

**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 are excited to jumpstart your summer plans in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Here are some safety tips to keep you and your family safe during these busy summer months.

If you're traveling out of town as so many families are planning to do this summer, keep your travel plans private — don't "broadcast" when

you are traveling away from home, when you are home alone, where your children are if they aren't with you, etc.

Sadly, Facebook and other social media outlets are providing would-be criminals with a wealth of information and knowledge that they can use to commit crimes against people in our community. Just as important, now that school is out, know who your children are with and know the parents of their friends.

We all can do our part to reduce crimes of opportunity by keeping your garage doors closed and locked, back doors and windows locked, and cars locked. Remember to keep your valuables OUT of plain sight.

As always, it is my privilege to serve as Executive Director of VSI and I urge you to contact your Sheriff's office if you have any concerns about crime prevention efforts in your community. Make no mistake, I will continue to strive to do everything in my power to promote the interests of Sheriffs, deputies, and residents of Virginia.

And please, I hope you'll continue to be an important partner in our efforts to keep our community secure 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.

I deeply appreciate 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

**The Virginia Sheriffs  
Take Pride in Our  
Scholarship Program**

With the help of residents like you, the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute (VSI) secures the critical funding needed to continue providing desperately needed scholarships to Virginia citizens to pursue Criminal Justice degrees — a great source of pride for us all and a vital step in ensuring our safety. VSI is the only organization in Virginia helping the state's law enforcement students with Criminal Justice scholarships.

There are many scholarship recipients throughout Virginia and we're proud to help these dedicated students achieve their goal of becoming law enforcement officers. In fact, with the help of loyal members like you, we've awarded 61 scholarships for 2010-2011 to Virginia's youth.


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 23219-2512, 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.***



**NEWSLETTER**

**VOLUME 3, No. 1  
SUMMER 2010**



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

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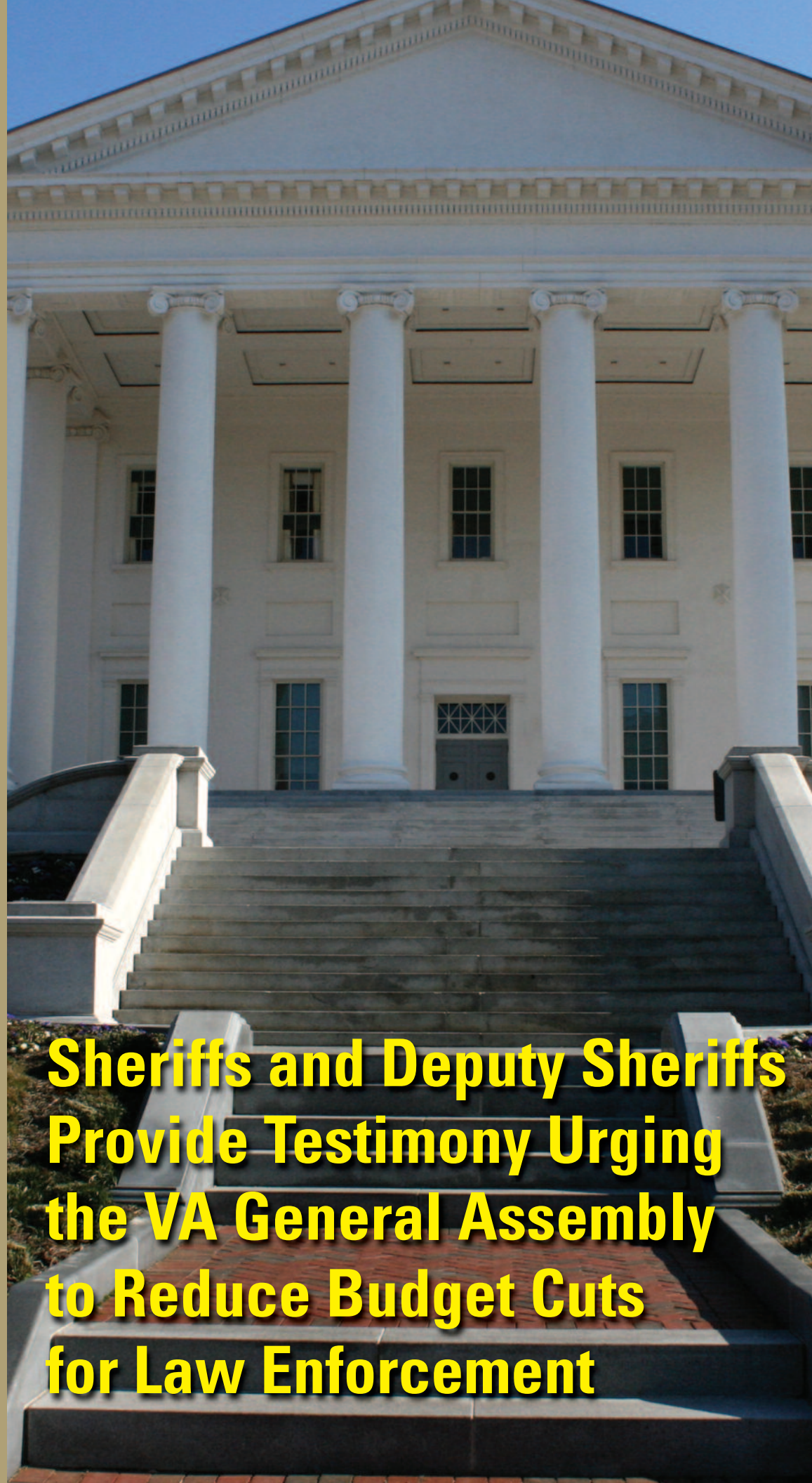
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**Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs  
Provide Testimony Urging  
the VA General Assembly  
to Reduce Budget Cuts  
for Law Enforcement**



2010

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**Executive Director**

John W. Jones

## Virginia Deputy Sheriffs Spared Worst of Budget Cuts

The General Assembly addressed the budget reductions proposed by the former administration. The proposed budget called for a reduction of some 1,500 Deputy Sheriff positions.

