

**Actual Expenditures and Performance Results Achieved by the Northern Virginia -  
District of Columbia  
Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force**

**A Report to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, the Senate  
Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the Director of the  
Department of Planning and Budget**



**October 2018**

**Colonel Gary T. Settle  
Superintendent**



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Colonel Gary T. Settle

Superintendent

(804) 674-2000

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

P. O. Box 27472 Richmond, Virginia 23261

Lt. Colonel Tracy S. Russillo  
Deputy Superintendent

October 1, 2018

TO: The Honorable Brian J. Moran  
Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.  
Co-Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.  
Co-Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable S. Chris Jones  
Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee

Mr. Daniel S. Timberlake  
Director, Department of Planning and Budget

Pursuant to the 2018 Virginia Appropriation Act, Item 395 H.2; I am respectfully submitting herewith a report on the *Actual Expenditures and Performance Results Achieved by the Northern Virginia – District of Columbia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force* for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Respectfully,

*G. T. Settle*

Superintendent

GTS/ACW/jbc

Enclosure

**REPORT ON THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES AND  
PERFORMANCE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY  
THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA-DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ICAC TASK FORCE  
DURING THE EIGHTH YEAR**

**OVERVIEW OF THE TASK FORCE**

The Northern Virginia-District of Columbia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, otherwise known as NOVA-DC ICAC, is charged with the responsibility of investigating crimes perpetrated against children through the use of technology. Despite our efforts to address these complex and very serious crimes, there are still many who choose to actively prey upon our children and they are in a constant search to stay one step ahead of law enforcement.

The Internet and computers have become so commonplace in American life that all communities are impacted by their use. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Computer and Internet Use in the United States 2016 Survey, more than 83 percent of individuals in Virginia live in a household with high speed internet access which is approximately 2 percent higher than the national average. This translates to increased access by online child sexual predators in the state of Virginia, in the United States, and globally. This dynamic has contributed to an increase in the overall activities of the NOVA-DC ICAC. The task force continues to experience a large number of predators willing to travel great distances and even from other countries to meet children with whom they have developed an online relationship. The NOVA-DC ICAC region is home to over four million residents, so law enforcement is greatly outnumbered when it comes to investigating these dangerous crimes against children. Many law enforcement agencies are closely evaluating their agency's investigative and personnel priorities; however, NOVA-DC ICAC affiliate law enforcement agencies continue to keep Internet crimes against children investigations a priority. This is in large part due to the financial support provided by the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund.

The NOVA-DC ICAC is comprised of the Virginia State Police (VSP) and 62 partnering local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, who work to pursue those responsible for these crimes. With the exception of one federal agency not listed, the following are the participating agencies:

### NOVA-DC ICAC TASK FORCE AFFILIATE AGENCIES

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Type</b>
Alexandria Police Department	City
Arlington County Police Department	County
Clarke County Sheriff's Office	County
Culpeper County Sheriff's Office	County
Fairfax City Police Department	City
Fairfax County Fire Marshal Office	County
Fairfax County Police Department	County
Falls Church Police Department	City
Fauquier County Sheriff's Office	County
Frederick County Sheriff's Office	County
Fredericksburg Police Department	City
George Mason University Police Department	Local
Harrisonburg Police Department	City
Harrisonburg/Rockingham County Commonwealth Atty's Office	County
Harrisonburg/Rockingham County Department of Social Services	County
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office	County
Madison County Sheriff's Office	County
Manassas City Police Department	City
Manassas Park Police Department	City
Metro DC Police Department	City
Northern Va. Community College Police Department	Local
NASA OIG Computer Crimes Division	Federal
Orange County Sheriff's Office	County
Page County Sheriff's Office	County
Prince William County Police Department	County
Rappahannock County Sheriff's Office	County
Rockingham County Sheriff's Office	County
Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office	County
Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office	County
Stafford County Sheriff's Office	County
Town of Culpeper Police Department	City
Town of Haymarket Police Department	City
Town of Herndon Police Department	City
Town of Leesburg Police Department	City
Town of Luray Police Department	City
Town of Quantico Police Department	City
Town of Middletown Police Department	City
Town of Strasburg Police Department	City
Town of Vienna Police Department	City

