

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

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



January 2012

**Colonel W. Steven Flaherty
Superintendent**



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

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January 1, 2012

TO: The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell, 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 Item 408, H.2., of the 2011 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, 2010, through November 30, 2011.

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 Item 408, H.2., of the 2011 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, 2011, there were 18,663 sex offenders listed on the Virginia State Police Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry. They are divided into three groups, which consist of the following: (1) 3,461 registrants under Department of Corrections (DOC) Probation and Parole Services, (2) 7,075 sex offenders whose verification will be conducted by the Department of State Police, and (3) the remaining 8,127 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, monitoring and verifying residence and employment addresses. 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 districts and 40 Virginia State Police Sex Offender Investigative Unit troopers. All officers and troopers are trained in this system.

In the past twelve months, from December 1, 2010, to November 30, 2011, VSP conducted 17,423 verifications of home and work addresses. The offender compliance rate for verification is 99 percent. All of these verifications were completed utilizing the troopers assigned to the Sex Offender Investigative Unit.

Registry Violations

From December 1, 2010, through November 30, 2011, the Virginia State Police conducted 2,163 criminal investigations for "Failure to Register" and "Providing False Information." During this same period, there were 909 arrests made across the state by the Virginia State Police for violations of the aforementioned offenses, with 505 convictions. 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 this period, the Registry and the Investigative Unit received 1,531 tips or comments through the State Police website that required 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 has 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 and the United States Marshals Service - On October 31, 2011, teams of U.S. Marshals and Virginia State Police troopers canvassed neighborhoods across the Metro-Richmond, Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia regions to validate the residential addresses of 567 convicted sex offenders. Of these residences checked during *Operation Halloween Verification*, 432 of them were confirmed. The operation was the single largest joint Sex Offender Registry verification operation in Virginia's history.
- VSP, DOC, and the United States Marshals Service - On November 2, 2011, Virginia State Police troopers, the Department of Corrections Fugitive Unit and the U.S. Marshals Service participated in a joint law enforcement operation targeting offenders. During this initiative, the teams located and arrested 24 wanted, convicted sex offenders on 36 warrants in the City of Richmond and the counties of Henrico and Fairfax.
- 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 monitoring and prosecuting 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 were created 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 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. To further enhance efficiency, each region was divided into areas or small geographical work units to ensure that manpower was distributed evenly

within 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 177:1.

The *2010 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 30 additional troopers which represents seven additional positions than were outlined in the Augmentation Plan. 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.

The Governor's 2012-2014 Introduced Budget includes \$2,654,632 the first year and \$1,484,670 the second year to support 43 non-sworn positions to be responsible for monitoring persons required to comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registry. The Department will retain an appropriate number of sworn personnel to handle critical verifications and criminal investigations.

An Office Services 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, 2010, to November 30, 2011.

Address Verifications per Region

Region	# To Be Verified	# Verified	Percent Completed
Region One	4	4,277	99%
Region Two	14	4,196	99%
Region Three	2	4,349	99%
Region Four	1	4,601	99%
Totals	21	17,423	99%

Type Address Verification per Region

Region	Home Address Change	Home Initial Verification	Home Semi-Annual Verification	Work Address Change	School Address Change	Other
Region One	691	60	2606	518	16	386
Region Two	594	89	2503	620	32	358
Region Three	714	79	2657	516	28	355
Region Four	818	52	2764	546	13	408
Totals	2817	280	10530	2200	89	1507

Criminal Investigations per Region
From December 1, 2010, to November 30, 2011

Location	# Cases
Region One	563
Region Two	395
Region Three	778
Region Four	427
Total	2,163

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

Failure to Register Convictions by Jurisdiction 12/1/2010 – 11/30/2011

JURISDICTION NAME	COUNT
ALBEMARLE CO	4
ALEXANDRIA	4
AMELIA CO	2
AMHERST CO	1
APPOMATTOX CO	1
ARLINGTON CO	4
AUGUSTA CO	3
BEDFORD	2
BEDFORD CO	4
BOTETOURT CO	1
BRISTOL	2
BUENA VISTA	1
CAMPBELL CO	4
CAROLINE CO	1
CARROLL CO	2
CHARLES CITY CO	1
CHARLOTTESVILLE	11
CHESAPEAKE	22
CHESTERFIELD CO	15
CLARKE CO	1
CULPEPER CO	2
DANVILLE	9
FAIRFAX CITY	1
FAIRFAX CO	34
FAUQUIER CO	3
FREDERICK CO	1
FREDERICKSBURG	1
GILES CO	1
GLOUCESTER CO	1
GOOCHLAND CO	2
GRAYSON CO	3
HALIFAX CO	3
HAMPTON	12
HANOVER CO	11
HENRICO CO	20
HENRY CO	2
HOPEWELL	2
ISLE OF WIGHT CO	1
KING WILLIAM CO	1
LEE CO	1
LOUDOUN CO	4

JURISDICTION NAME	COUNT
LOUISA CO	4
LYNCHBURG	12
MARTINSVILLE	3
MATHEWS CO	1
MECKLENBURG CO	2
MONTGOMERY CO	6
NELSON CO	1
NEW KENT CO	1
NEWPORT NEWS	16
NORFOLK	50
NORTHAMPTON CO	1
NORTHUMBERLAND CO	1
NOTTOWAY	1
PETERSBURG	8
PITTSYLVANIA CO	3
PORTSMOUTH	11
PRINCE EDWARD CO	3
PRINCE GEORGE CO	2
PRINCE WILLIAM CO	9
PULASKI CO	4
RICHMOND CITY	45
ROANOKE	26
ROCKINGHAM CO	3
SCOTT CO	1
SOUTHAMPTON CO	5
SPOTSYLVANIA CO	6
STAFFORD CO	4
STAUNTON	9
SUFFOLK	5
SURRY CO	1
TAZEWELL CO	4
VIRGINIA BEACH	26
WARREN CO	3
WASHINGTON CO	3
WAYNESBORO	5
WESTMORELAND CO	2
WILLIAMSBURG	6
WINCHESTER	3
WISE CO	3
WYTHE CO	5
TOTAL	505

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) 623-4500	(800) 572-4310

AREA HEADQUARTERS

1 ADIRLAND	17 STANTON	33 GLOUCESTER
2 WARGAW	18 CHARLOTTEVILLE	34 FRANKLIN
3 WEST POINT	19 ROCKINGHAM	35 EMPIRE
4 MINERAL	20 LYNCHBURG	36 WARREN
5 FREDERICKSBURG	21 APPOMATTOX	37 WILLIAMSBURG
6 POWHATAN	22 SOUTH HILL	38 CLIFTON FORGE
7 PETERSBURG	23 SOUTH BROOK	39 LEICESTER
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 WISE	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

