

**REPORT OF THE
VIRGINIA STATE CRIME COMMISSION ON**

**THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING
A STATE BUREAU OF NARCOTICS**

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



SENATE DOCUMENT NO. 31

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1995**



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA STATE CRIME COMMISSION

General Assembly Building

December 13, 1994

TO: The Honorable George Allen, Governor of Virginia
and Members of the General Assembly:

Senate Joint Resolution 77, agreed to by the 1994 General Assembly, directed the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the feasibility of establishing a centralized bureau of narcotics investigations, and to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 session of the General Assembly.

In fulfilling this directive, a study was conducted by the Virginia State Crime Commission in 1994. I have the honor of submitting herewith the study report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elmo G. Cross, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Elmo G. Cross, Jr.
Chairman

EGC:sc

MEMBERS OF THE VIRGINIA STATE CRIME COMMISSION 1994

From the Senate of Virginia:

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Edgar S. Robb

From The House of Delegates:

Clifton A. Woodrum, Vice-Chairman
James F. Almand
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Robert F. Horan, Jr.
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Law Enforcement Subcommittee

Crime Commission Members

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Robert B. Ball, Sr.
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Study of the Feasibility of Establishing a State Bureau of Narcotics

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I. Authority for Study

During the 1994 legislative session, Senator Edgar S. Robb sponsored Senate Joint Resolution 77 directing the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the feasibility of a centralized drug law enforcement agency. SJR 77 specifically requested that the Commission "study the feasibility of the establishment of a State Bureau of Narcotics." (See Appendix A.)

Code of Virginia §9-125 establishes and directs the Virginia State Crime Commission "to study, report, and make recommendations on all areas of public safety and protection." Section 9-127 of the Code of Virginia provides that "the Commission shall have the duty and power to make such studies and gather information in order to accomplish its purpose, as set forth in Section 9-125, and to formulate its recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly." Section 9-134 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the Commission to "conduct private and public hearings, and to designate a member of the Commission to preside over such hearings." In fulfilling its legislative mandate, the Virginia State Crime Commission conducted this study on the feasibility of establishing a centralized drug law enforcement agency.

II. Members Appointed to Serve

At the April 1994 meeting of the Crime Commission, Chairman Delegate Robert B. Ball, Sr., of Henrico selected Mr. Robert C. Bobb of Richmond to serve as Chairman of the Law Enforcement Subcommittee studying the feasibility of establishing a state Bureau of Narcotics. The following members of the Crime Commission were selected to serve on the subcommittee:

Robert B. Ball, Sr.
Howard E. Copeland
Elmo G. Cross, Jr.
Raymond R. Guest, Jr.

Robert F. Horan, Jr.
George F. Ricketts, Sr.
Edgar S. Robb
Clifton A. Woodrum

III. Executive Summary

The Law Enforcement Subcommittee of the Virginia State Crime Commission conducted the study of SJR 77--The Feasibility of Establishing a State Bureau of Narcotics. During the course of the study, the Subcommittee compared the current decentralized approach to drug law enforcement in Virginia with the centralized and decentralized agency configurations found in other states. Additionally, the Subcommittee expanded the focus of SJR 77 to encompass the issue of interagency communication/information-sharing. Finally, the Subcommittee heard testimony from local and state law enforcement officers, association representatives and the Virginia State Police. As a result of their study efforts, the Subcommittee made the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Having carefully considered the objective set forth in SJR 77, the Crime Commission should not further pursue the establishment of a centralized Bureau of Narcotics.

Recommendation 2: Law enforcement agencies and/or associations should consider offering interactive workshops and seminars designed to enhance interagency relations and provide additional instruction to narcotics officers. Such training should focus on interagency communications and information sharing techniques appropriate to drug law enforcement activities. Suitable forums for such training might include regularly-scheduled conferences sponsored by the

Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and Virginia Sheriffs Association as well as Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force annual meetings.

