

**ACTUAL EXPENDITURES AND PERFORMANCE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE
SOUTHERN VIRGINIA INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE**

REPORT TO THE

**Governor
Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Senate Finance Committee
House Appropriations Committee
Director of Department of Planning and Budget**



August 17, 2020

Sheriff Michael W. Miller
Bedford County Sheriff's Office

Captain Michael J. Harmony
SOVA-ICAC Commander



SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE



August 17, 2020

TO: The Honorable Ralph S. Northam
Governor of Virginia

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

The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Chair of the Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chair of the House Appropriations Committee

Mr. Daniel Timberlake
Director of the Department of Planning and Budget

Pursuant to Appropriation Act – Item 406 H.2. (*Regular Session, 2020, Budget Bill Chapter 1289*), I am respectfully submitting herewith a report on the *Actual Expenditures and Performance Results Achieved by the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force* for the Report period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M.W. Miller".

Sheriff
Bedford County, Virginia

MWM/MJH

Enclosure

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**REPORT ON THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES AND PERFORMANCE
RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA INTERNET
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE DURING THE
2019-2020 YEAR**

OVERVIEW OF THE TASK FORCE

The Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, otherwise known as SOVA-ICAC, was founded in 1998 with funding from Department of Justice through the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention. Originally the task force name was Operation Blue Ridge Thunder. The task force designation is through the Bedford County Sheriff’s Office. Initial investigative responsibilities were investigating child sexual exploitation crimes perpetrated against children through the use of the Internet but was later changed to include most all child sexual exploitation crimes perpetrated against children to include, but not limited to, child trafficking and child prostitution.

The SOVA-ICAC is comprised of 158 affiliate agencies from all areas of Law Enforcement, the private sector and Non-Government Organizations. Law Enforcement support comes from Federal, State, County City/Local, Tribal and Military agencies. An (*) denotes an agency that joined the Task Force this past year.

Affiliate Agency Name	Agency Type
Accomack County Sheriff’s Office	County
Albemarle County Police Department	County
Albemarle County Sheriff’s Office	County
Alleghany County Sheriff’s Office	County
Amelia County Sheriff’s Office	County
Amherst County Sheriff’s Office	County
Amherst Police Department*	City/Local
Appalachia Police Department	City/Local
Appomattox County Sheriff’s Office	County
Augusta County Sheriff’s Office	County
Bedford County Sheriff’s Office	County
Bedford County Department of Social Services	County
Bedford Police Department	County
Big Stone Gap Police Department	City/Local
Blacksburg Police Department	City/Local
Bluefield Police Department	City/Local
Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office	County
Bristol Police Department	City/Local

Brunswick County Sheriff's Office	City/Local
Buchanan County Sheriff's Office	County
Buckingham County Sheriff's Office	County
Buena Vista Police Department	City/Local
Campbell County Sheriff's Office	County
Carroll County Sheriff's Office	County
Centra Health (Forensic Nurses for Child Sex Abuse Exams)	NGO
Central Virginia Community College Police Department	State
Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy	State
Charlottesville Police Department	City/Local
Chesapeake Police Department	City/Local
Chesterfield County Police Department	County
Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol/Washington County	NGO
Children's Trust – Child Advocacy Center	NGO
Christiansburg Police Department	City/Local
CID (ARMY) : Crminal investigative Command, HQ VA	Federal
Coeburn Police Department	City/Local
Colonial Beach Police Department	City/Local
Colonial Heights Police Department	City/Local
Covington Police Department	City/Local
Craig County Sheriff's Office	County
Crewe Police Department	City/Local
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office	County
Danville Police Department	City/Local
Dickenson County Sheriff's Office	County
Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Office	County
Floyd County Sheriff's Office	County
Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office	County
Franklin County Sheriff's Office	County
Giles County Sheriff's Office	County
Gloucester County Sheriff's Office	County
Goochland County Sheriff's Office*	County
Grayson County Sheriff's Office	County
Greater Richmond SCAN	NGO
Greene County Sheriff's Office	County
Greensville County Sheriff's Office	County
Halifax County Sheriff's Office	County
Hampton Police Department	City/Local

