



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commission

on the

Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)

Senator Henry L. Marsh, III
Chairman

Angela D. Coleman
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Robert F. McDonald
Members of the General Assembly

FROM: Senator Henry L. Marsh, III, Chairman
The Commission on VASAP

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry L. Marsh, III".

DATE: January 6, 2012

SUBJECT: VASAP 2011 Annual Executive Summary

Section 18.2-271.2 of the Code of Virginia requires that the Commission on VASAP submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Commission. The attached report provides an overview of the activities of the Commission on VASAP during 2011.

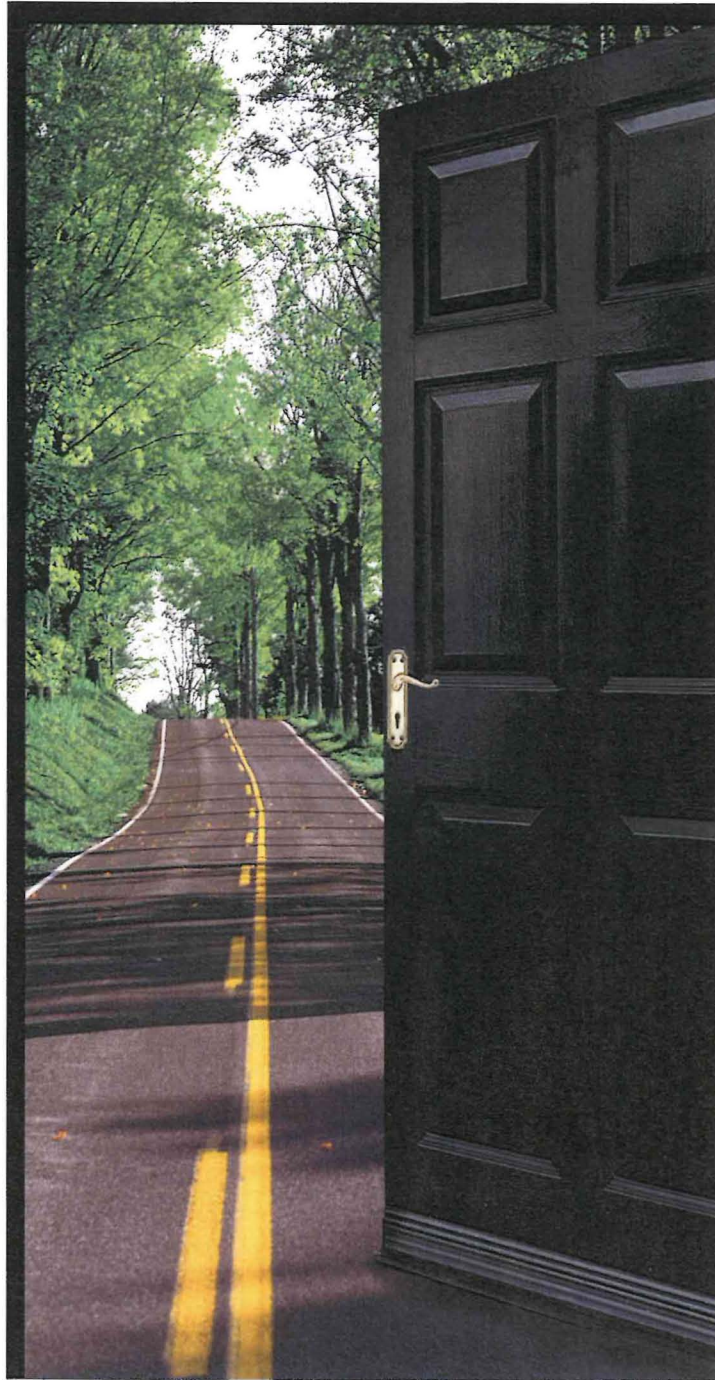
Please contact my office or Angela D. Coleman, the Executive Director of the Commission on VASAP, if you have questions.

