

MONITORING OF OFFENDERS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY REQUIREMENTS

**A Report to the Governor, House Appropriations Committee,
And Senate Finance & Appropriations Committee**



January 2026

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

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January 1, 2026

TO: The Honorable Glenn Youngkin, Governor of Virginia

The Honorable L. Louise Lucas
Chair of the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee

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

Pursuant to the 2009 Appropriation Act, I am respectfully submitting herewith, a *Report on Monitoring of Offenders Required to Comply with the Sex Offender Registry Requirements*. The report is a compilation of the Department's efforts from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025.

Respectfully,

Superintendent

MDH/rsb

Enclosure

Pursuant to the Appropriation Act, the Department of State Police is pleased to provide this report on the monitoring of offenders required to comply with the Sex Offender Registry (SOR) requirements.

Creation and Staffing

The 2006 Session of the Virginia General Assembly allocated the Virginia State Police 45 sworn FTEs (full-time equivalents) as an enforcement component of the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry.

In July 2006, the Sex Offender Investigative Unit (SOIU) was established, consisting of one (1) first sergeant position, four (4) sergeant positions, and forty (40) trooper positions. This unit was placed within the Criminal Justice Information Services Division, which is housed in the Bureau of Administrative and Support Services. The positions of the unit were established to enforce the sex offender registry laws pursuant to Title 9.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. To ensure proper distribution of these established positions, an in-depth analysis of the existing sex offender population was conducted, resulting in the creation of four (4) regions, with one (1) sergeant and ten (10) troopers assigned to each region. Each region was further divided into smaller geographical areas to ensure the sex offender population is properly served.

In 2006, when the SOIU was originally conceived, the offender to trooper ratio was 120:1. In the nineteen years since the implementation of the SOIU, legislative changes requiring additional types of offenders to register, coupled with the growth of the sex offender population, has pushed the ratio of sex offenders to troopers to 279:1. To further ensure efficiency, each region was divided into duty posts, or small geographical work units, to ensure that manpower was distributed evenly within each region.

As of August 31, 2025, the FSOIU (renamed Firearms and Sex Offender Investigative Unit in early 2021) monitors, registers, re-registers, and verifies employment and residency of 13,124 sex offenders. The *2017 Manpower Augmentation Plan* staffing model recommends the Department assign one trooper per 100 sex offenders living in Virginia communities. Implementation of this staffing model would require 85 additional troopers.

Effective July 1, 2012, forty-three (43) civilian compliance officer positions within the SOIU were authorized. In recent years, as civilian compliance officer positions became vacant, a decision was made to convert them to trooper positions, gradually converting all. A total of nine (9) positions were converted to sworn, leaving thirty-four (34) total compliance officer positions. However, in recent years, the Department's sworn vacancies were increasing, and while the Department is making great strides to recruit and retain the highest quality sworn workforce, the previous decision to convert the compliance officer positions to troopers is not feasible or beneficial to the Department at this time.

Compliance officers serve a vital role in the registry process. They conduct thousands of in-person home, school, and work verifications yearly. Without the compliance officers, these duties fall to the troopers, who are tasked with investigating thousands of violations annually.

In addition to the assigned in-person verifications, the compliance officers also complete the necessary reports, assist Bureau of Field Operations' offices with walk-in registrations, track down missing or incomplete information submitted to the registry, and perform other administrative/clerical duties. They are often required to appear in court and provide testimony. Compliance officers complement troopers in the FSOIU by reducing the troopers' verification workload, allowing them to focus their efforts on criminal investigations.

In 2008, there were 15,297 registered sex offenders in Virginia and the SOIU was responsible for monitoring 5,606 of those offenders with forty (40) troopers. As of August 31, 2025, there were 25,513 registered sex offenders and the FSOIU monitors 13,124 of them. Offenders have increased by 67% and the number monitored by VSP has increased by 134%. Since the unit's inception in 2006, the number of troopers designated for sex offender investigations has increased to forty-seven (47); however, this was only due to the Department previously converting vacant compliance officer positions to sworn trooper positions and recently refocusing one trooper position from firearms investigations to sex offender investigations.

The FSOIU has a dedicated analytical resource assigned to the Homeland Security Division who assists in the timely apprehension of both wanted sex offenders and firearms violation subjects. This analyst provides invaluable long-term case support and utilizes analytical databases to indicate a possible location of absconded subjects.

The Virginia Sex Offender Management System (VSOMS) launched October 30, 2023. This new system allows for a web-based, streamlined process of registering and processing offenders assigned to the registry. VSOMS better serves the citizens of the Commonwealth by providing more accurate and timely information.

Goals and Objectives

The overall objective of the sex offender element of the FSOIU is to enhance public safety by investigating and successfully closing criminal cases involving sex offenders who fail to comply with Title 9.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. The FSOIU is committed to monitoring and prosecuting sex offenders who fail to comply with Title 9.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. The following information provides an overview of the production and progress of the FSOIU.

Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry (SOR) Verifications

As of August 31, 2025, there were 25,513 sex offenders located in Virginia that are listed on the Virginia State Police Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry. They are divided into three groups: (1) 3,810 registrants under the purview of the Department of Corrections Probation and Parole Services, (2) 13,124 sex offenders whose registration and verifications are the responsibility of the Department of State Police, and (3) the remaining 8,360 registrants are civilly committed or incarcerated in jails or prisons across the state. The Department also tracks another 219 offenders living in other states who work, go to school, or live part-time in Virginia.

From September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025, the FSOIU conducted 44,922 verifications consisting of: initial registrations, home, work, and school addresses. Our agency also conducts training for the probation and parole officers, as well as for the troopers and compliance officers assigned to the FSOIU.

Registry Violations

From September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025, the FSOIU conducted 3,931 criminal investigations for sex offender registry violations. During this same period, there were 414 convictions from arrests made across the Commonwealth by the FSOIU for sex offender registry violations. Many cases are still pending trial. These investigations were initiated from troopers' observations, tips from citizens, information from other law enforcement agencies, information from the Department of Corrections, and other states' sex offender registries. The FSOIU received 1,855 tips regarding potential registry violations through the Department's Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry website. Virtually all of them required follow-up investigation.

Coordination with Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement Organizations

Interagency coordination during this reporting period includes the following:

- VSP area offices register or re-register each incoming sex offender and work to process offenders who are under the supervision of the Department of Corrections (DOC).
- Offenders are monitored through joint initiatives, such as the Halloween meetings that take place at many DOC Probation and Parole District Offices. These meetings are designed to monitor offender movement during this children's celebration of the fall season and educate the offenders on their registration requirements.

- VSP FSOIU is assisting DOC Probation and Parole to enhance their knowledge of the Virginia Sex Offender Management System (VSOMS) to ensure proper oversight of sex offenders under their supervision.
- VSP FSOIU Regions II, IV, and VI each have a trooper assigned to the United States Marshals Service (USMS) Task Force, which is mutually beneficial to both organizations. FSOIU regularly assists the USMS in areas where a trooper is not assigned to the USMS Task Force.
- VSP collaborates with the USMS to apprehend violent sex offenders at-large across the country. Once located, VSP FSOIU personnel team with the local VSP BCI Fugitive Apprehension Unit to transport the fugitive back to Virginia. In addition to extraditions, VSP and the USMS routinely work collaboratively in locating wanted sex offenders.
- The USMS notifies the Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry whenever a Virginia registered sex offender makes reservations to travel outside the country.
- VSP and the USMS held numerous operations throughout the year to conduct verifications on sex offenders. In May of 2025, VSP and the USMS conducted 215 home verifications in the greater Richmond area, while serving 71 felony and misdemeanor warrants on wanted sex offenders.
- VSP collaborates with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to identify unregistered social media accounts, home addresses, and work locations of registered sex offenders. This partnership enhances efforts to protect children across the Commonwealth of Virginia and supports FSOIU in locating absconded sex offenders.
- VSP worked with numerous out-of-state registries to locate and apprehend absconders who crossed state lines to evade compliance with sex offender registration requirements. This enables the FSOIU troopers and compliance officers to extend their network of contacts.
- VSP continues to develop small task force initiatives with local agencies across the state, with the goal of enhancing investigations surrounding SOR violations and improving the lines of communication throughout Virginia's criminal justice system.
- VSP continuously provides training across the Commonwealth to DOC, local law enforcement, and Probation and Parole. The training encompasses SOR laws, registering sex offenders, and specific laws that ensure safety to minors on school property and school related events in the Commonwealth.
- VSP is continuously sharing intelligence and resources with local law enforcement agencies. By exchanging information and insights, local agencies

can better understand the responsibilities of VSP. This enables a more proactive and preventive stance on crimes against minors and sex offender violations; also allowing VSP to assist local law enforcement in investigations involving a sex offender.

Future Endeavors

- Enhancements will continue to be made to the VSOMS. Additionally, the VSOMS team is continuing to work with other teams/sections within the Criminal Justice Information Services Division to assist SOR in reducing the amount of paper processes currently in place.
- The *2017 Manpower Augmentation Plan* staffing model recommends the Department assign one trooper per 100 sex offenders living in Virginia communities. As of August 31, 2025, however, the FSOIU is operating at a sex offender to trooper ratio of 279:1. The Department is currently seeking to supplement compliance officers as well as the ranks of trooper, sergeant, and first sergeant, which will reduce the sex offender to trooper ratio and alleviate potential span of control issues among supervisors.