Hanover County Sheriff's Office	County
Henrico County Police Division	County
Henry County Sheriff's Office	County
Hillsville Police Department	City/Local
Hopewell Police Department	City/Local
Interpol	Federal
Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office	County
James City County Police Department	County
King and Queen County Sheriff's Office	County
King George County Sheriff's Office	County
Lancaster County Sheriff's Office	County
Lebanon Police Department	City/Local
Liberty University Police Department	Private
Louisa County Sheriff's Office	County
Lynchburg City Sheriff's Office	City/Local
Lynchburg Police Department	City/Local
Martinsville Police Department	City/Local
Mathews County Sheriff's Office	County
Middlesex County Sheriff's Office	County
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	County
NCIS: US Naval Criminal Investigative Service - Norfolk	Federal
Nelson County Sheriff's Office	County
New Kent Sheriff's Office	County
Norfolk Police Department	City/Local
Northampton County Sheriff's Office	County
Northumberland County Sheriff's Offices Office	County
Norton Police Department	City/Local
Patrick County Sheriff's Office	County
Petersburg Police Department	City/Local
Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office	County
Poquoson Police Department	City/Local
Portsmouth Police Department	City/Local
Pound Police Department	City/Local
Powhatan Sheriff's Office	City/Local
Prince Edward County Sheriff's Office	County
Prince George County Police Department	County
Pulaski County Sheriff's Office	County
Pulaski Police Department	City/Local

Radford Police Department	City/Local
Radford University Police Department	Private
Rich Creek Police Department	City/Local
Richmond City Police Department	City/Local
Richmond County Sheriff's Office	County
Roanoke City Police Department	City/Local
Roanoke County Police Department	County
Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office	County
Rocky Mount Police Department	City/Local
Russell County Sheriff's Office	County
Saltville Police Department	City/Local
Scott County Sheriff's Office	County
Smyth County Sheriff's Office	County
Southampton County Sheriff's Office	County
Southern Virginia Child Advocacy Center	NGO
St. Paul Police Department	City/Local
Staunton Police Department	City/Local
Suffolk Police Department	City/Local
Tazewell County Sheriff's Office	County
Tazewell Police Department	City/Local
U.S. Department of the Air Force (USAF OSI)	Federal
U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	Federal
United States Attorney's Office - Eastern District	Federal
United States Attorney's Office - Western District	Federal
University of Virginia Police Department	State/Private
Vinton Police Department	City/Local
Virginia Attorney General	State
Virginia Beach Police Department	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Amelia County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Augusta County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Bedford County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Campbell County*	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Chesapeake City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Danville City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Dinwiddie County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Franklin County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Giles County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Gloucester County	County

VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Goochland County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Grayson County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Halifax County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Henry County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Louisa County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Lynchburg City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Middlesex County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Montgomery County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Norfolk City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Northumberland County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Tazewell County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Virginia Beach	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Westmoreland County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Williamsburg-James City County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Wise County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : York-Poquoson	County
VA Department of Probation and Parole : District 20 Bedford	State
VA Department of Probation and Parole : District 23 Virginia Beach	State
Washington County Sheriff's Office	County
Waynesboro Police Department	City/Local
Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office	County
Williamsburg Police Department	City/Local
Wise County Sheriff's Office	County
Wise Police Department	City/Local
Wythe County Police Department	County
York County Police Department	County

BUDGETARY SOVA-ICAC

CATEGORY	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
Personnel	\$1,139,617.00	\$885,577.43	\$254,039.16
Equipment	\$185,383.00	\$448,080.87	(\$262,697.87)
Supplies	\$125,000.00	\$142,521.29	(\$17,521.29)
Total	\$1,450,000.00	\$1,476,179.59	(\$26,179.59)

Overages shown in spending for equipment and supplies is due to a focused effort in spending down previously unobligated funding that was carried over, that had been accrued due to vacancy savings. This included funding from the 2018-2019 awards that had been carried over due to vacancy savings in prior years as well. We are continuing to spend down the remaining 2019-2020 funds.

PERSONNEL

Funding in the Personnel category was allocated to pay salaries and benefits of core SOVA-ICAC personnel. Core SOVA-ICAC personnel operate out of the SOVA-ICAC office in Forest, Virginia, located within the confines of Bedford County, Virginia. ICAC personnel are employed by the Bedford County Sheriff's Office, or affiliates who have assigned investigators to work full-time out of the SOVA-ICAC main office. The staff is comprised of a Task Force Commander, Sergeants, Analysts, a Cyber Tip Manager, Investigators, and a LAN Manager.. The investigative team is composed of two units, criminal investigations and forensic examiners. In the investigations unit, there is currently one sergeant, and five investigators, one being a K9 handler. An investigator who had been trained and certified as a polygrapher, resigned from the Sheriff's Office, and was subsequently no longer assigned to the task force. We have one open investigator position reserved for affiliate agencies to assign an investigator to the main SOVA ICAC HQ office (with funding for this position allocated out of affiliate funding). In the forensic examiner unit, there is currently one sergeant, and three forensic investigators. We are still currently in the hiring process for the LAN Manager position, as applicants to date did not meet minimum requirements, or withdrew their applications.