Attachment

The Commission on VASAP

2011 Annual Executive Summary

January, 2012



Your Doorway to Safe & Sober Driving

Introduction

The Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program traces its roots to Fairfax County. In 1972, it became the site of one of 35 national "Alcohol Safety Action Projects" funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). On March 24, 1975, legislation passed by the General Assembly expanded this program statewide establishing driver education and rehabilitation programs in an effort to reduce the number of highway tragedies.

There are currently 24 Alcohol Safety Action Programs throughout Virginia. Every jurisdiction in the Commonwealth is covered by one of the local programs. The ASAP programs share in the responsibility with other highway safety partners to help lower the number of impaired drivers on our roadways.

In 1986, the General Assembly formed the Commission on Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (Commission on VASAP). This provided for the standardization of ASAP operations, thereby increasing the quality and equity of services to offenders statewide. Section 18.2-271.2 of the *Code of Virginia* requires the Commission on VASAP to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Commission. This report provides an overview of Commission on VASAP activities during 2011.

Mission

To improve highway safety by decreasing the incidence of driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs, leading to the reduction of alcohol and drug-related fatalities and crashes.

Objectives

1. Deter the motoring public from driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs.
2. Deter those arrested and convicted of driving under the influence from becoming repeat offenders.
3. Increase awareness to aid in the identification, apprehension and conviction of offenders driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs.
4. Raise the conviction rate for offenders and the number of appropriate referrals to Alcohol Safety Action Programs.
5. Ensure appropriate probationary control of offenders.
6. Ensure the delivery of proper education and treatment services for offenders.
7. Provide statewide offender tracking services for all ASAPs.
8. Increase public awareness of the civil and legal consequences of DUI arrests, public perception of transportation crash risks and public activities to reduce DUI incidents.
9. Assess and maintain the effectiveness and self-supporting status of both the Commission and local Alcohol Safety Action Programs.

Programs

VASAP has developed many educational programs designed to improve highway safety, providing a credible Alcohol Safety Action Program that responds to the needs of each locality in Virginia. Included among these are:

- Reckless/Aggressive Driver Programs
- Habitual Offender Restoration Reviews
- Driver Improvement Programs
- First Offender Drug Programs
- Young Offender Programs
- Relapse Prevention Education
- Victim Impact Panels
- Driving Suspended Intervention Programs
- Community Service Programs
- Ignition Interlock Program
- Alcohol/Drug Testing
- DUI Court (Fredericksburg and Staunton)

Overview of the Commission

§18.2-271.2. Commission on VASAP; purpose; membership; terms; meetings; staffing; compensation and expenses; chairman's executive summary.

A. There is hereby established in the legislative branch of state government the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP). The Commission shall administer and supervise the state system of local alcohol and safety action programs, develop and maintain operation and performance standards for local alcohol and safety action programs, and allocate funding to such programs. The Commission shall consist of 15 members that include six legislative members and nine nonlegislative citizen members. Members shall be appointed as follows: four current or former members of the House Committee for Courts of Justice, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; two members of the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, to be appointed by the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee; three sitting or retired judges, one each from the circuit, general district and juvenile and domestic relations district courts, who regularly hear or heard cases involving driving under the influence and are familiar with their local alcohol safety action programs, to be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on District Courts; two directors of local alcohol safety action programs, to be appointed by the legislative members of the Commission; one representative from the law-enforcement profession, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one nonlegislative citizen at large, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; one representative from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles whose duties are substantially related to matters to be addressed by the Commission to be appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, and one representative from the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services whose duties

also substantially involve such matters, to be appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. Legislative members shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office. In accordance with the staggered terms previously established, nonlegislative citizen members shall serve two-year terms. All members may be reappointed. Appointments to fill vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be made for the unexpired terms. Any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made in the same manner as the original appointment.

B. The Commission shall meet at least four times each year at such places as it may from time to time designate. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership.