Many of our supporters called and wrote their General Assembly members expressing concerns over the drastic cuts. Sheriffs and deputy sheriffs showed up for several press conferences and testified before numerous committees. In the end, the General Assembly reduced the cuts to Sheriffs.

While there are still some reductions, VSI is pleased that most positions were saved and the importance of retaining a strong law enforcement body was recognized by members of the General Assembly. The jail funding was reduced and localities will have to pick up more of the cost of running local jails. While no one is immune from the impact of the recession, overall, the General Assembly was a success for Sheriffs, and the Sheriffs' budget was protected to a large extent.



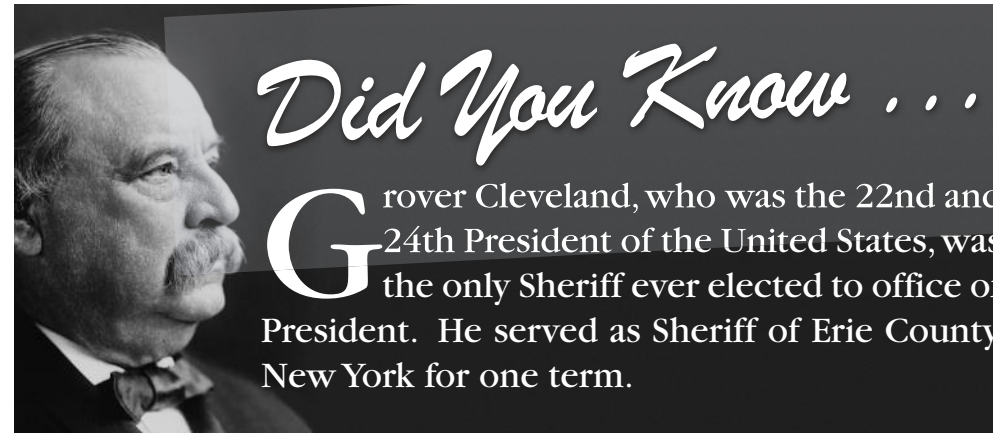
*Sheriff Charles E. Jett of Stafford County speaks at a news conference following testimony before the VA General Assembly.*

## Victim Notification Program Expands

The Victim Information and Notification Everyday or VINE program designed to alert crime victims when their perpetrators are released from state prisons is expanding to include city and regional jails, thanks to a \$1.25 million federal grant.

According to VSI Executive Director John W. Jones, this program "is going to be helpful because victims will have access to real time information when the person who committed a crime against them is released. They may need to take action to protect themselves."

Prior to the implementation of this program, victims had to go a lengthy route to determine this kind of information, and often they ended up with outdated information or none at all. So far, about 24,000 people have signed up to receive these important alerts.



## Collective Bargaining Bill Continues to Gain Momentum in the Senate

The Virginia Sheriffs and over 4,000 concerned citizens have expressed opposition to the Collective Bargaining bill for public safety, currently pending in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. In previous years, similar bills have passed the House, but not the Senate. At this point, Senators Warner and Webb have not made known their position on these bills. The Sheriffs have made it known to all members of the House and Senate of their opposition.

"The fact that these bills have not moved serves as a glimmer of hope," according to John W. Jones, Executive Director of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association. "We have been working with the Sheriffs of other state Sheriffs' organizations and the National Sheriffs' Association to oppose this troublesome legislation. Virginia is a right to work state and Sheriffs are constitutional officers. Collective Bargaining is not a good fit for public safety in Virginia."

The Association will keep you posted on any development in Congress on the Collective Bargaining bill. Your support allows us to support the National Sheriffs' Association's efforts to oppose collective bargaining in Washington.

**SPECIAL THANKS!**

Sheriffs from all across the Commonwealth, along with exhibitors and speakers, attended our Spring Conference held in Roanoke, Virginia. The Hotel Roanoke made an excellent venue for the event and now the Sheriffs are looking forward to their annual conference later this fall. Many thanks to our Associate Members for making this year's spring meeting a resounding success!

## VSI Now Accepts Property Donations!

If you'd like to donate property such as vehicles, boats, RVs, motorcycles, aircraft and/or collectibles to the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute, please call toll-free: 1-866-2-GIVING or 1-866-244-8464.



Or, if you prefer to go online, go to [www.vasheriffsinstitute.org](http://www.vasheriffsinstitute.org) and click on the link "Donate Now."

If you have any questions about tax deduction matters, you should always consult with your attorney, accountant, or qualified person before claiming any deduction.

## Virginia Sheriff to be Named President of the National Sheriffs' Association

Sheriff B.J. Roberts is slated to become the next President of the prestigious National Sheriffs' Association in June when the nation's Sheriffs meet in Anaheim, California.

According to VSA Executive Director John W. Jones, "B.J.'s service to the nation's Sheriffs, and the citizens of Hampton, Virginia speak well of the respect he commands not only in Virginia, but across the nation." The Virginia Sheriffs are extremely proud to have one of their own serving as president of the National Sheriffs' Association.