

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)

Delegate Jackson H. Miller Chairman Angela D. Coleman Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

To:

The Honorable Terence R. McAuliffe

Members of the General Assembly

From:

Delegate Jackson H. Miller, Chairman

Commission on VASAP

Date:

January 7, 2015

Section 18.2-271.1 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 activities and work of the Commission. The attached report provides an overview of the Commission on VASAP activities during 2014.

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

Attachment: 2014 Commission on VASAP Annual Executive Summary

The Commission on VASAP

2014 Annual Executive SummaryJanuary 2015



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. 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.

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.

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 2014.

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 on VASAP 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:

- ASAP Education Groups
- Community Service Programs
- Driver Improvement Programs
- DUI Court (Fredericksburg, Roanoke and Staunton)
- First Offender Drug Programs
- Habitual Offender Restoration Reviews
- Ignition Interlock
- Intervention Interviews
- Reckless/Aggressive Driver Programs
- Young Offender Programs

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 Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services whose duties also substantially involve such matters, to be appointed by the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of

Behavioral Health and Developmental 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 on VASAP 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 on VASAP 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 on VASAP 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 Jackson H. Miller, Chairman Senator Thomas K. Norment, Jr. Senator Richard H. Stuart Delegate Richard L. Morris Delegate David J. Toscano

Judicial

Honorable Mary Jane Hall Honorable George D. Varoutsos Honorable Gino W. Williams

Law Enforcement

Sheriff Michael L. Wade, Vice Chairman

Department of Motor Vehicles

Mr. John L. Saunders

Non-Legislative Citizen At-large

Ms. Pat Eggleston

Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Ms. Mellie Randall

Local Program Directors

Mr. James H. Johnson

Mr. Roy-Keith Lloyd

Commission Staff

Angela D. Coleman – Executive Director

Rosario Carrasquillo – Executive Administrative Assistant

Shelia Crump – Payroll Manager

Richard Foy – Field Services Specialist

John Kimbel – IT Administrator

Andrew Molloy - Senior Policy Analyst

Sarah Morr – Program Support Technician

Christopher Morris – Special Programs Coordinator

Charlene Motley – Field Services Supervisor

Keshana Pierce – Senior Accountant

Oscar Brinson – Legal Counsel

Commission Meeting Dates

March 14, 2014 June 13, 2014 Sept. 12, 2014 Dec. 12, 2014

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.

- 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 to 66,868 citizens of the Commonwealth
- conducted case manager training in Richmond on June 18 20 for newly hired ASAP case managers, case manager assistants, and directors.
- provided on-going technical support to the local ASAPs regarding case management procedures
- worked with DMV on continued development of the Traffic Records Electronic Data System (TREDS)
- provided on-going daily managerial oversight for the Alexandria ASAP and Peninsula ASAP
- monitored case files, to include ignition interlock, for the Alexandria ASAP and Peninsula ASAP
- continued to work 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
- monitored and conducted multiple inspections of 96 ignition interlock service centers
- presented and participated at the International Interlock Symposium 14 in Washington D.C. on August 18-19
- worked cooperatively with the VASAP Directors' Association and attended their scheduled meetings
- updated and received approval from the DMV for a new driver improvement curriculum for use by local ASAPs
- maintained the VASAP DMV interface for electronic submission of ASAP program data
- attended and conducted policy board meetings for local programs

- attended meeting of the Supreme Court Drug Court Advisory Committee
- attended Drug Court Graduation
- attended the Virginia Freedom of Information Act training sponsored by the Virginia Coalition for Open Government
- attended the 2014 Lifesaver's Conference in Nashville, Tennessee on April 27-29
- attended and presented at the Second Annual Association of Ignition Interlock Program Administrator's Conference in Baltimore, Maryland on May 18-21
- provided regional training for the administrative staff of the 24 local ASAP offices on July 9 in Newport News, July 10 in Richmond, July 29 in Christiansburg and July 31 in Dumfries
- partnered with DMV to provide regional training to ASAP, DMV, Clerks of Court and Office of the Executive Secretary staff on August 15 in Richmond, August 21 in Newport News, September 9 in Roanoke and September 17 in Springfield
- attended risk management training on January 21-22, February 11-12, March 18-19 and April 22-23 in Richmond
- attended the ignition interlock working group meeting on May 27-30 in Seattle, Washington and on September 8-11 in San Antonio, Texas
- attended the Virginia Executive Institute courses on May 19-23 in Charlottesville and on June 23-26 in Richmond
- conducted the annual state-wide VASAP Training Conference on September 28-30 in Portsmouth
- attended the Cardinal Project training in Richmond to assist in the transition of a new financial system
- attended the PMG@VCU Experienced Supervisor's Institute April 1-3
- attended scheduled meetings of the Substance Abuse Services Council
- participated in the Leadership Summit on Impaired Driving December 16-17
- worked with policy board members to select new executive directors