The Commission shall be empowered to establish and ensure the maintenance of minimum standards and criteria for program operations and performance, accounting, auditing, public information and administrative procedures for the various local alcohol safety action programs and shall be responsible for overseeing the administration of the statewide VASAP system. Such programs shall be certified by the Commission in accordance with procedures set forth in the Commission on VASAP Certification Manual. The Commission shall also oversee program plans, operations and performance and a system for allocating funds to cover deficits that may occur in the budgets of local programs.

C. The Commission shall appoint and employ and, at its pleasure, remove an executive director and such other persons as it may deem necessary, and determine their duties and fix their salaries or compensation.

D. The Commission shall appoint a Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program Advisory Board to make recommendations to the Commission regarding its duties and administrative functions. The membership of such Board shall be appointed in the discretion of the Commission and include personnel from (i) local safety action programs, (ii) state or local boards of mental health and mental retardation and (iii) other community mental health services organizations. An assistant attorney general who provides counsel in matters relating to driving under the influence shall also be appointed to the Board.

E. Legislative members of the Commission shall receive compensation as provided in § 30-19.12. Funding for the costs of compensation of legislative members shall be provided by the Commission. All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825 to be paid out of that portion of moneys paid in VASAP defendant entry fees which is forwarded to the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program.

F. The chairman of the Commission shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Commission no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

Commission Members

Legislative

Senator Henry L. Marsh, III, Chairman
Delegate Salvatore Iaquinto, Vice Chairman
Delegate C. Todd Gilbert

Senator Roscoe Reynolds
Delegate Ward L. Armstrong
Delegate Jackson H. Miller

Judicial

Honorable James F. Almand
Honorable George W. Harris, Jr.

Honorable George D. Varoutsos

Law Enforcement

Sheriff Michael L. Wade

Department of Motor Vehicles

Mr. John L. Saunders

Non-Legislative Citizen At-large

Ms. Pat Eggleston

Local Program Directors

Ms. Susan E. Marchon

Mr. Roy-Keith Lloyd

Commission Staff

Angela D. Coleman – Executive Director
John Kimbel – IT Administrator
Christopher Morris – Special Programs Coordinator
Charlene Motley – Field Services Supervisor

Keshana Lee – Accountant
Tracy Thacker – Executive Assistant
Brenda Duncan – Office Staff Assistant
Oscar Brinson – Legal Counsel

Commission Meeting Dates

March 11, 2011

June 10, 2011

Sept. 16, 2011

Dec. 2, 2011

Advisory Board

The Commission on VASAP, as mandated by the Code of Virginia, has an appointed advisory board which makes recommendations to the Commission regarding its duties and administrative functions.

Component Area Activities

In keeping with VASAP's mission to improve highway safety, the VASAP system operates within five component target areas.

Case Management/Offender Intervention

Persons referred to ASAP are monitored by case managers who screen and classify offenders to determine the most appropriate education and/or treatment services needed.

In 2011, the Commission on VASAP:

- proactively assisted local ASAPs to address fiscal challenges and enhance local program services by continuing the reduction in the amount of state share fees that local programs submit to the state office (as required by § 18.2-271.1 of the Code of Virginia) from six percent (6%) to three percent (3%)
- assisted the local programs in a continuing difficult economic climate by removing the requirement to pay 3% on monthly ignition interlock vendor payments and assumed payment for education workbooks for all 24 local programs
- provided services for over 65,000 citizens of the Commonwealth
- participated as a member of the Supreme Court's Statewide Drug Court Advisory Committee, tasked with creating standards and guidelines, and reviewing and approving applications for specialty court programs
- conducted a Case Management Conference in Norfolk, August 7-10, for approximately 120 case managers and newly hired directors from local ASAPs
- provided on-going technical support to the local ASAPs regarding case management procedures
- successfully assumed operation of the Alexandria ASAP, without disruption of services, from the City of Alexandria
- re-established the Alexandria Policy Board
- provided on-going daily managerial oversight for the Alexandria ASAP
- monitored case files, to include ignition interlock, for the Alexandria ASAP
- provided administrative oversight for a local program directly under the Commission's supervision