IV. Study Schedule

During 1994, the Law Enforcement Subcommittee considered SJR 77 at the following meetings:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| June 7 | Presentation by the Department of Virginia State Police of its report in response to SJR 77 |
| July 26 | Staff report
Comments from Association representatives, Virginia State Police and drug law enforcement officers |
| September 1 | Presentation by Virginia State Police regarding the Department's role in drug law enforcement |

V. Study Objective

The explicit objective of SJR 77 is to determine the feasibility of establishing a centralized Bureau of Narcotics in Virginia. During the course of the study, the Subcommittee also considered issues surrounding interagency communications and relations.

VI. Background

A. Local Law Enforcement Agencies

In addition to their drug interdiction, investigation and enforcement duties, local police departments and sheriffs' offices regularly participate in statewide anti-drug programs as well as their own locally developed and implemented programs. Statewide programs include Drug Abuse Resistance

Education (D.A.R.E.) and 23 State/Local Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces and Grand Juries.

B. Virginia Department of State Police

The Department of State Police (VSP) provides substantial support to local law enforcement agencies in their anti-drug efforts. VSP is divided into three bureaus: Field Operations, Administrative and Support Services and Criminal Investigation. The Bureau of Criminal Investigation is further divided into three divisions: General Investigations, Special Investigations and Support Services. The Special Investigations Division coordinates the Department's drug law enforcement efforts and is comprised of seven regional field offices and four units: Asset Forfeiture, Narcotics Interdiction, Commonwealth's Offensive Mobilization Against Narcotic Distribution (C.O.M.A.N.D.) and Drug Diversion. The Support Services Division is dedicated to criminal intelligence and consists of the Virginia Criminal Intelligence Center (V.C.I.C.), Virginia Narcotics Pointer Index (V.N.P.I.), Criminal Research Unit, Technical Unit and Surveillance Van Loan Program.

By way of its loan programs, VSP provides undercover vehicles and law enforcement officers, electronic surveillance equipment and highly equipped surveillance vans, upon request, to local law enforcement agencies. Other VSP programs which benefit local drug law enforcement efforts include Narcotics Canine Training, Narcotics Trainers Program, Marijuana Eradication Program and Drug Information Hotline. In addition, VSP coordinates Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) for Virginia.

Other VSP initiatives with local impact include Major Narcotics Investigative Teams, State/Local Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces and Grand Juries. Local/State/Federal Joint Task Forces and City/State Partnerships.

C. Other States' Drug Law Enforcement Agency Configurations

In response to Senate Joint Resolution 77, VSP submitted a thoroughly researched, two-part report to the Crime Commission detailing Virginia's approach to drug law enforcement and describing seven distinct approaches employed by the 50 states nationwide. Thirteen states, including Virginia, have a centralized narcotics division within the Department of State Police. Fourteen states have a separate criminal investigative agency, with responsibility for narcotics and other crimes, reporting to an entity of state government. Nine states have a separate narcotics agency reporting to an entity of state government. Four states have a Department of State Police with narcotics officers assigned to field units but without a centralized narcotics division. Three states have a Department of State Police which participates in cooperative drug enforcement efforts such as contributing personnel to drug task forces. Finally, five states have implemented approaches which combine the key elements of two or more of these configurations. (See Appendix B).

VI. Findings and Recommendations

Finding: As presently structured, Virginia is a leader in drug law enforcement. The primary efforts of local police departments and sheriffs offices coupled with the support of the Virginia Department of State Police offer a comprehensive array of innovative and effective drug law enforcement strategies, techniques and programs.

In addition, at its July 26 meeting, the Law Enforcement Subcommittee heard testimony from the Virginia Department of State Police, Virginia Sheriffs Association and Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police indicating strong support for the current, decentralized approach to drug law enforcement in Virginia. These organizations emphasized that a restructuring of the current system is simply not necessary but that additional resources are needed at the state and local level to enhance current drug law enforcement efforts.

