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a crime prevention center. Based on the continuing growth of local and statewide crime prevention programs, the desirability to establish a Crime Prevention Center is evident. The feasibility of establishing a Crime Prevention Center is also quite evident. DCJS has been providing crime prevention services since 1978. However there is no legislative mandate for DCJS to perform this activity. A legislative mandate for DCJS to establish and maintain a Crime Prevention Center would give greater recognition to crime prevention. It would also serve to institutionalize state supported crime prevention services and programs. In many states, statewide crime prevention services have been discontinued or greatly reduced because there was no mandate to provide the services or because they were too dependent on federal funding. Virginia should not risk the loss of leadership in the design and provision of crime prevention services and activities.

RECOMMENDATION

Establish a Virginia Crime Prevention Center within the Department of Criminal Justice Services by amending the duties of the Department in Section 9-170 in the Code of Virginia. The mission of the Crime Prevention Center will be to provide crime prevention training, technical assistance and resource material to individuals, local governments, organizations and state agencies. Additional funds are not required to establish the Crime Prevention Center, however additional funds would allow for the expansion of services to meet needs identified by chiefs and sheriffs of local and state law enforcement agencies.

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