Town of Warrenton Police Department	City
Town of Woodstock Police Department	City
U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations	Federal
U.S. Army - CCIU	Federal
U.S. Bureau of ATF & Explosives	Federal
U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Unit	Federal
U.S. Department of Energy - OIG	Federal
U.S. Department of Transportation – OIG	Federal
U.S. DHS - Immigration and Customs Enforcement	Federal
U.S. DHS - Custom & Border Protection	Federal
U.S. DHS - Office of Inspector General	Federal
U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation	Federal
U.S. Federal Housing Finance - OIG	Federal
U.S. General Services Administration - OIG	Federal
U.S. Health & Human Services - OIG	Federal
U.S. Internal Revenue Service - CIU	Federal
U.S. National Reconnaissance Office - OIG	Federal
U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Services	Federal
U.S. Postal Inspection Service	Federal
Virginia Attorney General's Office	State
Warren County Sheriff's Office	County
Winchester Police Department	City

In a continuing effort to expand the task force, meetings were held with a number of potential affiliate agencies. The cooperation and collaboration of these agencies has led to many successes. These affiliated agencies work tirelessly to support one another and protect our children from those who seek to exploit their innocence. A few examples of their hard work are as follows:

- In October, 2017, NOVA/DC ICAC met with the North Carolina ICAC and conducted a knock and talk in Louisburg, North Carolina. This investigation began in Harrisonburg with an unidentified suspect chatting with a member of the NOVA/DC ICAC. Once the suspect was identified and it was determined he would not travel, contact was made with the North Carolina ICAC. During the interview the subject provided his phone and child pornography was subsequently found. Additionally, it was discovered he was chatting with over 100 possible minors on several applications. The suspect was arrested without incident.
- Also in October, 2017, NOVA/DC ICAC executed a search warrant in reference to a peer to peer file sharing child pornography investigation. Upon executing the search warrant and interviewing the suspect, it was determined that the suspect was in the final stages of developing a plan to kidnap an eight year old female neighbor. Furthermore, the suspect discussed the possibility of killing the child, if needed. Physical evidence, to include juvenile female underwear stolen during his work as an electrician's helper,

was located in his dresser drawer. A journal describing his pedophilia tendencies was also located. A full confession was obtained to include statements that he researched and read articles on Jeffrey Dahmer and other serial killers to determine what mistakes they made that led to them getting caught. The suspect also admitted to researching how and where to dispose of bodies. Several items of digital evidence were triaged on-scene and found to possess child pornography. The subject was arrested without incident.

- In November, 2017, NOVA/DC ICAC arrested an adult male subject who traveled from Maryland to Harrisonburg for the purpose of having sex with a minor female. This action resulted from an undercover online operation where the VSP agent posed as a juvenile and the suspect used an electronic communication device to solicit sex from the juvenile. When the suspect arrived at the predetermined location, he was arrested without incident.
- Also in November, 2017, NOVA/DC ICAC executed a search warrant in Fredericksburg in reference to a peer to peer file sharing child pornography investigation. Upon executing the search warrant and interviewing the suspect a full confession was obtained. Additionally, during the search an indoor grow of marijuana was located. After executing a secondary search warrant in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Section of the Division II office, 179 marijuana plants, 40 pint jars of marijuana and various other drug materials were recovered. Several electronic items were also seized and will be further analyzed. The suspect was arrested without incident.
- On March 9, VSP Bureau of Criminal Investigation, High Tech Crimes Division, NOVA/DC ICAC and members of the High Tech Crimes Section executed a search warrant in Frederick County. The search warrant was obtained in reference to an active investigation regarding the distribution of child pornography. Several items of evidence were seized and a polygraph provided. The subject subsequently failed the polygraph and provided a further confession on producing child pornography. The subject was arrested and charged with 20 separate offenses to include possession, distribution and production. Follow-up interviews are being conducted and this investigation will continue.
- On March 22, VSP Bureau of Criminal Investigation, High Tech Crimes Division, NOVA/DC ICAC assisted Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) on the execution of a warrant in the District of Columbia. The search warrant was obtained in reference to an active investigation regarding the distribution of child pornography. During the clearing of the house the subject was located in the bathroom with self-inflicted injuries to his wrists and neck. While

providing immediate care to the subject, he provided a confession and advised the investigators where to look for the computer. The subject was transported to the hospital where he recovered from his injuries. Additional evidence was taken and the investigation continues for HSI.

