



NEWSLETTER

FALL EDITION 2011



John W. Jones

Executive Director

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IN THIS ISSUE ...

VA Elections 2

VSI License Plates
Help Deputies..... 2

The Results Are In 3

Full List of Valor Awards..... 3

NSA President
Completes First-Term..... 4

Message from
John W. Jones..... 4

Sheriffs' Election Fast Approaching – *Cast Your Vote!*





2011-2012

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Petersburg City

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City of Winchester

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Staunton City

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Russell County

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Clarke County

Election Day Is Almost Here — Know Where the Candidates Stand on the Issues!

Elections for your State Delegate and Senator, who are responsible for decisions on funding law enforcement efforts in Virginia — as well the election for your local Sheriff — will take place on November 8, 2011. All 140 seats of the Virginia General Assembly are up for election this year.

As a Virginia resident, you need to know whether the candidates for Virginia’s State Legislature are willing to support the work of your Sheriff to promote crime prevention in your community. So before you cast your vote, I encourage you to find out where your candidates stand on this and other important issues that may impact you and your family.

VSI is leading this vital effort to raise public awareness about the upcoming elections so citizens like you learn more about the candidates and get out and cast your vote on November 8th — either through absentee ballot or at the polls!



This is an important decision. So study the candidates’ websites and contact them. Ask inquiring questions. Attend debates. Be informed and know your choices.

To find out what polling location you’re assigned to or to obtain an absentee ballot, please visit www.voterinfo.sbe.virginia.gov/publicsite/.

REVENUE FROM NEW VSI LICENSE PLATES TO SUPPORT DEPUTIES INJURED OR KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Show your support for law enforcement by displaying a specialized DMV license plate on your car. The proposed “I Support Sheriffs” theme and design has already received approval from our Board of Directors. But before DMV can develop and issue these specialized license plates, the General Assembly **now requires us to accumulate a minimum of 450 paid applications!** (See enclosed application)

VSI’s Board of Directors met on July 12th and voted to promote the specialized VSI license plate, which is available to all Virginians. The \$25 annual fee for your specialized plate will go towards assisting Deputy Sheriffs that have been permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty; and will benefit the families of deputies killed in the line of duty, in an effort to relieve personal and community distress relating to such incidents. **To ensure this project moves forward, applications must be received by November 1st.**



Your display of this unique plate on your car shows your support of Virginia law enforcement.

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR ENCLOSED APPLICATION TODAY!!

Board of Directors

Sheriff Javier J. Smith
Charles City County

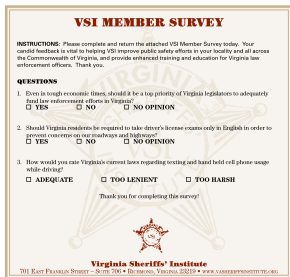
Sheriff James R. Edwards, Jr.
Greensville County

Sheriff Danny R. Fox
Mecklenburg County

Sheriff C.O Balderson
Westmoreland County

Executive Director
John W. Jones

SURVEY SAYS! FIRST-EVER VSI MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS ...



We recently asked you and thousands of other VSI supporters across the Commonwealth to participate in our *first-ever* VSI Member Survey and to give us your opinions on such critical issues as traffic safety laws, proposed budget cuts, crime prevention efforts, and the role of law enforcement in your community. And here's what you had to say ...

Even in tough economic times, should it be a top priority of Virginia legislators to adequately fund law enforcement efforts in Virginia?

YES: 99%
NO: 1%

Should Virginia residents be required to take driver's license exams only in English in order to prevent concerns on our roadways and highways?

YES: 91%
NO: 5%
NO OPINION: 4%

How would you rate Virginia's current law regarding texting and hand held cell phone usage while driving?

ADEQUATE: 34%
TOO LENIENT: 65%
TOO HARSH: 1%

Your feedback will play an important role in helping your local Sheriff's office better serve your community.

FULL LIST OF VALOR AWARDS RECIPIENTS

The Virginia Sheriffs' Association wishes to recognize these brave public servants and honor them for their extraordinary commitment to the Commonwealth by presenting this year's Valor Awards to:

Sheriff Ray Foster,
Buchanan County

Deputy Sheriff C. Neil Justus,
(posthumous),
Buchanan County

Lt. Eddie H. Stiltner,
Buchanan County

Deputy Shane E. Charles,
Buchanan County

Investigator Jason Mark Lowe,
Buchanan County

Deputy William E. "Billy" Stiltner
(posthumous),
Buchanan County

Investigator Larry J. Crouse,
Buchanan County

Deputy John C. McClanahan,
Buchanan County

Deputy Matthew C. Street,
Buchanan County

Deputy Kevin R. Edwards,
Buchanan County

Deputy Tasha L. Meadows,
Buchanan County

Deputy Jeffery Z. Wade,
Buchanan County

Chief Deputy Alan Honaker,
Buchanan County

Deputy Sheriff Eric W. Rasnake,
Buchanan County

Investigator
Raymond E. Webb,
Buchanan County

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM VSI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN W. JONES



I hope you and your family enjoyed your summer vacation, and if you chose to stick close to home I'm sure you weren't disappointed by all that the great Commonwealth of Virginia had to offer.

On behalf of all of us at the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute, I want you to know how proud we are to represent your local Sheriff, Deputies, and residents, like you. You continue to be a most trusted

partner in our efforts to promote crime prevention in all across the Commonwealth.

And so to further support Virginia law enforcement, I hope you'll complete and return the enclosed application for your "I Support Sheriffs" specialized license plate, offered to Virginia citizens.

At this moment, we still fall short of the required 450 applications that are necessary to begin issuing these specialized plates. The revenue generated by the sale of the license plates will be used exclusively for services for the families of Deputy Sheriffs killed in the line of duty or Deputy Sheriffs who are permanently disabled as a result of injuries received in the line of duty. So if you're interested, please make sure you return your application by November 1st!

For more information about the license plates, please feel free to call the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute at 804-225-7152.

As Executive Director of VSI, I deeply appreciate your continued strong support of the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute and I look forward to working together with you to help your community be all it can be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John W. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive.

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

HAMPTON CITY SHERIFF B.J. ROBERTS COMPLETES TERM AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

Hampton City, Virginia Sheriff, B.J. Roberts recently completed his year-long term as the President of the National Sheriffs' Association, one of the largest associations of law enforcement professionals in the United States, representing more than 3,000 Sheriffs across the nation, and a total membership of over 20,000.

During his term as NSA President, Sheriff Roberts had the opportunity to visit various Sheriffs in their states throughout the country to learn about the challenges they were facing in their particular states; work to advance and protect the legislative goals of the nation's Sheriffs on Capitol Hill; and meet with officials from both the Administration and various federal law enforcement agencies to ensure the concerns of the nation's Sheriffs were being heard and taken into consideration.







Sheriff B.J. Roberts reflects on his year as NSA President at the 2011 NSA conference banquet in St Louis.

"It has been a great honor serving as the President of the National Sheriffs' Association," said Sheriff Roberts. "Being afforded the opportunity to strongly advocate for my fellow Sheriffs throughout the nation and enhancing the vision and goals of NSA has truly been a rewarding experience. I am grateful that I was able to represent this distinguished organization."

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.