

**PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM
VSI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
JOHN W. JONES**



On behalf of all of us at the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute, I hope you and your family enjoyed your summer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Now that Virginia students are back to school, I would just like to urge you and all Virginia motorists to remain extra vigilant by looking out for children and other pedestrians taking to the crosswalks in increasing numbers. And of course be prepared to

leave extra time for your commute now that buses are back on our community's roadways.

Please remember: COURTESY, CAUTION, and COMMON SENSE are the most important rules of the road!

And as mentioned inside this issue of VSI's newsletter, there have been a number of new laws that recently took effect that I hope will improve public safety and crime prevention efforts in Virginia. If you're interested in learning more about these laws, I encourage you to go to www.vasheriff.org/legislative/2010-legislation/.

I want you to know public safety is our number one priority at my Sheriff's office. If you have any concerns about crime prevention efforts in your community, I urge you to contact me or my staff. And as always I urge you to help Virginia's law enforcement efforts by reporting crimes and suspicious activity when you see them so that we can do our very best to keep this community a safe place to work, play, live, and raise our families.

In closing, I encourage you to go to your secure, personalized Web page and sign up to begin receiving VSI's online newsletter and email updates, and to see your localized public service information.

Thank you for your continued strong support of the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute!

Sincerely,

John W. Jones, Executive Director
Virginia Sheriffs' Institute
701 East Franklin Street, Suite 706
Richmond, VA 23219

**Thanks for
your feedback!**

The Virginia Sheriffs' Institute wants to thank VSI supporters who visited their personalized Web page and participated in our online questionnaire. According to the tremendous feedback we received, the overwhelming majority of VSI supporters are most interested in learning more about and supporting the VSI training programs, which benefit Virginia Sheriffs, deputies, and residents like you. VSI will be sure to use this important information to serve you better.

The Virginia Sheriffs' Institute solicits articles and comments from Associate members of the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute for inclusion in this newsletter. Articles or comments should be directed to:

John W. Jones, Executive Director
Virginia Sheriffs' Institute
701 East Franklin Street, Suite 706
Richmond, VA 23219
or phone (804) 225-7152.

We Want to Hear from You ...

Drop us a note, give us a call, or send us an email.

 701 East Franklin Street - Suite 706
Richmond, Virginia 23219

 (804) 225-7152 phone

 (804) 225-7162 fax

 vsavsi@virginiasheriffs.org

The Virginia Sheriffs' Institute does not solicit donations by telephone.



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John W. Jones
Executive Director
701 East Franklin Street, Suite 706
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 225-7152

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**New Laws Take Effect
in Commonwealth
of Virginia**





2010

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New Laws Passed by VA General Assembly Now in Effect

While more than 900 new laws took effect July 1, 2010, VSI would like to touch on a few key pieces of legislation that will promote the public safety of Virginia residents and aid law enforcement officers in our efforts to fight crime. In particular, the following laws support victims of domestic violence, combat gang activity, provide for those that protect us, and help make Virginia a safer place to work and raise our families.

SB468 (Howell)/ HB930 (Bell) — Extension of Protective Orders

- Allows a petitioner who has obtained a protective order in a case of family abuse or stalking to seek an extension of the order for up to two years. Keeps Virginians safer by making it easier for victims who continue to be in danger to maintain valid protective orders.

HB682 (Miller, J.H.) — Creates Gang-Free Zones

- Expands penalty enhancements for gang activities to include those occurring on the property of any publicly owned or operated community center or recreational center. As a result, law enforcement officers and prosecutors will be better able to combat gangs and deter those who would target youth.

SB486 (Hurt)/ HB1121 (Gilbert) — Sharing Juvenile Criminal Gang-Related Activity

- Places an affirmative duty on the Department of Juvenile Justice to provide information to law enforcement that may aid in initiating or furthering an investigation of a criminal street gang.

SB520 (Norment)/ HB934 (Bell) —

Expands Death Penalty to Include Auxiliary Police

- Legislation adds auxiliary police officers and auxiliary deputy sheriffs to the capital murder statute so that the death penalty can be imposed for their murder.



HB1159 (Oder) — Improves Virginia's "Move Over" Law

- Requires drivers to move to the left, or proceed with due caution at a safe highway speed, on certain highways when approaching vehicles displaying flashing blue, red or amber lights. This bill further protects law enforcement officers and emergency personnel working on the shoulders of Virginia highways by ensuring they are protected by the "Move Over" law when their emergency lights are activated.

HB1198 (Iaquinto) — Strengthens Virginia's Sex Offender Registry

- Legislation provides that offenses for which a condition of registration is that the offense was committed against a minor, a physically helpless person or a mentally incapacitated person, the

court shall determine by agreement of the parties or by a preponderance of the evidence, whether the victim of the offense was a minor, physically helpless or mentally incapacitated.

SB620 (Deeds) — Established Internet Crimes Against Children Fund

- Legislation implements a \$10 court fee on each felony or misdemeanor conviction to support the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund which will support grants, training, and equipment for local law-enforcement agencies' use in investigating and prosecuting Internet crimes against children and to the Department of Social Services to support the Virginia Child Protection Accountability System.

HB907 (R.Bell) — Reports of Certain Acts to School Authorities by Local Law-Enforcement.

- Allows the attorney for the Commonwealth or law-enforcement, upon the request of the school superintendent, to share certain information with the school superintendent concerning a student's delinquency case involving a misdemeanor offense listed in the statute, if such disclosure does not jeopardize the investigation or prosecution of the case. The information that may be released includes details of (i) the terms of release from detention, (ii) the court dates, and (iii) the terms of any dispositional orders.

For a full listing of the bills affecting public safety that passed in the 2010 session of the General Assembly, please go online to www.vasheriff.org/legislative/2010-legislation.

70th Annual National Sheriffs' Association Conference

Sheriffs from all across the country attended the 70th annual National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) Conference in Anaheim, California, on June 25-30. The NSA was chartered in 1940 and is involved in a number of programs to enable Sheriffs, their deputies, chiefs of police, and others in the field of criminal justice to perform their jobs in the best possible manner and to better service the people in their jurisdictions.



John W. Jones and B.J. Roberts

The annual conference is always an important forum for Sheriffs and Deputies to discuss a wide range of topics including, promoting collaboration between law enforcement and communities, learning more about homeland security efforts, understanding the latest in technology that can be used to promote crime prevention, and protecting victims of crime.

Sheriffs took part in a series of seminars, workshops, committee discussions, and heard from keynote speakers, including FBI Director Robert S. Mueller and John Morton, Assistant Secretary, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security.

And VSI is pleased to announce that Hampton, Virginia Sheriff B.J. Roberts, was sworn in as the 69th president of the National Sheriffs' Association during the conference. Sheriff Roberts was sworn in by John W. Jones, VSI Executive Director. Virginia Delegate, Kenny Alexander, read declarations and noble remarks came from Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell, Senator Mark Warner, and Representative Bobby Scott. Sheriff Roberts will preside over 18,990 members, including 3,049 of the 3,083 Sheriffs in the United States.

VSI Death Benefits Distributed to the Families of Three Deputy Sheriffs Killed in the Line of Duty

Thanks to the support of Virginia Sheriffs' Institute members, like you, VSI was able to distribute a \$5,000 in-the-line-of-duty death benefit to the families of Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Deputy, Dean Ridings, 52, end of watch 6/19/10; Richmond Sheriff's Deputy, Caroline Green, 51, end of watch 6/21/10; and Tazewell County Sheriff's Deputy, Shawn Hess, 35, end of watch 7/23/10, all recently killed serving their communities.