Recommendation 1: Having carefully considered the objective set forth in SJR 77, the Crime Commission decided not to further pursue the establishment of a centralized Bureau of Narcotics.

Finding: At the July 26 meeting of the Law Enforcement Subcommittee, local law enforcement officers and State Police special agents testified about problems related to information sharing between agencies involved in drug law enforcement efforts. Though confidentiality is inherent in covert operations, these officers reported concern regarding a lack of cooperation and information-sharing between agencies working on the same drug cases. Recognizing that, to some extent, such “turf battles” cannot be avoided, the officers still contended that interagency relations in Virginia could be improved.

Recommendation 2: Law enforcement agencies and/or associations should consider offering interactive workshops and seminars designed to enhance interagency relations and provide additional instruction to narcotics officers. Such training should focus on interagency communications and information sharing techniques appropriate to drug law enforcement activities. Suitable forums for such training might include regularly-scheduled conferences sponsored by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and Virginia Sheriffs Association as well as Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force annual meetings

VIII. Acknowledgements

Charlottesville Police Department

Lt. Chip Harding

Fraternal Order of Police

Bob Harvey. Legislative Chairman

Harrisonburg Police Department

E.A. McDorman

Henrico County Police Department

Murray Bullock, Command Sergeant

Robert McRae

Mississippi Board on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Training

Jim Walker, Director

Prince William County Police Department

Sgt. Don Cahill

Richmond Police Department

Investigator Brian Russell

Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police

Jay Cochran, Executive Director

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Ernest O'Boyle

Virginia Department of State Police

Lt. Col. David T. Mitchell. Director. Bureau of Criminal Investigations

Preston Fortin. Special Agent

Greg Lam. Special Agent

Virginia Sheriffs Association

John W. Jones. Executive Director

APPENDIX A

1994 SESSION

LD2327729

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 77
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
(Proposed by the House Committee on Rules
on February 10, 1994)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Robb)

Directing the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the feasibility of the establishment of a State Bureau of Narcotics.

WHEREAS, substance abuse is a never-ending problem which has an impact on all Virginians, and

WHEREAS, Virginia's efforts at controlling the flow and use of illegal-controlled substances is divided among all the law-enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a centralized bureau could absorb some of the great effort expended at the local level to stem the tide of substance abuse and thereby allow that effort to be directed at other criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, specially trained prosecutors could absorb some of the prosecutorial effort and specially trained officers could absorb much of the drug investigation effort currently being done at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the public demands that extraordinary measures be taken to curtail the flow and use of drugs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Virginia State Crime Commission be directed to study the feasibility of the formation of a Bureau of Narcotics. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission, upon request.

The Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

Official Use By Clerks

Agreed to By The Senate
without amendment
with amendment
substitute
substitute w/amdt

Agreed to By
The House of Delegates
without amendment
with amendment
substitute
substitute w/amdt

Date: _____

Date: _____

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

APPENDIX B

Alabama Department of Public Safety (Alabama's State Police)

The Alabama Department of Public Safety has primary drug enforcement responsibility within the state of Alabama and is fully staffed by Alabama State Troopers.

Alaska Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit (State Troopers/Local Police)

There exists, within the state of Alaska, joint primary responsibility in the area of drug investigation and enforcement. The current Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit consists of Alaska State Troopers and municipal police officers in their respective cities/towns. The commander of the unit is a Lieutenant with the Alaska State Troopers. In a unique state/federal arrangement, the Alaska State Troopers will merge with the local FBI in October of 1994 and the Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit will consequently consist of Alaska State Troopers, FBI, and municipal agencies.

Arizona Department of Public Safety (Arizona's State Police)

The agency with primary drug enforcement responsibility in the state of Arizona is the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the state law enforcement agency. Within the Criminal Investigations Bureau of the Arizona DPS, there are two divisions. One of the two divisions is the narcotics division.

