

***MONITORING OF OFFENDERS REQUIRED TO
COMPLY WITH THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY
REQUIREMENTS***

**A Report to the Governor, House Appropriations Committee,
And Senate Finance Committee**



January 2010

**Colonel W. Steven Flaherty
Superintendent**



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

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January 1, 2010

TO: The Honorable Timothy M. Kaine, Governor of Virginia

The Honorable Charles J. Colgan
Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Lacey E. Putney
Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee

Pursuant to the 2009 Appropriation Act, I am respectfully submitting herewith, a *Report on Monitoring of Offenders Required to Comply with the Sex Offender Registry Requirements*. The report is a compilation of the Department's efforts from December 1, 2008, through November 30, 2009.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. S. Flaherty".

Superintendent

WSF/CAV

Enclosure

**Report on Monitoring of Offenders Required to Comply with
the Sex Offender Registry Requirements**

Preface

Pursuant to the 2009 Appropriation Act, the Department of State Police is pleased to provide this report on the monitoring of offenders required to comply with the Sex Offender Registry requirements.

Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry (SOR) Verifications

As of December 1, 2009, there were 16,238 sex offenders listed on the Virginia State Police Sex Offender Registry. They are divided into three groups which consist of the following: (1) 3,171 registrants under Department of Corrections Probation and Parole Services, (2) 6,053 sex offenders whose verification will be conducted by the Department of State Police, and (3) the remaining 7,014 registrants who are incarcerated in jails or prisons across the state.

The Virginia Department of State Police (VSP) has developed and maintained a web-based system for recording and monitoring residence and employment address verifications. This database is utilized by Virginia State Police troopers and Department of Corrections (DOC) Probation and Parole officers tasked with completing the verification process. Our agency conducts training in the use of this system. There are 43 Probation and Parole officers and 40 Virginia State Police Sex Offender Investigative Unit troopers trained in this system to date. This training will continue until all Probation and Parole officers are familiar with this program.

In the past twelve months, from December 1, 2008, to November 30, 2009, VSP conducted 16,078 verifications of home and work addresses. The offender compliance rate for verification is 94 percent. All of these verifications were completed utilizing the troopers assigned to the Sex Offender Investigative Unit.

Registry Violations

In the past twelve months, from December 1, 2008, through November 30, 2009, the Virginia State Police conducted 2,651 criminal investigations for "Failure to Register" and "Providing False Information." During this same period, there were 972 arrests made across the state by the Virginia State Police for violations of the aforementioned offenses, with 379 convictions to date. Many cases are still pending trial. These investigations initiated from troopers' observations, tips from citizens, information from other law enforcement agencies, information from the Department of Corrections, and other states' sex offender registries. Also, during the time from December 1, 2008, to November 30, 2009, the Registry and the Investigative Unit received 1,605 tips and/or comments through the State Police website that needed follow up investigations.

Coordination with Other State and Local Law Enforcement Organizations

Interagency coordination during this reporting period includes the following:

- VSP and DOC – VSP developed the Sex Offender Verification (SOV) System, which is also used by DOC. VSP continues to conduct training for both agencies.
- VSP and DOC - Area offices register or re-register each incoming sex offender and work to process offenders who are under the supervision of Probation and Parole.

- VSP and DOC – Offenders are monitored through joint initiatives, such as the Halloween meetings that took place at several Probation and Parole offices. These meetings were designed to monitor offender movement during this children’s celebration of the Fall season.
- VSP, DOC, and the United States Marshal Service - This fugitive task force initiative was continued and will include sex offender fugitives in its targeted operations. In the summer of 2009, the task force initiated Operation Falcon. This one-week effort resulted in arrests statewide.
- VSP and other states – VSP worked with several out-of-state registries to locate and apprehend absconders who crossed state lines to escape compliance with sex offender registration requirements.
- VSP and local agencies – VSP developed small task force initiatives with local agencies across the state with the goal of enhancing investigations surrounding SOR violations and to improve the line of communication throughout Virginia’s criminal justice system.

Staffing Requirements

The 2006 Virginia General Assembly allocated the Virginia State Police 45 sworn positions as an enforcement component of the Sex Offender Registry. This unit is committed to monitor and prosecute sex offenders who fail to comply with Title 9.1 of the Code of Virginia. The following information provides an overview of the creation, implementation, and progress of the Sex Offender Investigative Unit.

In July 2006, the Sex Offender Investigative Unit was implemented by establishing one first sergeant position, four sergeant positions, and 40 trooper positions. This unit was added to the Criminal Justice Information Services Division in the Bureau of Administrative and Support Services. The positions of the unit were constructed to provide an enforcement component to the Sex Offender Registry with the goal of providing quick and in-depth investigations of sex offender violations. To properly distribute these established positions, the sex offender population in the Commonwealth was studied and the results were utilized for the creation of four regions; one sergeant and ten troopers would be assigned to each region. Originally, the offender to trooper ratio was expected to be 120:1. Since the implementation of the program in 2006, that ratio has grown to 151:1. To further ensure efficiency, each region was divided into areas or small geographical work units to ensure that manpower was distributed evenly within each region.

The *2008 Manpower Augmentation Plan* recommended that the Department assign one trooper for each 100 sex offenders living in Virginia communities. At current levels, this would require 55 troopers. The positions would be allocated according to the distribution of registered sex offenders in each division and the Department would use the normal supervisory staff ratio of one supervisor per 12 troopers.