- On April 19, VSP Bureau of Criminal Investigation, High Tech Crimes Division, NOVA/DC ICAC and members of the High Tech Crimes Section executed a search warrant in Spotsylvania County. The search warrant was obtained in reference to an active investigation regarding the distribution of child pornography. Several items of evidence were seized and the subject was arrested without incident. Evidence is being examined that indicates there is the possibility of child victimization in this case.

These brief case summaries are intended to be a very small representation of the volumes of complex and noteworthy criminal investigations being handled by the NOVA-DC ICAC Task Force. The task force is committed to providing highly efficient and professional services across its region, as well as collateral support to the other 60 task forces nationwide. As such, special training and equipment are necessary on an ongoing basis to keep pace with evolving technologies and the complexities associated with these investigations. In addition to evolving technologies, media capacity continues to grow, which demands increasing efficiency for the forensic analysis of digital evidence. Details concerning personnel, training, and equipment purchases are included in the subsequent pages.

**Northern Virginia-DC ICAC Task Force**  
**Appropriation Expenditures during July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018**

**PERSONNEL**

Expended: \$789,141

**TRAINING/TRAVEL EXPENSES**

Expended: \$91,247

**EQUIPMENT EXPENSES**

Expended: \$399,581

**OTHER**

Expended: \$74,889

**TOTALS**

Revenue Received:	\$ 1,438,003
Expended:	\$ 1,354,858
Unexpended:	\$ 83,145

The unexpended funds (\$83,145) result from projections for overtime that were not spent and where equipment was ordered but was not received and/or paid for prior to the end of the fiscal cycle. In addition, one VSP special agent left the department leaving the salary and fringe for that position unspent in May and June.



## **PERSONNEL**

As a result of sustained funding support, the NOVA-DC ICAC is able to employ one supervisor, four special agents, one agency lead analyst, and an iCritt systems administrator to complement the two special agents, one program support technician, and two forensic examiners funded through alternate sources. This funding also provided overtime pay for personnel to work Pro-Active/Undercover investigations.

These additional human resources enhance the task force's capacity to conduct child exploitation investigations, and further support the needs of the various affiliate agencies. Additionally, human resources impact the task force as a whole by increasing the hours dedicated to ICAC investigative work, as well as improving the continuity of administrative functions that ultimately benefits the overall efficiency of the task force. These partnerships provide resources to work cooperatively across the task force region to combat Internet crimes against children. Together, personnel initiate investigations related to technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and child pornography with a goal to reduce child victimization through the identification, apprehension and prosecution of child sexual predators.

## **TRAINING**

Task force members are required to successfully complete an essential training regimen that includes specified courses encompassing many technical topics of study. Courses normally range in duration from two days to one week depending on the depth and complexity of the subject matter. Minimum standards of training must be achieved to remain in compliance with the ICAC Investigative Guidelines and Operational Standards. The focus of these training endeavors includes:

- Increasing the investigative capabilities of state and local law enforcement officers in the detection, investigation, and apprehension of Internet crimes against children offenders, including technology-facilitated child exploitation offenders.
- Providing advanced capabilities/skills and technical assistance to other ICAC task forces and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the areas of investigations, forensics, prosecution, community outreach, and capacity-building, using recognized experts to assist in the development and delivery of a wide array of training programs.
- Enhancing a uniformed nationwide response to Internet crimes against children offenses, including assisting other ICAC task forces, as well as other federal, state, and local agencies with Internet crimes against children investigations and prosecutions related to the Commonwealth.
- Developing and delivering Internet crimes against children public awareness and prevention programs.

Expenses for training include tuition, transportation, fuel, lodging, parking, and meals. The following is a list of courses completed through the appropriated funding:

- Cellebrite Certification & Re-certifications
- Sex Offender Interview course
- Spanish Forensic Interview course
- Field Triage Forensics course
- Florida Regional ICAC Conference & Training
- Computer Forensic Lab Accreditation
- National Law Enforcement Training Conference, Atlanta GA
- Dallas CAC Conference & Training
- NW3C Social Networking course
- Reid Interview training
- iCritt training
- Peer to Peer training
- BDRA/STOP training
- DEEP training
- Undercover Chat training
- Camtasia software training
- Forensic Explorer software certification
- Magnet Axion and Axion Advanced courses
- Dark Web training
- ICAC Global Instructor's School
- Family On-Line Safety Institute Conference
- Various mobile device forensic and investigative trainings
- Various ICAC investigative techniques training