Arkansas Arkansas State Police

The Arkansas State Police Criminal Investigation Division is the responsible agency within the state of Arkansas. Arkansas is divided into seven Criminal Investigation Division (CID) companies, each of which encompasses twelve to thirteen counties. Each company is supervised by a Lieutenant and consists of both Criminal Investigators and Narcotic Investigators. The Criminal Investigators and the Narcotic Investigators each have a Sergeant In Charge as their first level supervisor.

California California Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Narcotics

The California Bureau of Narcotics, under the Attorney General's Office, has primary drug enforcement and investigative responsibility in California. Established in 1927 by the state legislature and placed under the California Department of Justice (per the California Health and Safety Code) in 1945, the Bureau recruits its personnel primarily from local law enforcement. Sworn employees of the Bureau have full peace officer powers but in most cases, work in conjunction with local law enforcement.

Colorado Colorado Bureau of Investigation

It is the responsibility of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation to assist local law enforcement in the state of Colorado. CBI is considered the primary criminal investigation agency in the state but it does not initiate investigations at the state level. Agents within CBI are responsible for narcotic and general investigative assistance to local law enforcement.

Connecticut Department of Public Safety (Connecticut's State Police)

The Connecticut Department of Public Safety/Connecticut State Police has a Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) which is responsible for Special Investigations (Organized Crime, Narcotics, etc.) The subunit of BCI that has primary state drug enforcement responsibility is the Statewide Narcotics Task Force, composed of both municipal and State Police officers and commanded by a State Police Captain. The Task Force is divided into seven Connecticut regions with State Police supervisors in each region. The Task Force has a policy Board which is made up of the Commissioner of Public Safety, the State Police Captain who supervises the Task Force, the state's Chief Attorney, and various Police Chiefs from around the state. Municipal officers are usually assigned to the Task Force for a period not to exceed one year.

Delaware Delaware State Police

The agency with primary drug enforcement responsibility in Delaware is the Delaware State Police Special Investigations Division. The larger local departments in Delaware also have Special Investigations Divisions and local officers who are assigned to those divisions are sworn in by the Delaware Attorney General and consequently, have statewide jurisdiction. Delaware also has a Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs which is solely responsible for drug diversion.

Florida Florida Department of Law Enforcement

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (separate from the Florida Highway Patrol) does have a Division of Criminal Investigations (DCI.) One of five FDLE Divisions, DCI is responsible for narcotics and other criminal offenses.

Georgia Georgia Bureau of Investigation

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation is the primary drug enforcement agency in Georgia. The unit within GBI which is responsible for drug enforcement is called the Drug Enforcement Section.

Hawaii Department of Public Safety, Narcotic Enforcement Division

The Narcotic Enforcement Division of the Hawaii Department of Public Safety is the agency within that state which has primary responsibility for drug investigation and enforcement. The division consists of the Investigative Unit and the Diversion Unit. The Investigative Unit is involved in specialized narcotics cases and assists local law enforcement, leaving the local police departments to work other narcotic cases. The Diversion Unit is responsible for the scheduling of drugs and the investigation of diversion of pharmaceutical drugs.

The Department of Public Safety's Office of the Deputy Director for Law Enforcement in Hawaii also contains the Special Services Division, Maritime Law Enforcement Division, Executive Protective Services Staff, and Protective Services Division. The Department

was created in 1991 and is headed by the Director of Public Safety. The administrator of the Narcotic Enforcement Division reports to the Deputy Director for Law Enforcement while all other components of the Department report to the Assistant Deputy Director for Law Enforcement.

Idaho Idaho Department of Law Enforcement, Bureau of Narcotics

The Idaho Bureau of Narcotics has primary narcotic responsibility in the state of Idaho. It is divided regionally into five offices and a sixth Financial Division. The Bureau of Narcotics is under the Police Services Division (along with the Bureau of Criminal Identification, the Bureau of Investigation, and the Bureau of Forensic Sciences) of the Idaho Department of Law Enforcement.

