

The Commission on VASAP

2012 Annual Executive Summary

January, 2013



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. **These programs operate without using any general fund revenues.** 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 2012.

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

Delegate Salvatore R. Iaquinto, Chairman
Delegate Jackson H. Miller, Vice Chairman
Senator Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Senator Richard H. Stuart

Delegate Richard L. Morris
Delegate David J. Toscano

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
Oscar Brinson – Legal Counsel

Keshana Lee – Senior Accountant
Linda Johnson – Administrative Assistant
Brenda Duncan – Office Staff Assistant
Sarah Morr – Program Support Technician

Commission Meeting Dates

March 16, 2012

June 8, 2012

Sept. 14, 2012

Dec. 7, 2012

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 2012, the Commission on VASAP:

- assisted the local programs in a continuing difficult economic climate by assuming payment for education workbooks and receipt books for all 24 local programs
- provided services for over 72,000 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 Portsmouth, August 12th -14th for approximately 140 case managers and ASAP directors
- provided on-going technical support to the local ASAPs regarding case management procedures
- provided daily oversight to Alexandria ASAP
- provided daily oversight to Chesapeake Bay ASAP during the months of July – December
- provided assistance to NHTSA on the interlock project determining the unique components of interlock programs
- attended the Lifesaver's Conference on ignition interlock, data collection, best practices, program management and the use of social media in governmental agencies
- participated on the Executive Board of the Association for Ignition Interlock Program Administrators

- 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 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
- served as a presenter and trainer at the Joint NHTSA/Transportation Injury Research Foundation (TIRF) Oklahoma City Interlock Meeting
- began planning process for Indian Creek Correctional Center Re-entry
- monitored and inspected 96 ignition interlock service centers
- attended the Mid Atlantic DUI Conference sponsored by the Virginia Beach Police Department
- attended the DUI Advanced Training sponsored by the Commonwealth Attorney's Association
- attended the Project Management Solutions training presented by the Virginia Department of Accounts
- attended the Grants Management training presented by the Department of Motor Vehicles
- held a contract meeting with the four state approved ignition interlock vendors
- participated in a NHTSA-sponsored regional ignition interlock meeting in Baltimore, Maryland on December 4th – 5th
- held a statewide ignition interlock meeting at the DMV Headquarters office with DMV staff, ASAP directors and ignition interlock vendors to discuss the changes for ignition interlock requirements on DUI 1st convictions
- worked cooperatively with the executive committee of the VASAP Directors' Association and attended all of their quarterly meetings and fall and spring conferences
- completed the updated 2013 Driver Improvement Program
- worked cooperatively with the Director's Association and the Change Companies developing a new Pre-Treatment Educational Workbook
- maintained the VASAP – DMV interface for electronic submission of ASAP program data
- provided ignition interlock training to local ASAPs
- implemented new office processes for the Chesapeake Bay ASAP
- provided case management operations to Chesapeake Bay ASAP for six months

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 2012, the Commission on VASAP:

- partnered with the Virginia Departments of Motor Vehicles, State Police, Game and Inland Fisheries, and Alcoholic Beverage Control to plan and coordinate the 2012 Judicial Transportation Safety Conference at Virginia Beach August 15th and 16th
- continued to provide data collection 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
- provided 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
- worked with the Department of Motor Vehicle converting the ignition interlock program to a web based three phase system through Traffic Records Electronic Data System (TREADS)
- implemented ignition interlock on-line training for state police through their learning management system
- attended a meeting with the Chief Judge of the Alexandria General District Court and her staff to discuss the new ignition interlock law and ASAP processes
- provided training on the new ignition interlock law and ASAP processes to the Alexandria Public Defender's Office, the Charlottesville Public Defender's Office, the Chesapeake Public Defender's Office, the Hampton Public Defender's Office, the Henrico Public Defender's Office, the Leesburg Public Defender's Office, the Martinsville Public Defender's Office, the Norfolk Public Defender's Office, the Portsmouth Public Defender's Office, the Richmond Public Defender's Office and the Virginia Beach Public Defender's Office
- arranged and conducted meetings with the Virginia Beach General District Court Clerk of Court and his designee and the Norfolk General District Court Clerk of Court to reestablish strong working relationships with the Chesapeake Bay ASAP

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 2012, the Commission on VASAP:

- 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
- provided law enforcement training on the new ignition interlock law and ASAP processes to the Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy, the Central Shenandoah Training Academy, the Chesapeake Police Academy, the Central Virginia Academy, the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Academy, the Hanover Sheriff's Department, the Henrico Police Academy, the Rappahannock Regional Criminal Justice Academy, the Richmond Police Department and the Southwest Criminal Justice Academy

- partnered with the Henrico Police Department to create an ignition interlock functionality DVD to include all four state approved vendors
- attended Southside DUI Awards Ceremony where a Commission staff member served as the keynote speaker
- created DUI manuals and distributed to law enforcement officers who excelled in the area of DUI detection and enforcement
- purchased Alco Sensor Breathalyzers for the Department of Criminal Justice Services to help with their law enforcement initiatives

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 2012, the Commission on VASAP:

- 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
- expanded public information efforts by sending VASAP bracelets to the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Project in Charlottesville to handout to students during the homecoming game
- provided the Soccer Organization of Charlottesville and Albemarle (SOCA) with VASAP bracelets to pass out during soccer games
- 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
- presented the movie trailer during the weekends of Memorial Day, Labor Day and Independence Day at the Carmike Midlothian Theater, the Paragon Theaters Village, the Bowtie Movieland and the Phoenix Main Gate Movie
- presented the movie trailer during the month of December at the Main Gate Movie 10 Theater, the Cinemas Café Riverdale Theater, the Carmike Roanoke Cinemas and the Carmike Charlottesville Cinemas
- presented the movie trailer on public broadcasting service (PBS) during the weekends of Memorial Day, Labor Day and Independence Day in Southwest Virginia
- developed the initial stages of working with the Studio Center on presenting public service announcements
- presented at the juvenile driver's licensing ceremonies in Alexandria
- partnered with the Century Council's "I Know Everything" program initiative

- provided data to the Preusser Research Group, which is a research firm specializing in transportation, highway safety, and issues related to drug and alcohol abuse, to assist with further research
- hosted an information and education booth at the Judicial Transportation Safety Conference, August 15th and August 16th

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 2012, the Commission on VASAP:

- provided oversight for the vendor conducting financial audits of the local ASAPs
- completed certification site visits for the 24 local programs utilizing the new certification process
- audited and reviewed the budgets of the 24 local alcohol safety action programs (ASAPs)
- successfully completed the financial audit of the Commission office without any findings of deficiencies
- reviewed local program budget amendments
- 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

2012 VASAP REFERRALS

Referrals by Age	Percentage
<16	0.18%
16-25	37.22%
26-35	26.24%
36-45	15.85%
46-65	19.00%
>65	1.52%

Referrals by Curriculum	Percentage
Education	27.38%
Intensive Education	25.70%
Treatment	46.92%
Drug Education	0.00%

Total Referrals for all VASAP Services Provided in 2012	72,337
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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 2012, despite a very challenging economic environment. **This was accomplished without using any general fund revenues.** The Commission looks forward to ongoing success in 2013 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 2012 Annual Executive Summary or any of the programs offered by the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program please contact:

Angela D. Coleman
Executive Director

The Commission on VASAP
701 E. Franklin St.
Suite 1110
Richmond, VA 23219
P (804) 786-5895
F (804) 786-6286
acoleman.vasap@state.va.us