## **TRAVEL**

In order to build a robust investigative foundation, it is essential that the NOVA-DC ICAC support affiliate agencies with authorized travel related expenses. Such expenses involve support for applicable transportation, meals and lodging for personnel attending specialized training and operational meetings. NOVA-DC ICAC personnel also travel to conduct field work and ICAC pro-active/reactive investigations, which often require investigators to work lengthy hours. During these occasions, overnight stays away from their local area are necessary, causing lodging, per diem, and parking expenses to be incurred.

Through the appropriated funding, task force personnel participated in Pro-Active Operations, and supervisors worked jointly in support of ICAC field personnel. Several task force members travelled out of the area for follow-up investigative work and court proceedings on child exploitation cases. Additional travel expenses were incurred to attend ICAC Supervisor's training. Travel expenses were supported for the NOVA-DC ICAC regional meetings, human trafficking prevention meetings, and ICAC Operational meetings.

Travel is essential to promote collaboration and cooperation across the region, as well as to enhance continuity of operations.

## **EQUIPMENT**

The NOVA-DC ICAC investigates technology facilitated criminal activity. These complex investigations are conducted in an evolving environment. While emerging technologies may serve to enhance the capabilities of the investigator, they also serve to advance the criminal element making investigations even more challenging. The NOVA-DC ICAC strives to ensure that each fully participating affiliate has the necessary equipment and software to enable them to conduct thorough and comprehensive investigations. Such expenditures include equipment as well as the ongoing support and maintenance required for software licenses and updates.

Through the appropriated funding, the NOVA-DC ICAC purchased much needed equipment for member agencies to include the following:

- Mount Image Software
- ADF - DEI Software
- Burner Breaker renewal
- FEX renewals & purchases
- Nuxit renewals
- IEF renewals
- BlackBag renewals
- MacQuisition renewals
- Mobilyze renewals
- Dr. Explain software
- X-Ways Renewal & new purchase
- Encase renewals
- Bit Defender licenses
- Lantern renewals
- Oxygen renewals
- Cellebrite Touch to 4PC upgrade
- RECON renewal - lab
- Parallel Pro software
- Forensic Explorer renewal
- Dell Server Maintenance
- FTK renewals
- Cellebrite renewals
- XRY renewal
- Spokeo software
- GrayKey Forensic Extraction units
- Griffeye Analyze DI Pro
- Windows 10
- Magnet Axiom Renewals
- Challenge Coins
- Rush Backpacks
- N.A. Rescue First Aid Kits

- Power Inverters - 400W
- Promotional Items - pencils, pens, drawstring bags
- Apple computer cables & adapters
- Surge protector power strips
- Apple iMac All in One
- Apple docking stations
- IP-Box 2 plus battery charge board
- IP-Box 3
- IP-Box 3 optional software
- Ultra-Bays
- APC UPS 2200VA Back-up Power Supplies
- APC UPS 2200VA replacement batteries RBC55
- External storage hard drives
- Mac Hyper drives
- RAID card & cable
- Media Vise device crusher for electronic evidence destruction
- Western Digital internal & external hard drives
- Apple keyboards & tool kits
- Dell Alienware laptop
- Rugged Book keyboard/cases
- Replacement Monitors & Hard drives
- Replacement Router & Modem for undercover internet
- MacBook Pro 15" laptops
- Acer laptops for training
- Falcon Northwest Mach V workstation computer
- Network Attached Storage system for back-up of the ICAC image repository

## **OTHER**

A recent report by the United States Marshals Service Behavioral Analysis Unit that surveyed 500 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) personnel and 85 spouses or significant others noted specific findings with regards to secondary stress in ICAC personnel. The report seeks to provide an idea of how secondary stress can impact the investigator and loved ones; communicate which coping skills were related to lower secondary traumatic stress scores; and share the advice offered by significant others of ICAC personnel. The author was surprised by the number of comments from significant others stating the need for mandatory mental health check-ins or counseling.