Illinois Illinois State Police

The lead agency is the Illinois State Police. The Illinois State Police is divided into three divisions (Forensics, Administration, and Operations) and each division is commanded by a Colonel. The Division of Operations is divided into three regional commands which each include up to four districts. Each individual district is divided into Administrative, Patrol, and Investigation. The district Investigation sections consist of General Criminal and Covert, with Covert being responsible for drug enforcement and investigations.

Indiana Indiana State Police

The agency in Indiana which is responsible for Drug Enforcement and Investigation is the Indiana State Police. The components of that agency are the Investigation Division and the Patrol Division, each supervised by a Major. The Major of the Investigation Division directly supervises the major drug investigators, airport interdiction, drug diversion, the technical section, uniform criminal interdiction, and approximately 50% of undercover investigators. Other State drug investigators are assigned to each of five areas within the state and follow the area chain of command up to the Area Commander.

Iowa Department of Public Safety, Division of Narcotics Enforcement

The Iowa Department of Public Safety is designated as the agency in that state with primary responsibility for the investigation and enforcement of criminal activity involving narcotics. The Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement is one of seven divisions of the Department of Public Safety.

Kansas Kansas Bureau of Investigation

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) is responsible for drug enforcement and investigation in the state of Kansas. KBI consists of a Narcotics Division, an Investigations Division, and Special Services. The Narcotics Division consists of approximately thirty Special Agents and is supervised by a Special Agent in Charge. The Division is divided between the Strike Force (overt operations) and Undercover (covert operations), each of which is supervised by a Special Agent Supervisor.

Kentucky Kentucky State Police

The Kentucky State Police is very similar to the state of Indiana in that it has a Drug Enforcement/Special Investigations Branch which is responsible for upper level drug investigations (conspiracies) and utilizes its post Troopers and Detectives in drug investigation and enforcement at the street level. There are sixteen posts in Kentucky and the Troopers and Detectives report to their respective Post Commander.

Louisiana Louisiana State Police

The Louisiana State Police has an Investigative Support Section which is responsible for investigative efforts in the state of Louisiana. The Section is supervised by a Captain and is broken down into three regions within the state. Each region has a Major as the regional commander and is divided between a Narcotics Section and a Detective Section.

Maine Department of Public Safety, Maine Drug Enforcement Agency

The Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA) is an institutionalized statewide task force with bureau status under the Department of Public Safety (the Maine State Police also has bureau status.) MDEA is made up of state, county, and local police officers with some state funded positions. MDEA was formed in 1987 by the Maine state legislature and receives its funding from three sources: 1/3 from the state, 1/3 from federal grants, and 1/3 from asset forfeiture.

Maryland Maryland State Police, Bureau of Drug Enforcement

In accordance with Governor William Donald Schaefer's 1989 Maryland Drug and Alcohol Abuse Plan which designated the Maryland State Police to serve as the lead agency for coordination of the statewide drug law enforcement effort, the Maryland State Police has established the Bureau of Drug Enforcement within the State Police. The Bureau was established on July 1, 1990. The Bureau consists of a Drug Enforcement Division, a Support Services Division, and The State Office of Strategic Drug Enforcement Coordination.

Massachusetts Massachusetts State Police

The Massachusetts State Police is the agency in that state with primary narcotic investigation and enforcement responsibility. Investigations has eleven different narcotics units spread throughout the state. Intelligence has one unit devoted to narcotics which is split into two subunits: Diversion and Other Drugs.

Michigan Michigan Multi Jurisdictional Task Forces

The multi jurisdictional task forces in Michigan have primary responsibility in drug enforcement efforts. There are twenty-five to thirty of these task forces which consist of State Police personnel as well as municipal officers. The chain of command for these task forces is Task Force Commander to Regional Commander (State Police Lieutenant) to State Police Inspector to State Police Captain to State Police Lt. Colonel to State Police Colonel.

Minnesota Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's primary role is to assist local law enforcement. The Bureau does, however, also initiate investigations and contains a Special Investigations Unit which is responsible for narcotics and violent crime. Twenty-nine task forces are funded by federal grants in Minnesota and are operated locally, directed at street level enforcement.