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.

- updated the adult offender DUI sanctions chart and distributed it to local ASAPs, judges, attorneys and other grass root organizations
- provided brochures on teenage drinking and driving to Virginia juvenile and domestic relations courts for use in driver licensing ceremonies
- presented legislative updates and information on ASAP policies to judges at the Judicial Transportation Safety Conference
- attended the Virginia DUI Drug Treatment Court training in Roanoke on August 7-8
- initiated the regulatory process for revision of the ignition interlock regulations

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 2014, the Commission on VASAP:

- attended the Governor's Transportation Conference on November 12-14 in Roanoke
- monitored committee meetings of the General Assembly to track the introduction and passage of DUI enforcement legislation
- provided informational materials to police departments for distribution to the public
- provided ignition interlock training to law enforcement academies statewide
- attended the 13th annual Checkpoint Strikeforce news conference on September 25 in Richmond
- assisted the states of North Carolina and South Carolina on the administration of their ignition interlock programs
- attended the 2nd Annual Distracted Driving Summit on September 15-16 in Richmond, Virginia
- participated in training and served as an evaluator for the National Law Enforcement Challenge
- participated and provided data for the evaluation of DUI Courts

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.

- presented the VASAP movie trailer, noting the consequences of drinking and driving, at the Bow Tie Cinema Richmond, Carmike Midlothian, Cinema Café Virginia Beach and Bow Tie Reston during the Labor Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays
- developed a Commission on VASAP Holiday Statement on the dangers of drinking and driving for release to local programs during the months of November and December
- hosted an information and education booth at the Judicial Transportation Safety Conference in Norfolk on October 1-3
- expanded public information efforts by sending brochures to high schools, community colleges, universities, businesses, insurance companies, career centers, law firms, law enforcement agencies, private driving schools and Virginia Welcome Centers
- responded to, and resolved, inquiries and issues 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

- created two new posters promoting alcohol-free driving for distribution to the public
- provided ignition interlock training to public defender offices
- presented at the juvenile driver's license ceremonies in Alexandria
- hosted an information and education booth on August 29 at the Greensville Correctional Center to assist inmates with questions regarding restoration of driving privileges
- joined the Bon Secours Public Safety Day Committee for planning the 2015 Chesterfield County public safety day event
- hosted an information and education booth with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries on May 17 at Lake Anna
- hosted an information and education booth at the Walk Like MADD event on April 12 in Richmond

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.

- 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
- performed field visits of local ASAPs
- conducted management reviews of local programs
- attended and presented information on program operations at local policy board meetings
- conducted extensive program reviews at Peninsula ASAP and Court Community Corrections ASAP
- maintained daily oversight of Alexandria ASAP
- initiated the certification process for the 24 local alcohol safety action programs

2014 VASAP REFERRALS

Percentage
0.09%
33.59%
27.25%
16.24%
20.36%
1.98%

Referrals by Curriculum	Percentage
Education	25.15%
Intensive Education	25.64%
Treatment Education	49.22%

Total referrals include DUI and ALL other	66,868
VASAP services provided in 2014	

The Commission on VASAP continues to provide quality services to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia without using any general fund revenues. The Commission looks forward to ongoing success in 2015 as it works cooperatively with the General Assembly and other highway safety stakeholders to reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities.



If you should have any questions regarding the contents of the 2014 Annual Executive Summary or any of the programs offered by the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program please contact:

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