EQUIPMENT

Funding in the equipment category is used to purchase equipment used solely by ICAC personnel to investigate child sexual exploitation cases and prevent and or educate on child sexual exploitation to include the following:

- OpenText Encase Forensic Maintenance 3 year
- Laptop Computers
- Miscellaneous software
- Miscellaneous cables
- Hard Drive Shredder
- Computer Hardware for Forensics Lab
- Computer Software for Forensics Lab
- USB storage drives
- Portable Hard Drives
- VAST Screening System
- DSI Assessment
- Security Cameras for Building
- Griffeye

- Cryptanalysis Workstation
- Copier
- GrayKey License Renewal
- Server maintenance
- Surge Protectors
- Network Migration Equipment and Services
- Mobile Forensic/Command Vehicle expenses
- Polygraph Chair
- Server Disk Drives
- Vehicle for investigator/UC work

SUPPLIES and OTHER EXPENSES

Monthly recurring costs such as electric service, gas service, cellular phone contracts, copier and postage costs, alarm and building services and Internet communications services were expended from the Supplies and Other Expenses category. Other expenses include the following:

- Postage
- Office Supplies
- Ink and Toner Cartridges
- Internet Service
- Wireless Service
- Electrical Service
- Land line Service
- Alarm System
- Elevator service (phone, repairs, etc.)
- K9 Expenses

BUDGETARY SOVA-ICAC AFFILIATES

CATEGORY:	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
Total	\$604,210.00	\$389,861.84	\$214,348.16

Funding for affiliates is used for the purpose of Personnel, Travel/Training and Equipment expenditures. As with funding for the SOVA ICAC Task Force, that was previously mentioned, published overages are due to focused spending of funds from previous awards that were not spent or obligated by affiliates. These included funds from the 2018-2019 award, with the continued spending down of 2019-2020 funds at this time.

PERSONNEL

Funds were allocated to reimburse for time worked by SOVA-ICAC affiliates. The 158 affiliated agencies with SOVA-ICAC employ these staff members, and funds are used to reimburse them for overtime work performed for ICAC investigations. Funding for one affiliate position for full-time assignment to the SOVA-ICAC main task force office comes out of this funding as well. This position is currently vacant, and resulting in vacancy savings. In addition, funding for the salary of financial analyst who supports and manages all funding for the entire task force is also supported with affiliate funding.

TRAVEL/TRAINING

Funding in the travel category is used to train and educate the members of our 158 affiliates and equip them to continue their investigations to locate those individuals who prey upon and exploit our children and secure the evidence needed to bring them to trial. Due to the pandemic, several scheduled trainings and conferences have been canceled or postponed, resulting in a reduction in spending of funds in this category. Training consisted of the following:

- Peer-2-Peer Training
- 2019 Dallas Crimes Against Children Conference
- 2019 ICAC Conference
- CyberTip Investigating Training
- Cellebrite Training
- AX320 Training
- Board Level Repair Training
- EnCase Forensic Training
- Forensic Explorer Training
- Teel Technologies
- CIFFER Training
- Magnet Axiom Training
- Griffeye Analysis Training
- FileMaker Developer Training
- IACIS Basic Computer Forensic Examiner Training
- SQLite Training
- ICAC Investigative Techniques Training
- MSAB XRY Training

VAST Advanced Training
HIS Mass CAT Training
Computer Hacking Forensic Investigation Training
Embedded Hardware Training
ISP Training
Chip-Off Training

EQUIPMENT

Funding in the equipment category is used to purchase equipment used by the SOVA-ICAC affiliates to investigate child sexual exploitation cases, and to prevent and/or educate on child sexual exploitation. Funds were expended to purchase needed investigative equipment for affiliate investigators to include the following:

Desktop Computers
Laptop Computers
Forensic Software SMS
Computer Monitors
Computer accessories (mouse, cables, keyboards, etc.)
Office 365 software
Cellebrite UFED Touch 2 and HD Camera
USB Flash Drives (various storage sizes)
External Hard Drives (various storage sizes)
Scanners
Tablets
UC phones and data plans
Drive Dock
Digital Voice Tracer and Document Scanner
Forensic Write Block Kits
Portable Power Packs
Memory Cards
Forensic Computers

**Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force SOVA ICAC
Enforcement Activities**

July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Documented Complaints

Traveler	Proactive	125
	Reactive	11
Enticement	Proactive	83
	Reactive	131
Obscenity Directed to Minors	Proactive	56
	Reactive	142
Child Prostitution	Proactive	5
	Reactive	37
Child Pornography Manufacture	Proactive	38
	Reactive	185
Distribution	Proactive	201
	Reactive	932
Possession	Proactive	96
	Reactive	1,093

Case Information

Case Dispositions		
	Unfounded	884
	Suspended	220
	Plea	126
	Trial	32
Submitted Federal Prosecution		45
Accepted Federal Prosecution		40

Number of Investigations 2,902

Arrests 254

Goals

Cyber Tips Received		3,049
CVIP Submissions		55
Affiliated Agencies Added		4
Child Victims Identified		123
	CVIP Cases	55

Court Actions

Subpoenas or Court Orders		
	Federal	141
	State/Local	2,636

Technical Assists

Technical Support		1,609
Forensics Exams		3,128
Total Digital Medial (TB)		807.93TB

Training

Training Sessions Provided		32
Law Enforcement Trained		556
Prosecutors Trained		105

Other Professions Trained	49
Number Sent to ICAC Training	69
Number Sent to Other Training	933

Community Outreach

Presentations	155
Number of Attendees	6,065
Public Events	42
Number of Attendees	4,320
Public Awareness	92

Over the past 12 months the SOVA-ICAC has continued to work with DCJS on spending down funds for affiliate agencies. We were on track to spend down funding that had accrued, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic that hit in March, a significant portion of the spending, especially in the travel/training/conference spending, was significantly curtailed.

A few cases of interest during this reporting period include the following:

James City County and Newport News, VA

Ronald Morehouse and his fiancée Sarah Johnson, were both arrested for sex crimes against children. James City County police originally began an investigation into Morehouse, when the biological father of a 12 year old girl, discovered sexually explicit conversation between his daughter and Morehouse, on Snapchat. The 12 year old’s biological mother is Johnson. After Morehouse was arrested, the 15 year old sister of the original 12 year old victim, disclosed that Morehouse had sexually abused her while she had previously been living in Newport News, starting in 2017.

The investigation led investigators to discover that the mother, Johnson, knew about and allowed Morehouse to sexually abuse her older daughter, and had been present during some of the abuse, and told the daughter there would be consequences if she did not submit to the abuse. It was also discovered that Morehouse had recorded the abuse, through digital images and videos, and appeared to be preparing to distribute the files, if he had not already done so.

Morehouse entered an Alford plea to the charges in James City County, involving the 12 year old victim, and received a 70 year sentence, with 45 years suspended, and 25 years to serve. Since

the abuse of the 15 year old occurred in Newport News, he was charged and ultimately pled guilty to multiple sex offenses and production of the sexually explicit images and videos, and received 7 life sentences plus 22 years.

Johnson, is currently awaiting trial for her role in the abuse of her daughter.

Pulaski County, VA

Based on a Cybertip referral involving the app MeWe, Pulaski Sheriff's office investigators arrested Travis Doerzaph for possession and distribution of sexually explicit images of children. Doerzaph was an engineer at Virginia Tech, and had been using the app at both home and on campus to commit his crimes. A forensic analysis of his phone also revealed an encrypted app that contained additional files depicting sexually explicit images of children. Doerzaph is currently scheduled to enter guilty pleas to his charges.

Albemarle County, VA:

In December 2019, as part of a proactive UC sting, Investigators with the Albemarle County Police Department arrested Raymond Kemp of Charlottesville, when he solicited an undercover officer posing as a minor male. Kemp is a previously convicted sex offender, who was convicted of sexual battery against a minor, and who also has multiple convictions for failure to register as a sex offender.

Powhatan County, VA:

Investigators with Powhatan County Sheriff's Office, arrested Eric Logan Hockaday for possession of child pornography and using a communications device to solicit a minor. Hockaday had been identified, after the *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children* received a complaint from the parent or guardian of a 14 year old male victim, alleging Hockaday was having an inappropriate relationship the victim. Hockaday was a substitute teacher at Powhatan High School at the time of his arrest.

Amherst County, VA:

Joel Wooldridge, of Monroe, VA, was arrested in April, by investigators with the Amherst County Sheriff's Office. Wooldridge was identified as a suspect as the result of a Cybertip investigation, involving child pornography possession and soliciting a minor. Wooldridge has previous convictions in multiple jurisdictions including burglary, indecent exposure, trespassing, child abuse, and eluding police.