Through the use of appropriated funds, the NOVA-DC ICAC has been proactive in its approach to the issues surrounding secondary stress. Consistent with the report, NOVA-DC ICAC personnel operate in a supportive work environment; meaning one where respondents feel their co-workers can be relied on in difficult situations, are easy to communicate with, and are willing to extend help on challenging cases. Affiliates are invited to take part in peer discussion groups and they are afforded the confidential services of a highly qualified mental health provider. The task force recognizes the value of human resources and the serious nature of secondary stress. The Mental

Wellness Program continues to provide support and guidance in an effort to protect the welfare of personnel subjected to disturbing and graphic depiction of child victimization.

In addition to the Mental Wellness Program, other miscellaneous and/or recurring costs are necessary for the support of the ICAC office and personnel. Through the appropriated funding, the ICAC was also able to procure or provide the following:

- Office Supplies
- Ink and Toner Cartridges
- Misc. Vehicle Expenses (Fuel, Insurance, Repair, and Maintenance)
- General Liability Insurance
- Meals Reimbursement
- Phone Reimbursement
- Payroll Service Bureau Yearly Fees
- Anti-Virus Software VITA Fees (for previously purchased software)
- Line of Duty VRS Fees
- Workers' Compensation Yearly Fees

## **Performance Results and Enforcement Activities**

The hard work and dedication of the many NOVA-DC ICAC personnel are documented in numerous reports, media releases, and public presentations. Additionally, the NOVA-DC ICAC is mandated to report monthly to the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (DOJ/OJJDP). The various metrics included in the DOJ/OJJDP Reports have been compiled and incorporated below for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

The task force experienced a 14% increase in the number of Child Prostitution complaints, and 14% and 20% increases in Child Pornography Distribution and Child Pornography Possession complaints, respectively. Further, NOVA-DC ICAC personnel obtained and executed 2,194 federal, state, and local court orders or subpoenas, which is a 29% increase from the previous fiscal year.

The NOVA-DC ICAC personnel routinely support one another in various ways. Such support and collaboration is reflected in a 59% increase in the number of task force affiliate members and other professionals sent to ICAC training. Also, the task force engaged in 183 community outreach events, such as internet safety presentations for schools, churches, and social organizations and public awareness events which is a 40% increase from the previous fiscal year.

### **Documented Complaints**

Traveler	Proactive	150
	Reactive	21
Enticement	Proactive	122

Obscenity Directed to Minors	Reactive	96
	Proactive	35
Child Prostitution	Reactive	161
	Proactive	19
Manufacture Child Pornography	Reactive	56
	Proactive	28
Distribution of Child Pornography	Reactive	70
	Proactive	119
Possession of Child Pornography	Reactive	138
	Proactive	83
	Reactive	331

**Case Information**

Case Dispositions	Unfounded	188
	Suspended <sup>1</sup>	44
	Plea	129
	Trial	27
Case Referrals	Federal	39
	State	132
	Local	68
Submitted for Federal Prosecution		29
Accepted for Federal Prosecution		19

**Number of Investigations** 1,125

**Arrests** 250

**Goals**

Cybertips Received		1,175
CVIP Submissions		48
Affiliated Agencies Added		0
Child Victims Identified	CVIP	71
	Cases	52

**Court Actions**

Subpoenas or Court Orders	Federal	677
	State/Local	1,507
Search Warrants	Federal	112
	State/Local	497

**Technical Assists**

Forensic Previews	1,275
Forensic Exams	1,871
Total Gigabytes Examined	147,076

**Training**

Training Sessions Provided	43
Law Enforcement Trained	587
Prosecutors Trained	33
Other Professions Trained	3
Number sent to ICAC Training	106
Number sent to Other Training	89

**Community Outreach**

Presentations	92
Number of Attendees	4,183
Public Events	34
Number of Attendees	3,669
Public Awareness	57

**Footnote:**

1. *Suspended – Inactive case closed due to lack of investigative leads*

## **Department of Criminal Justice Services Funding for NOVA-DC ICAC Affiliates**

The Virginia State Police (VSP) entered into an inter-agency agreement with the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to disburse allocated ICAC funds in support of local NOVA/DC ICAC Task Force affiliates. The hard work and dedication of the many NOVA-DC ICAC personnel is documented in numerous reports, media releases, and public presentations. Additionally, the NOVA-DC ICAC is mandated to report monthly to the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (DOJ/OJJDP). The task force's metrics are denoted on page 11 of this report and are consistent with the time period of this DCJS award.