Mississippi Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Narcotics

The Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics is contained within that state's Department of Public Safety and has primary drug enforcement responsibilities. Mississippi law allows for the Commissioner of Public Safety to assign members of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol to the Bureau of Narcotics at the request of the director of the bureau.

Missouri Missouri State Highway Patrol

The Missouri State Highway Patrol's Division of Drug and Crime Control is the unit in the state of Missouri that has jurisdiction statewide in drug investigation and drug enforcement.

Montana Department of Justice, Narcotics Investigation Bureau

The Montana Narcotics Investigation Bureau has primary drug investigation and enforcement responsibility within the state of Montana. Agents of the Bureau have full peace officer powers and can both initiate and assist in investigations. The Bureau is under the Attorney General and the Department of Justice and was, until one year ago, contained within that Department's Bureau of Criminal Investigation. The Department of Justice only received concurrent jurisdiction in narcotics with local agencies two years ago.

Nebraska Nebraska State Patrol

The agency in the state of Nebraska with primary responsibility for drug investigation and enforcement is the Nebraska State Patrol. The State Patrol has a Criminal Investigation

Division which is divided into two sections: Drugs and Other Crimes. The Nebraska State Patrol also participates in numerous task forces around the state with local law enforcement.

Nevada Nevada Division of Investigations/Multi-Agency Task Forces

The Nevada Division of Investigation does not have a designated narcotics unit but contributes personnel to multi-agency task forces. The Division of Investigation has field offices throughout the state and each is a member of a multi-agency task force along with local law enforcement in the respective region of the state. The state Division of Investigation supervises the state/local task forces but does not supervise state/federal task forces which the Division is also involved in, along with the DEA. The Division also has drug interdiction teams.

New Hampshire New Hampshire State Police and Attorney General's Task Force

Drug investigation and enforcement responsibility in the state of New Hampshire is divided between the State Drug Task Force which operates out of the State Attorney General's Office and the Narcotics Investigative Unit of the New Hampshire State Police. The Narcotics Investigative Unit is a component of the State Police Investigative Services Division.

New Jersey New Jersey State Police

The New Jersey State Police has primary drug investigation and enforcement responsibility. Narcotics investigations are handled by that Department's Criminal Enterprise and Racketeering Bureau, one of three bureaus (along with Criminal Investigation Bureau and Special Investigation and Services Bureau) that comprises the Investigations Section.

New Mexico New Mexico State Police

The agency with primary narcotic responsibility is the New Mexico State Police. The New Mexico State Police consists of both a Uniform Division and a Criminal Investigations Division. The Narcotics Section is a unit of the Criminal Investigations Division.

New York New York State Police

The New York State Police, which is under the New York Department of Criminal Justice, has ten "Troops" throughout the state. Each "Troop" has its own narcotics unit which is responsible for narcotic investigation and intelligence in that particular region of the state of New York.

North Carolina North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation

The Field Operations Division of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) has primary responsibility for drug investigation and enforcement in the state of North Carolina. The SBI is under the state Attorney General's office.

North Dakota North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Similar to North Carolina, the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation is contained within the office of state Attorney General. One of six sections with the North Dakota BCI is the Narcotics Section.

Ohio Local Law Enforcement with Assistance of Ohio BCII

Drug Enforcement in the state of Ohio is the responsibility of local law enforcement. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCII), out of the Ohio Attorney General's office, is the state drug investigative agency. The Ohio BCII has investigative responsibilities without arrest powers and assists in local efforts at the request of individual local agencies.

Oklahoma Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics

The Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics is the agency in that state with primary narcotic enforcement and investigative authority. Formerly a part of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Narcotics consists of fully commissioned peace officers. The Bureau is contained within the Governor's Public Safety and Security Cabinet. An advisory commission of seven (one police officer, one Sheriff, one District Attorney, and four lay members) sets policy.