Pulaski County, VA

Based on a Cybertip referral involving the app Kik, Pulaski Sheriff's office arrested Jon-Michael Lynch for possession and distribution of sexually explicit images of children. During the initial investigation, Lynch confessed to distributing the images reported in the Cybertip. When they attempted to search his phone, they discovered it had been wiped. A subsequent search warrant that was executed at his home, produced a computer that had at least another 50 images of sexually explicit images of children. These images depicted the sexual assault of infants, children being raped to the point of ripping the perineum, as well as nude images of deceased children.

Greene County, VA:

In June 2020, investigators with the Greene County Sheriff's Office, arrested Patrick Adam Lawrence, 61, of Canada. For approximately a month, Lawrence had communicated with what he thought to be a juvenile, and proposed sex acts with the juvenile. Lawrence was a truck driver and had been working in the United States. He was subsequently arrested in Buffalo, NY, while attempting to return to Canada. He was extradited back to Green County and is being held at the Central Virginia Regional Jail.

Albemarle County, VA:

Albemarle County Police investigators assumed the online identity of a 12 year old girl, who was being solicited for sex by an adult male she met at a church. Gary Rimmer, of Ruckersville, was subsequently arrested for soliciting a minor online, in September 2019. Rimmer is a registered sex offender, who had been convicted on federal child pornography charges in 2010, and who had been released in November 2014.

Norfolk, VA:

Acting on a Cybertip received from NCMEC via the SOVA ICAC Task Force, investigators with Norfolk Police Department, an affiliate agency on the SOVA ICAC Task Force, arrested Brett Marker, a 34 year old living in Norfolk, on 5 charges of possessing child pornography. At the time of his arrest, Marker was a fifth grade teacher at Norfolk Christian Schools.

James City County, VA:

As a result of four Cybertips received from NCMEC, via the SOVA ICAC Task Force, James City County Police, along with the Gloucester County Sheriff's Office, announced the arrest of William Gibbs on 10 counts of possessing child pornography. Gloucester County Sheriff's Office was asked to take over the investigation by James City County Police, as when they received the Cybertips and identified the suspect as Gibbs, he was currently employed by the James City County Police as an investigator. Gibbs had previously been assigned to work ICAC related cases for James City County Police, from 2008-2015. The charges covered offenses that spanned from January 2015 through September 2019.

Rockbridge County, VA:

While working on an unrelated ICAC case, investigators with the Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office identified another subject using Facebook who was soliciting an underage female. As a result of that investigation, Christian Ray Young was arrested on 3 counts of rape (consensual sex with a 12yo minor), as well as 3 counts of indecent liberties with a child, and 3 counts of soliciting a minor. During this investigation, a search warrant to Snapchat revealed videos of Young having sex with a minor female. He was subsequently charged again in July 2019, with 15 counts of producing child pornography.

Bedford County, VA:

Investigators with the Bedford County Sheriff's Office arrested Warren Norris, 71, in November 2019, on a violation of a protective order. Subsequent investigation led to 10 charges involving production of child pornography, involving an underage female. It was also discovered via recorded jail phone calls, that Norris had been staying at a short term rental property for about a week, after his wife had kicked him out of the house. He was asking an out of state relative to come to the short term rental to recover a laptop and thumb drive, before law enforcement found them. Bedford investigators executed a search warrant approximately 2 hours prior to the relative arriving from out of state, and were able to recover additional pieces of evidence, including written plans on how to leave the country and start a new life.

Covington, VA:

Justin Higgs, was arrested for possession of sexually explicit images of children. Bedford County Sheriff's Office began an investigation into a Cybertip referral, involving an unidentified subject distributing sexually explicit images of children via the internet. After identifying and determining the appropriate jurisdiction, the case was referred to the Covington Police

Department. Investigators with the police department recognized the suspect as being a Virginia State Trooper. Covington Police notified and further referred the case to the Virginia State Police, who subsequently arrested Hipps.

Christiansburg, VA:

Bedford County Sheriff's Office investigators began an investigation into a subject that was reported in a Cybertip referral, and who had been using Twitter to distribute sexually explicit images of children. Further investigation determined that Ethan Havens, of Christiansburg was the suspect. Havens was a police officer for Christiansburg Police at the time. Christiansburg Police supervisors were notified, and requested the case be referred to the Virginia State Police.