COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Corrections

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October 1, 2026

The Honorable Abigail D. Spanberger
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable Susan Clarke Schaar
Clerk of the Senate of Virginia
1000 Bank Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable G. Paul Nardo
Clerk of the Virginia House of Delegates
1000 Bank Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Spanberger and Members of the General Assembly,

Pursuant to § 53.1-10(14) of the Code of Virginia, please see the below human subject research project requests received by the Virginia Department of Corrections and reviewed by the Human Subject Research Review Committee during Fiscal Year 2026. The Department is not aware of any deviations on approved studies. The requests received are as follows:

Research Requests Fiscal Year 2026	
Status	**Number**
Approved Research Requests	3
Denied Research Requests	1
Research Requests Under Revisions	1
Researchers Opting Out of the Review Process	0
Research Extensions Granted	0
Research Projects Under Initial Review	0
Total	**5**
Approval Withdrawn	0

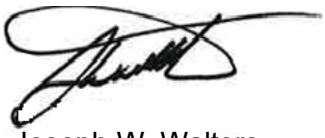
Of the five human subject research requests, the Committee approved three proposals while one remained under review at the time of this report.

The three projects that were approved are as follows:

Title	Affiliation
2nd Chances: A National Study of People Serving Juvenile Life Without the Possibility of Parole	Dr. Laura Abrams University of California Los Angeles
Improving Higher Education Opportunities for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals	Shawanda Talley Liberty University (Doctoral Thesis)
National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSV97)	Stern Wilmer University of Chicago

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance as you review this information.

Sincerely,



Joseph W. Walters
Director