- provided ongoing technical support and infrastructure for maintenance of the offender tracking system
- worked with the Department of Motor Vehicles on matters related to restricted license orders, ignition interlock, ASAP compliance and policy updates
- provided two facilitator training sessions in Richmond (April 8th) and Charlottesville (April 9th) on standard ASAP case management procedures and ASAP curriculum reviews and updates
- updated and revised all ASAP education curricula and instructor guides using evidenced based practices and proven successful industry standards
- provided administrative oversight for vendors regarding the operation of the ignition interlock program in the Commonwealth
- updated ignition interlock guidance documents for use by vendors and local ASAP staff
- regularly updated and distributed informational brochure for offenders assigned to the ignition interlock program
- provided ongoing information technology support for the local ASAPs to include training in the use of the Inferno offender tracking system
- presented at the Ignition Interlock Symposium in Palm Springs, California September 17th - 21st
- monitored and inspected 98 ignition interlock service centers
- participated in a NHTSA-sponsored regional ignition interlock conference in Baltimore, Maryland on March 15th - 16th
- provided ignition interlock program training sessions for vendors, ASAP directors and program staff
- worked cooperatively with the executive committee of the VASAP Directors' Association and attended all of their quarterly meetings and fall and spring conferences
- updated and received approval from the DMV for a new driver improvement curriculum for use by local ASAPs
- provided training driver improvement training using the new curricula for 67 facilitators
- updated the VASAP education/intensive education curricula and facilitator manuals
- maintained the VASAP – DMV interface for electronic submission of ASAP program data

Adjudication

VASAP, prosecutors, and the courts work together to ensure the efficient processing of those convicted of driving under the influence and referred to VASAP for probation.

In 2011, the Commission on VASAP:

- partnered with the Virginia Departments of State Police, Motor Vehicles, Game and Inland Fisheries, and Alcoholic Beverage Control to plan and coordinate the 2011 Judicial Transportation Safety Conference at Virginia Beach, August 10th and 11th
- provided staff in many jurisdictions to assist judges and clerks of court with the processing of DUI cases
- continued to provide support for the DUI courts in Fredericksburg and Staunton

- produced an adult offender DUI sanctions chart and distributed it to judges, attorneys, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and other grass root organizations
- sent brochures on teenage drinking and driving to Virginia juvenile and domestic relations courts for use in drivers' licensing ceremonies
- presented legislative updates and information on ASAP policy to judges at the Judicial Transportation Safety Conference
- served on the Department of Motor Vehicle's KATZ Test Design and Development Team which entailed providing input on appropriate driver license testing categories

Enforcement

VASAP enhances law enforcement efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug-related crashes by providing training to detect and apprehend those driving under the influence.

In 2011, the Commission on VASAP:

- sent Commission staff to a Law Enforcement Training seminar facilitated by the Department of Motor Vehicles on May 10 in Farmville, VA
- sent Commission staff to the NHTSA Region 3 Law Enforcement Training Summit in Louisville, KY on June 21st through the 23rd
- monitored committee meetings of the General Assembly to track the introduction and passage of DUI enforcement legislation
- sent informational materials to police departments for distribution to the public
- utilized law enforcement officers from Charlottesville and Hopewell at the case management conference to present information on highway safety and updates on synthetic marijuana

Public Information/Education

VASAP helps reduce the number of impaired driving injuries and fatalities by increasing public awareness through education, and by encouraging responsible decision making. Each program conducts local public information efforts with training and support materials from the Commission.

