

SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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January 5, 2026

The Honorable Scott A. Surovell
Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Senate of Virginia
P. O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Patrick A. Hope
Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Virginia House of Delegates
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Chairs Surovell and Hope:

In accordance with Chapter 1024, enactment clause 2, of the 2004 Acts of Assembly, please find below information on the number of petitions for writs of actual innocence filed pursuant to Chapter 19.3 of Title 19.2, and the dispositions thereof, for calendar year 2025.

- Twenty petitions were pending on January 1, 2025.
- Twenty petitions were filed in 2025.
- Twenty-seven petitions were disposed of in 2025. The dispositions of those cases were as follows:
 - Nineteen petitions were summarily dismissed.
 - Four petitions were dismissed following consideration of the Attorney General's response to the petition and petitioner's reply thereto.
 - Four petitions were dismissed following consideration of the Attorney General's response to the petition and petitioner's reply thereto, if any, and the circuit court's findings of fact.
- Thirteen petitions were pending as of December 31, 2025.

Writs of Actual Innocence Report
January 5, 2026
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If you have any questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K R Hade', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karl R. Hade

KRH:jrs

cc: Division of Legislative Automated Systems
A. John Vollino, Clerk of the Court of Appeals of Virginia