



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Attorney General

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General

202 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-786-2071
FAX 804-786-1991
Virginia Relay Services
800-828-1120

December 27, 2024

VIA EMAIL to reportdocs@dlas.virginia.gov

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

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

Re: Virginia Code § 19.2-70

Dear Ms. Schaar and Mr. Nardo:

This letter is sent pursuant to Virginia Code § 19.2-70, regarding notification of intercept activity during 2024. No applications for the interception of wire, electronic, or oral communications were sought or authorized during calendar year 2024. No such applications were refused in 2024.

Our letter of December 29, 2023 reported that fourteen persons stood charged as a result of an investigation into a conspiracy to distribute Schedule I and II controlled substances. These charges followed the authorization of two intercepts by a circuit court in 2023. Below, we provide updates from calendar year 2024 concerning these charged persons, as required by Code § 19.2-70.

Twelve defendants were arrested in 2023 on various offenses as a result of information derived from both applications. One such defendant was arrested in 2023 on one count of unlawfully participating in racketeering activity, two counts of a second offense of possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance with the intent to distribute, two counts of unlawful

possession of a firearm while in possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance with the intent to distribute, and one count of unlawful possession of a firearm by a person previously convicted of a violent felony. In 2024, this defendant was convicted and sentenced for an amended charge of possession of a firearm by a non-violent felon, following the defendant's plea of no contest to the amended charge pursuant to a plea agreement. Also in 2024, the two counts of a second offense of possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance with the intent to distribute, the two counts of unlawful possession of a firearm while in possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance with the intent to distribute, and the single count of unlawfully participating in racketeering activity were nolle prossed. This defendant was subsequently charged with five counts of a second offense of possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance with the intent to distribute, one count of distribution of twenty or more grams of a mixture containing methamphetamine, six counts of unlawful possession of a firearm while in possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance with the intent to distribute, and one count of unlawfully participating in racketeering activity.

Five of the twelve defendants who were arrested in 2023 as a result of information derived from both applications were charged in 2023 with a single count of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute a Schedule I or II controlled substance. In 2024, one such defendant was convicted of the charge and sentenced, following the defendant's *Alford* plea of guilty. Also in 2024, a second such defendant was convicted of the charge and sentenced, following the defendant's guilty plea pursuant to a plea agreement.

Finally, two defendants were arrested in 2023 on various offenses as a result of information derived only from the second application. The first such defendant was convicted in 2023 of one count of conspiring to possess with the intent to distribute a Schedule I or II controlled substance and one count of unlawfully participating in racketeering activity, following the defendant's guilty plea pursuant to a plea agreement. This defendant was sentenced on those convictions in 2024. The second such defendant was arrested in 2023 on one count of conspiring to possess with the intent to distribute a Schedule I or II controlled substance, one count of conspiring to transport one ounce or more of a Schedule I or II controlled substance into the Commonwealth, one count of unlawfully participating in racketeering activity, and one count of money laundering. In 2024, this defendant was convicted of one count of conspiring to possess with the intent to distribute a Schedule I or II controlled substance and one count of money laundering, following the defendant's guilty plea pursuant to a plea agreement. The remaining two charges were nolle prossed.

Letter from the Office of the Attorney General
December 27, 2024
Page 3

In future reports, we will supplement this information to address the disposition of the pending charges.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tanner M. Russo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tanner M. Russo
Assistant Attorney General