In 2011, the Commission on VASAP:

- completely revised and updated the VASAP web-page to provide more information in a user- friendly format
- developed an educational movie trailer for the Holiday 2011 anti-drinking and driving campaign
- presented the movie trailer from December 2nd through the 31st in four area movie theaters identified with high incidences of drinking and driving with exposure to 202,486 viewers
- partnered with a local area ASAP to administer a public awareness campaign, in joint unison with the educational movie trailer, at the Muvico Village 12 Theater in Fredericksburg, VA on December 16th
- worked in coordination with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for a Labor Day public awareness campaign at the Osborne Boating Dock location on September 2nd

- developed a Holiday Statement for release to the press and local programs on the dangers of drinking and driving and highway related statistics during the months of November and December
- hosted an information and education booth at the Judicial Transportation Safety Conference, August 10th and 11th
- expanded public information efforts by sending brochures to high schools, community colleges, universities, businesses, insurance companies, career centers, law firms, law enforcement agencies and private driving schools
- responded and resolved inquiries of citizens, courts, local attorneys, neighboring states, and other state agencies
- provided weekly legislative updates to local ASAPs and other stakeholders
- enhanced and updated various VASAP brochures to be used in public awareness/education efforts
- provided curriculum materials for use by programs with emphasis on minors aged 9-13 on substance abuse prevention and education
- provided an informational booth, where materials were distributed to the public on the dangers and consequences of drinking and driving, at the “Fridays at Sunset” festival in Richmond on June 24th, July 8th, and July 22nd
- provided educational materials on the dangers of drinking and driving to the “Innsbook After Dark” concert series in Richmond
- presented at the juvenile driver’s licensing ceremonies in Alexandria
- provided brochures to the “Virginia is for Lovers” Virginia Tourism Corporation for distribution at Virginia’s Welcome Centers
- provided brochures to the Public Relations Office of the Virginia State Police for distribution at the State Fair of Virginia

Evaluation/Certification

The Commission on VASAP is responsible for periodically evaluating and recertifying each ASAP to ensure that services in the communities are effective, consistent, and appropriate.

In 2011, the Commission on VASAP:

- provided oversight for the vendor conducting financial audits of the local ASAPs
- audited and reviewed the budgets of the 24 local alcohol safety action programs (ASAPs)
- successfully passed the financial audit of the Commission office without any findings of deficiencies
- reviewed local program budget amendments
- revised the monthly report forms and budget submission documents
- provided training to the local directors and fiscal staff on the new financial documents, auditing principles and best practices in financial management
- completed an employee policy and procedure manual for local programs
- provided training on the policies for local directors in Richmond on February 18th
- revised and updated the certification process using process indicators and performance management standards

- provided training for the local program directors on the new certification process in Richmond on July 22nd
- completed the site visits of the programs in the Battlefield Region using the new certification process
- provided training to the case management staff on the new certification process, branding and best practices in Norfolk, on August 8th and 9th
- performed field visits of local ASAPs
- conducted management reviews of local programs
- attended and presented information on program operations at local policy board meetings
- continued the process to review and revise all VASAP regulations
- completed the work of the fee review committee to standardize the application of offender fees

2011 VASAP REFERRALS

Referrals by Age	Percentage
<16	0.17%
16-25	37.44%
26-35	25.69%
36-45	16.56%
46-65	18.68%
>65	1.46%

Referrals by Curriculum	Percentage
Education	29.96%
Intensive Education	25.21%
Treatment	44.83%
Drug Education	0.00%

Total Referrals for all VASAP Services Provided in 2011	65,859
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As demonstrated by the above data, the Commission on VASAP continued to provide quality services to the citizens of the Commonwealth in 2011, despite a very challenging economic environment. **This was accomplished without using general fund revenues.** The Commission looks forward to ongoing success in 2012 as it works cooperatively with the General Assembly and other highway safety stakeholders to reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities.

THE COMMISSION ON
VASAP
Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program

If you should have any questions regarding the contents of the 2011 Annual Executive Summary or any of the programs offered by the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program please contact:

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