One administrative and office specialist II is needed in each of the four regions for clerical support of the Sex Offender Investigative Unit. The tracking of criminal case

requests and criminal investigations generated by the unit will increase as a result of the added trooper positions. This position would enter information into the Department's criminal investigative report system and maintain information on pending cases.

The overall objective of the Sex Offender Investigative Unit is to enhance public safety by investigating and successfully closing criminal cases involving sex offenders who fail to comply with Title 9.1 of the Code of Virginia.

General Observations

The below data is from the time period of December 1, 2008, to November 30, 2009.

Address Verifications per Region

Location	# To Be Verified	# Verified	Percent Completed
Region One	5	4,225	99%
Region Two	6	3,845	99%
Region Three	46	4,129	99%
Region Four	74	3,879	98%
Totals	131	16,078	99%

* Information derived from the Virginia State Police Sex Offender Verification System.

Type Address Verification per Region

Location	Home Change	Home Initial	Home Semi-Annual	Work Change	School Change
Region One	759	48	2098	573	19
Region Two	696	87	2083	576	21
Region Three	738	69	2370	615	30
Region Four	802	66	2434	537	18
Totals	2,995	270	8,985	2,301	88

Criminal Investigations per Region **From December 1, 2008, to November 30, 2009**

Location	# Cases
Region One	615
Region Two	634
Region Three	816
Region Four	586
Totals	2,651

* Information derived from Virginia State Police Criminal Investigative Report File and FACTS System.

Failure to Register Convictions by Jurisdiction 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2008

JURISDICTION NAME	COUNT
Albemarle County	3
Arlington County	2
Alleghany County	1
Amherst County	1
Augusta County	1
Bedford County	1
Botetourt County	1
Buckingham County	1
Campbell County	2
Caroline County	1
Carroll County	1
Chesterfield County	9
Culpepper County	3
Cumberland County	5
Dickenson County	1
Fairfax County	15
Franklin County	4
Frederick County	4
Giles County	1
Gloucester County	1
Goochland County	2
Greene County	2
Hanover County	3
Henrico	12
Henry County	1
King George County	1
Loudoun County	3
Madison County	1
Montgomery County	4
Orange County	1
Page County	2
Pittsylvania County	5
Powhatan County	1
Prince Edward County	1
Prince George County	3
Prince William County	2
Rappahannock County	1
Richmond County	1
Roanoke County	3
Rockbridge County	1

JURISDICTION NAME	COUNT
Rockingham County	1
Shenandoah County	1
Smyth County	2
Spotsylvania County	5
Stafford County	3
Tazewell County	2
Washington County	2
Wise County	1
Wythe County	3
York County	2
Surry County	1
City	
Alexandria	5
Buena Vista	1
Charlottesville	5
Colonial Heights	2
Danville	5
Fredericksburg	3
Galax	2
Hampton	9
Harrisonburg	1
Hopewell	3
Lynchburg	9
Manassas	1
Martinsville	2
Newport News	6
Norfolk	51
Petersburg	5
Portsmouth	8
Richmond	20
Roanoke	11
Staunton	2
Suffolk	1
Virginia Beach	15
Chesapeake	10
Waynesboro	2
Williamsburg	5
Winchester	2
Total	316

Virginia Department of State Police

Sex Offender Registry (SOR) Regions

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

DIVISION I - RICHMOND	- (804) 553-3444	(800) 552-6963
DIVISION II - CALPEPER	- (540) 825-7461	(800) 277-2160
DIVISION III - APPOMATTOX	- (540) 352-7128	(800) 552-0962
DIVISION IV - WYTHEVILLE	- (276) 228-3131	(800) 542-8716
DIVISION V - CHESAPEAKE	- (757) 424-6830	(800) 542-8350
DIVISION VI - SALEM	- (540) 375-9300	(800) 542-5559
DIVISION VII - FAIRFAX	- (703) 823-4500	(800) 572-4131

AREA HEADQUARTERS

1 ADIRLAND	17 STANTON	33 GLOUCESTER
2 WARGAW	18 CHARLOTTEVILLE	34 FRANKLIN
3 WEST POINT	19 ROCKINGHAM	35 EMPIRE
4 MINERAL	20 LINCENBURG	36 WARREN
5 FREDERICKSBURG	21 APPOMATTOX	37 WILLIAMSBURG
6 POMFRET	22 SOUTH HILL	38 CLIFTON FORGE
7 PETERSBURG	23 SOUTH BROOK	39 LEONINGTON
8 RICHMOND	24 DOUBLIN	40 SALEM
9 FAIRFAX	25 GALAX	41 BEDFORD
10 LEEZBURG	26 WYTHEVILLE	42 HARTFORDVILLE
11 INDEPENDENT HILL	27 BRISTOL	43 DANVILLE
12 HARRINGTON	28 CLAYPOOL HILL	44 BOWLING GREEN
13 WINCHESTER	29 VAUGHANT	45 ARLINGTON
14 LURAY	30 ROSE	46 HAMPTON/REPORT NEWS
15 CALPEPER	31 MELFA	47 CHESAPEAKE
16 HARRISBURG	32 PORTFOLK/VIRGINIA BEACH	48 SPRINGFIELD

LEGEND

- ★ ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
- AREA BOUNDARIES
- DIVISION HEADQUARTERS
- AREA HEADQUARTERS