Sex Offender Investigative Unit

The data below represents the period of September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025, and is provided to illustrate the quantity of work performed by the FSOIU.

Address Verifications per Region **September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025**

| Region | Offenders Verified |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Region One (Richmond) | 7,328 |
| Region Two (Northern VA) | 5,421 |
| Region Three (Central VA) | 6,286 |
| Region Four (Southwest VA) | 8,574 |
| Region Five (Chesapeake) | 11,368 |
| Region Six (Augusta) | 5,945 |
| Total | 44,922 |

Address Verifications per Region
September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

| Region | 30 Day Home/Work | Initial Registration | Home Semi-Annual Verification | School Address Change |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Region One | 2,528 | 163 | 4,612 | 25 |
| Region Two | 1,533 | 141 | 3,735 | 12 |
| Region Three | 1,595 | 392 | 4,291 | 8 |
| Region Four | 2,688 | 141 | 5,733 | 12 |
| Region Five | 3,654 | 214 | 7,483 | 17 |
| Region Six | 1,743 | 86 | 4,108 | 8 |
| Totals | 13,741 | 1,137 | 29,962 | 82 |

Criminal Investigations per Region
September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

| Location | # Investigations |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Region One | 542 |
| Region Two | 509 |
| Region Three | 607 |
| Region Four | 810 |
| Region Five | 927 |
| Region Six | 536 |
| Total | 3,931 |

Sex Offender Registry Violation Convictions
September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

| <u>JURISDICTION</u> | <u>CONVICTIONS</u> | <u>JURISDICTION</u> | <u>CONVICTIONS</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALEXANDRIA | 2 | LOUISA CO | 1 |
| ARLINGTON CO | 1 | LYNCHBURG | 4 |
| ACCOMACK CO | 2 | MADISON CO | 1 |
| ALLEGHANY CO | 11 | MANASSAS PARK | 1 |
| AMHERST CO | 1 | MARTINSVILLE | 2 |
| AUGUSTA CO | 1 | MATHEWS CO | 2 |
| BEDFORD CO | 5 | MONTGOMERY CO | 3 |
| BOTETOURT CO | 4 | NELSON CO | 2 |
| BRUNSWICK CO | 1 | NEW KENT CO | 1 |
| BRISTOL | 6 | NEWPORT NEWS | 15 |
| BUCHANAN CO | 2 | NORFOLK | 16 |
| BUCKINGHAM CO | 1 | NORTHAMPTON CO | 2 |
| BUENA VISTA | 2 | NOTTOWAY CO | 3 |
| CAROLINE CO | 1 | ORANGE CO | 3 |
| CHARLOTTESVILLE | 1 | PETERSBURG | 8 |
| CHESAPEAKE | 5 | PITTSYLVANIA CO | 3 |
| CHESTERFIELD CO | 17 | PORTSMOUTH | 5 |
| COLONIAL HEIGHTS | 1 | PRINCE EDWARD CO | 1 |
| CULPEPER CO | 3 | PRINCE WILLIAM CO | 4 |
| CUMBERLAND CO | 8 | PULASKI CO | 3 |
| DANVILLE | 2 | RICHMOND CITY | 48 |
| DICKENSON CO | 1 | RICHMOND CO | 1 |
| DINWIDDIE CO | 1 | ROANOKE | 49 |
| FLUVANNA CO | 1 | ROANOKE CO | 7 |
| FRANKLIN | 2 | ROCKBRIDGE CO | 1 |
| FRANKLIN CO | 3 | ROCKINGHAM CO | 2 |
| FREDERICK CO | 6 | RUSSELL CO | 1 |
| FREDERICKSBURG | 2 | SCOTT CO | 1 |
| GALAX | 1 | SHENANDOAH CO | 1 |
| GILES | 2 | SMYTH CO | 12 |
| GLOUCESTER CO | 7 | SOUTHAMPTON CO | 1 |
| GRAYSON CO | 6 | SPOTSYLVANIA CO | 7 |
| GREENE CO | 2 | STAFFORD CO | 5 |
| GREENSVILLE CO | 3 | STAUNTON | 1 |
| HAMPTON | 1 | TAZEWELL CO | 2 |
| HANOVER CO | 14 | VIRGINIA BEACH | 20 |
| HARRISONBURG | 1 | WARREN CO | 1 |
| HENRICO CO | 5 | WASHINGTON CO | 2 |
| HOPEWELL | 9 | WAYNESBORO | 3 |
| ISLE OF WIGHT CO | 1 | WESTMORELAND CO | 4 |
| KING AND QUEEN CO | 1 | WILLIAMSBURG | 2 |
| LANCASTER CO | 4 | WINCHESTER | 3 |
| LEE CO | 1 | WISE CO | 8 |
| LOUDOUN CO | 1 | TOTAL: | 414 |

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

FSOIU

