

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

Mark R. Herring Attorney General

March 26, 2018

202 North Ninth Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 804-786-2071 Fax 804-786-1991 Virginia Relay Services 800-828-1120 7-1-1

VIA EMAIL

The Hon. Susan Clarke Schaar, Clerk Senate of Virginia P.O. Box 396 Richmond, VA 23218

The Hon. G. Paul Nardo, Clerk House of Delegates of Virginia P.O. Box 406 Richmond, VA 23218

RE: Virginia Code § 19.2-70

Dear Ms. Schaar and Mr. Nardo:

I write pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-70 to supplement the letter report we submitted on December 20, 2017, regarding intercept activity for 2017. In that letter, we reported that the cost associated with the intercepts totaled \$262,572.55.

A subsequent audit by the Virginia State Police for the intercept project revealed that personnel costs are \$25.20 more than previously calculated and reported. Thus, the actual cost associated with the 2017 intercepts totaled \$262,597.75.

Sincerely,

Victoria N. Pearson Deputy Attorney General



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Office of the Attorney General
December 20, 2017

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Virginia Relay Services

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RE: Virginia Code § 19.2-70

Dear Ms. Schaar and Mr. Nardo:

I write pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-70 to provide the following notification of intercept activity in 2017. During 2017, law-enforcement officials conducted an investigation of a drug-trafficking conspiracy involving targets operating in the Commonwealth. As part of this investigation, a circuit court granted the Commonwealth's three applications requesting authorization to intercept wireless telephone, text, and data communications to and from three cellular telephones, and each of these applications was granted. The circuit court also granted extensions for two of the intercepts.

Twelve individuals were arrested as a result of these applications. Of those twelve, nine individuals were charged with conspiracy to commit racketeering and conspiracy to distribute more than one kilogram of heroin. Eight of the nine have entered pleas of guilty to these offenses and are awaiting sentencing. A trial is pending for the ninth individual. The tenth person was charged with conspiracy to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin. This person has also pled guilty and is awaiting sentencing. The eleventh person was charged with three counts of distributing fentanyl, a controlled substance. That person pled guilty and is also awaiting sentencing. Finally, the twelfth person was charged with conspiracy to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin. A trial is pending upon that charge. The cost associated with these intercepts was \$262,572.55.

In a future report, the Office of the Attorney General will supplement this information to address any remaining untried charges. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Benjamin H. Katz

Assistant Attorney General