Oregon Oregon State Police

The agency in the state of Oregon with primary drug investigation and enforcement responsibility is the Oregon State Police. Within the Oregon State Police, the Operations Services Bureau is one of three bureaus. The Criminal Investigations Division is a division of the Operations Services Bureau and the Drug Enforcement Section is a component of the CID.

**Pennsylvania Pennsylvania State Police's Bureau of Drug Law Enforcement and
Pennsylvania Attorney General office's Bureau of Narcotics
Investigation and Drug Control**

The state of Pennsylvania has two separate state agencies which share responsibility for the investigation and enforcement of controlled substance violations: the State Police's Bureau of Drug Law Enforcement and the Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotics Investigation and Drug Control.

The State Police Bureau of Drug Law Enforcement was elevated from a division of the State Police BCI to bureau status in 1992 and consists of approximately 130 Troopers. The State Police also has sixteen individual Troops, each of which have their own drug investigators.

Agents of the Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotics Investigation and Drug Control are approximately 150 in number. The Bureau of Narcotics Investigation agents have authority limited to the enforcement of the Controlled Substances Act and related conspiracies. They work asset forfeiture and undercover operations and the Bureau controls the county and multi-county task forces within the state which consist of approximately 4000 local and county law enforcement officers.

Rhode Island Rhode Island State Police

The Rhode Island State Police is the agency with primary narcotic responsibility. The Narcotics Unit of that department's Detective Division consists of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, and four Detectives.

South Carolina South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division

The South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) is the agency in South Carolina with primary responsibility for drug investigation and enforcement. SLED is directly under the Governor and the Chief of SLED reports directly to the Governor. Narcotics is one of six SLED divisions.

South Dakota South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation

The South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation is under the office of State Attorney General. The South Dakota DCI has the responsibility for statewide drug investigation and enforcement.

Tennessee Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

The primary narcotics agency in the state of Tennessee is the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation which is directly under the Governor. The TBI is divided into five divisions. One of the five divisions is the Investigative Division which houses the Drug Enforcement Unit.

Texas Department of Public Safety (Texas' State Police)

The state of Texas has a Narcotics Service under Criminal Enforcement, one of two divisions of the Texas Department of Public Safety. The investigators in the Narcotics Service are Sergeant Investigators.

Utah Utah Division of Investigations

The Utah Division of Investigations is a component agency of the Utah Department of Public Safety and is directed by Utah state code to "provide specialized case support and investigate illegal drug production, cultivation, and sales" and to "investigate, follow-up, and assist in highway interdiction cases." The Narcotic Section is one of five sections under the Investigations Bureau of this agency.

Vermont Vermont State Police

The Vermont State Police has primary narcotic responsibility. Within the State Police, the Special Investigations Unit of the Criminal Division is directly responsible for narcotics.

Virginia Virginia State Police

Virginia State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Special Investigations Division.

Washington Washington State Patrol

The primary drug investigative and enforcement agency in the state is the Washington State Patrol. The Washington State Patrol's equivalent of Virginia's Bureau of Criminal Investigation is called the Investigative Assistance Division and the Narcotics Section is one section of the Investigative Assistance Division.

West Virginia West Virginia State Police

The West Virginia State Police's Bureau of Criminal Investigation is the successor to that Department's narcotics division and was elevated to a BCI in March of 1991. The West Virginia State Police BCI is responsible for investigating other crimes, but its primary function is narcotics investigation and enforcement.

Wisconsin Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Narcotic Enforcement

The Wisconsin Legislature, in 1989, created the Wisconsin Division of Narcotic Enforcement. Prior to 1989, primary drug law enforcement had been the responsibility of a bureau (the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs) of the Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation. Both Divisions (Narcotic Enforcement and Criminal Investigation) are now of equal status under the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

Wyoming Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation

The agency in Wyoming with primary narcotic responsibility is the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI.) The Division of Criminal Investigation is under the state Attorney General's Office and contains a Narcotics Section with investigative and enforcement responsibility.