

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



On behalf of all of us at the the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute, I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful holiday season — and you're excited to kickoff the New Year.

I'm proud to announce that VSI is gearing up to offer a specialized "I Support Sheriffs" DMV license plate for your car. VSI's Board of Director's recently approved the plate design, but before the Virginia DMV can develop and

issue these license plates to you and other Virginia residents, the Virginia General Assembly requires that we have at least 350 pre-paid orders.

So if you are looking for a tangible way to support VSI and honor our local heroes, consider ordering a plate today. If you'd like to apply for your specialty plate now, I've taken the liberty of enclosing an application. Or if you prefer to go online, please go to www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/vsa10.pdf.

As always, it is my privilege to serve the great Commonwealth of Virginia. The men and women of your local Sheriff's office are committed to keeping Virginia residents and visitors safe during this winter season.

To continue to be effective at combating crime, we need your help. That's why I'm asking you to report 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 support and look forward to working together with you in the New Year to help Virginia be all it can be.

Sincerely,

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

**Scholarship Applications
Now Available**

One of the many benefits the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute offers to Virginia citizens is our scholarship program. This award — which is funded by generous VSI supporters like you — is granted to full-time or part-time students majoring in criminal justice and attending a Virginia state college or university. Last year alone, our Scholarship Committee awarded 61 scholarships to Virginia's youth.

Scholarship applications may be downloaded from our website or picked up in your local Sheriff's office after January 31, 2011. In addition to the application, students must submit SAT scores, transcripts, and an essay. A full list of application materials can be found at <http://vasheriffsinstitute.org/scholarship>. Applications are due May 1, 2011.



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
WINTER EDITION 2011



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2011

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VDOT Is Ready; Are You?

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) began preparing for winter nearly three months ago by expanding their snow plow fleet from 2,000 to 2,600. Virginia is "not waiting for snow to fall before thinking about what lessons we needed to have learned [after last year's storms]," Delegate David Bulova said in an interview with a Northern Virginia radio station. This winter, VDOT hopes to be better equipped to clear snow from busy roads statewide.



Will drivers be any better equipped to hit the road during winter 2011? Last year's record-breaking snowfall and back-to-back blizzards left many stuck, stranded, and flummoxed as hazardous ice and snow tested their driving skills. While this winter may not bring as much snowfall, the precipitation and colder temperatures will challenge your cars' performance. Now is the best time to winterize your vehicle for the snowy months ahead.

Winter Driving Tips

Here are three simple steps to help prepare your car for winter 2011:

1. Get a tune-up: Inspect brakes, battery, and ignition, as well as all hoses, fan belts, and wiring. Be sure to change or adjust spark plugs and check all fluid levels, especially anti-freeze — and check your tire pressure. Low tires will jeopardize your vehicle's handling, so don't skip this step!

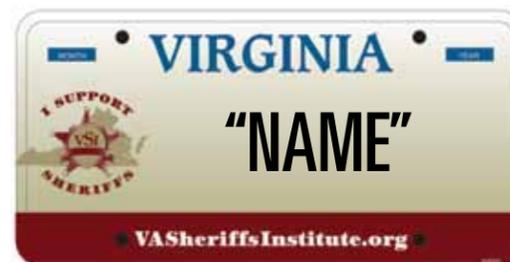
2. Pack a bag: Keep a winter preparedness kit in your car and be sure to replace any supplies after use. It should contain the following items:

- Snow brush
- Snow scraper
- Shovel
- Jumper cables
- Properly-inflated spare tire
- Tool kit
- Working flashlight and extra batteries
- Bag of salt or kitty litter to help with traction

3. Think ahead: If you're traveling a long distance, fill up your tank before leaving and carry supplies that will keep you warm and safe if you become stranded. You'll want to bring a first aid kit, a compass, a pocket knife or scissors, and matches (either waterproof or stored in a waterproof container). Also pack a warm blanket, spare winter clothes (especially boots), and non-perishable, high-energy foods such as nuts or dried fruits. If you are stranded, do not leave your car until help arrives.

New VSI License Plate Offered

You can now 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 requires us to accumulate a minimum of 350 paid applications by January 7th! (See enclosed application.)



The \$25 annual fee for your specialized plate will serve as a highly-valuable source of revenue sharing for the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute and would help to support all of our critical training and public education efforts, and your display of this unique plate on your car shows your support of Virginia law enforcement. To reserve a VSI license plate, please fill out the enclosed application and submit it along with the \$25 fee (\$35 if ordering a personalized license plate) made payable to the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute to the VSI office (701 E. Franklin St, Ste 706, Richmond, VA 23219) by January 7, 2011.

**PLEASE COMPLETE
YOUR ENCLOSED
APPLICATION TODAY!!**

Did You Know ...

The office of the Sheriff is one of antiquity. With the exception of the king, no non-religious office in the English-speaking world is older.

Arlington County Sheriff Honored with Tribute to Working Women Award



For over a decade, ABC7 and Washington Area Toyota Dealers have honored working women who have demonstrated a commitment to improving their communities. This year, Sheriff Beth Arthur was one of seven women honored with the Tribute to Working Women Award for her dedication to Arlington County.

Sheriff Arthur has worked with the Sheriff's Office since 1986. In September 2000, she received a judiciary appointment to Sheriff of

Arlington; she was elected to the position that November. County residents subsequently reelected her in November 2003 and 2007.

Serving a population of over 200,000, Sheriff Arthur supervises 270 sworn and civilian personnel and a budget of \$34 million. Additionally, she is the 2nd Vice President of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association; she is the first woman to hold a board position at VSA.

VSI Expands Giving Opportunities

As a loyal Virginia Sheriffs' Institute member, you know how crucial your financial support is to our training and educational programs across the state of Virginia. However, did you know there are additional ways you can support our crime prevention efforts in your neighborhood?

You can donate your used or unwanted car, truck, boat, or RV to VSI and receive the maximum legal tax deduction. To receive a no-obligation donation consultation call 1-(866)-2GIVING or visit <http://vasheriffsinstitute.org/donate-now/property-donations/>.

You can arrange to have your donation picked up. VSI will handle all the paperwork and send you an IRS receipt for your tax deduction.

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