The NOVA-DC ICAC Task Force actively engaged in training, community outreach, and enforcement to enhance capabilities and encourage increased participation. Additionally, task force staff engaged many non-affiliated agencies in an effort to increase task force membership. Capacity building across the region continues to be a priority for the task force. This is a dynamic goal that is accomplished through proactive and ongoing collaboration with all affiliates that affords them technical support, as well as the ability to fund jurisdiction specific needs.

Each respective jurisdiction is different and their community has unique demands of their law enforcement. Some agencies require support for overtime to conduct ICAC investigations, while others need advanced equipment and training. As such, this funding was distributed across the region directly to NOVA-DC ICAC affiliate agencies via memorandums of agreement. Affiliated agencies expended the funding on their unique ICAC related expenses, which included training, community outreach, equipment, overtime, and salaries. The agencies worked with task force command to identify and prioritize their needs, which enabled each agency to build capacity within their specific area of responsibility. The positive feedback from the ICAC affiliates has been extraordinary and agencies are more prepared to engage in these highly complex investigations. In addition to the areas identified earlier in the report, some additional training and community outreach efforts include the following:

- Numerous investigators attended the Crimes Against Children Conference, Dallas, TX
- A number of investigators and their supervisors attended the National Law Enforcement Training on Child Exploitation, Atlanta, GA
- Investigators attended ICAC Investigative Techniques Training
- Several investigators attended National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) trainings
- Personnel attended National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) training
- Many affiliate members participated in a variety of mobile device certification classes
- Numerous task force personnel participated in many unique ICAC specific training courses designed to enhance their investigative capacity
- Task Force personnel conducted 183 presentations and other community outreach events attended by approximately 7,852 persons



## Disbursement of Funds

Budget Category	Budget	Total Expenditures	Unexpended Budget
Program Support Tech	\$51,592	\$49,612	\$1,980
*Consultants	\$448,408	\$450,388	\$1,980
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*Consultants – This category reflects funding provided directly to local affiliate agencies for capacity building.

\*Program Support Tech – This category reflects funding provided for the necessary support staff personnel as described in the funding narrative and budget. The unexpended amount in the category was set aside for employee insurance costs which were funded with another funding source.

To further enhance capacity, NOVA/DC ICAC Task Force affiliates utilized their funding to procure highly technical equipment that enables investigators to conduct these complex investigations in an ever evolving cyber environment. Additionally, the task force thrives on collaboration to enhance effectiveness and efficiency. Affiliates support one another through mobile on-scene response, technical assistance, search warrant execution, and intelligence sharing to enhance awareness and their knowledge base. Further, the funding provides some relief to agencies struggling with limited budgets, and it prevents them from being forced to choose whether or not to investigate these unconscionable crimes.

Affiliate agencies utilized their funding to address their individual needs in a variety of ways to include:

- Purchasing computers, tablets, printers, scanners, and related accessories
- Off-setting salaries to dedicate a full-time investigator to combating child exploitation
- Paying overtime for investigators to complete these complex investigations
- Purchasing software and license renewals
- Off-setting vehicle costs for full-time task force investigators
- Paying travel expenses and registration fees for high quality specialized training
- Procuring specialized equipment to enhance officer safety
- Purchasing enhanced communication devices
- Purchasing on-scene triage equipment and software
- Procuring digital cameras and video equipment
- Purchasing digital storage devices and additional portable hard drives to support investigations

- Purchasing ICAC promotional items, such as pencils, pens, and Internet Safety coloring books for use at presentations and community outreach events

Each agency is staffed and equipped differently, which validates the methodology employed by the NOVA-DC ICAC Task Force. With funding being distributed to the affiliates, they are empowered to make decisions that directly impact their ability to engage in these complex investigations. These agencies work very closely with the task force to ensure that all expenditures are consistent with the goals and objectives of state and national ICAC Program. The NOVA-DC ICAC affiliates are highly professional organizations dedicated to protecting the Commonwealth's most vulnerable citizens.

As the coordinating agency, the Virginia State Police respects and appreciates the collaboration of the 62 participating agencies. Collectively, we are proactive in our pursuit of those who prey upon our children, while simultaneously striving to prevent child victimization through collaboration, training, community outreach, and enforcement.