



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

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MINUTES

Criminal Justice Services Board

December 8, 2025

ALL VIRTUAL MEETING

Members Present

Senator Lamont Bagby
Mr. Adam Blevins
Chief Travis Christian
The Hon. Chadwick Dotson
Sheriff Jeremy Falls
Ms. Kate Hanger
Colonel Matthew Hanley
Sheriff Brian Hieatt
Delegate Phil Hernandez
Chief Stephen Keatts
D. Bradley Marshall, Esq.
Judge John Marshall
Ms. Corinne Mastronardi
Ms. Renee Maxey
The Hon. Russell McGuire

Members Present (Cont'd)

Sheriff Mike Miller
Senator Mark Peake
The Hon. Krystyn Reid, Vice-Chair
Chief Carl Rowan, Jr.
Superintendent William Smith
Mr. Will Wittenbrook for
Ms. Theo Stamos
Mr. James Towey for Ms. Amy Floriano
Mr. Sherard Tisdale
Mr. John Vithoulkas
Mr. Anthony Williams

Members Absent

Ms. Jill Ryan for the Hon.
Karl Hade
Ms. Maria Jankowski
Ms. Jill Ryan
Delegate Briana Sewell
Sheriff Bradford "Chip" Shuler,
Chairman
Mr. Chuck Slemp, III
Judge Patricia West

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Krystyn Reid called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) to order at 11:05 a.m. A quorum of the Board was present, and the meeting was an ALL-VIRTUAL meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bradley Marshall made the motion, seconded by Mr. Will Wittenbrook, to accept the minutes of the October 9, 2025, meeting of the CJSB. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Director's Report

DCJS Director, Jackson Miller, introduced new Board member, Sheriff Michael Miller of Bedford County who will be on the Board as the representative of police fraternal organizations taking Sheriff Vaughan's place on the Board as he is retiring at the end of the year.

Director Miller then gave updates from the agency:

Division of Programs and Services

- Regarding the grant programs and grant award recommendations being presented to the CJSB for approval, it was noted that there is a detailed review process. DCJS staff ensure that the applicant's adherence to the requirements of the grant program are met and there is a reasonable budget. They also ensure that a project can be implemented based on the information provided. For existing projects recommended for continuation funds or supplemental funds, it is also considered whether the recipient is in good standing with their current award.
- DCJS' Office of Safer Communities is hosting a Statewide Community of Practice Conference in Virginia Beach. This conference will bring local government agencies, non-profit organizations, and law enforcement agencies from across the Commonwealth together for collaborative and informative sessions focused on strengthening understanding and preventing community violence.

Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (PST-VCSCS)

- Ms. Lindsay Burton was selected as the new Division Director for the PST-VCSCS, to replace Ms. Donna Michaelis who is retiring January 1, 2025. Ms. Burton's first day in this new role as Division Director was Monday, October 27, 2025. She formerly served at the federal level as Associate Director for School Safety at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency DHS-CISA.
- The Virginia Center for School Safety was established in *Virginia Code* in 2000 after the Columbine tragedy. Ms. Donna Michaelis was instrumental in starting up the Center and growing it from one employee to what is currently 32 employees. The Center is now called the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety and serves as a national leader in school safety. Under Ms. Michaelis' leadership, the Center achieved many firsts and is routinely called upon by other state safety centers for guidance and advice. Ms. Michaelis has been an outstanding servant leader during her 25-year tenure at DCJS. Ms. Michaelis was thanked for her many years of service to the Commonwealth.
- **Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP).**

The PST-VCSCS Division was recently awarded the SVPP grant from the federal Department of Justice. Funding under this award program will be used by DCJS' Critical Incident Preparedness and Response (CIPR) team to implement evidence-based training that prepares schools to respond to critical incidents. This project will deliver a comprehensive, multi-level training program designed to enhance responses to active attacks and violent incidents in school environments. Key activities will include eight basic Active Shooter Incident Management (ASIM) training sessions designed to build foundational skills and four advanced ASIM training exercises, reaching over 880 school safety and law enforcement professionals. This initiative directly supports the grant program's goal to implement evidence-based safety programs that focus on coordination with local law enforcement, enhancing both prevention and response capabilities in schools.

- The Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security recently visited DCJS as they are in the process of establishing a Center for School Safety in their state. The DCJS Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety is recognized as a national leader in school and campus safety programming and has been visited by over a dozen other states interested in replicating the Center's success. The Louisiana Governor's office spent two days with Center staff listening to presentations and strategizing methods to establish their Center based on the Virginia model.

Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services

- An update was given on Lotus, the Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services' credential management system. DCJS is predicting that the division will approve close to 38,000 private security and related applications in 2025; more applications than it has approved in any of the previous three years. With Lotus' major issues addressed, division staff have been working with DCJS IT, industry partners and vendors to improve processes, including improvements that will reduce user errors.
- The division has begun holding town hall meetings and information sessions with constituents and industry representatives to foster bi-directional communication, using feedback from stakeholders to determine what improvements should be prioritized.

IV. Committee Reports

Committee on Training (COT)

The COT met at 10:00 a.m. on December 8, 2025. COT Chair, Superintendent William Smith gave the report.

A motion was made by Superintendent William Smith and seconded by Mr. Bradley Marshall, that the Board approve the Re-Certification for the Town of Christiansburg as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Superintendent Smith and seconded by Sheriff Jeremy Falls, that the Board approve the County of Pittsylvania as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. The motion passed unanimously.

Grants Committee Report

The Grants Committee met virtually at 10:00 a.m. on November 20, 2025. Grants Committee Chair, Sheriff Brian Hieatt gave the report.

- **Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCI):** There was discussion on ensuring applicants are adhering to best practices and confirmation that the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia were included in the application review process. The Grants Subcommittee recommended funding in the amount of **\$1,186,582**, in federal funds, for **10 awards**.
- **Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (FVIP Supplemental):** The Grants Committee recommended funding for supplemental awards of \$300,000 totaling **\$4,800,000**, in state funds, for **16 existing awards**. The total revised amount recommended for the selected 16 grants is \$6,549,335.
- **Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (FVIP Competitive):** There was discussion confirming reporting requirements for outcomes and the ability to demonstrate success of the project. The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$2,761,142**, using state funds, for **14 awards**.
- **Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (FVIP Juvenile Justice):** The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$1,054,990**, using state funds, for **6 awards**.
- **Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (Ceasefire Supplemental):** The Grants Committee recommended funding for supplemental awards of \$250,000 totaling **\$2,000,000** in state funds, for **8 existing awards**. The total revised amount recommended for the selected 8 grants is \$3,433,338.

- **Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (Ceasefire Competitive):** There was discussion regarding how applications were reviewed to ensure a connection with the purpose of the Operation Ceasefire funding. Discussion also encouraged providing examples to future applicants on detailed grant project descriptions to include what is being funded. Ms. Maria Jankowski abstained from the vote. The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$9,981,861** in state funds, for **41 awards**.
- **Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (Ceasefire Forensic and Analytical Technology):** There was discussion on collaboration with the Department of Forensic Science. The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$6,042,593**, in state funds, for **39 awards**.
- **Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Prisoners (RSAT) Competitive:** There was discussion on how this funding opportunity provides the opportunity to expand existing capacity for services. The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$1,523,338**, comprised of \$1,142,080 in federal funds and \$381,258 in subrecipient provided match, for **5 awards**.
- **Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP):** The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$1,051,444**, using federal funds, for **31 awards**.
- **Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replace Program (Drone):** There was discussion on criteria set in the Appropriations Act to ensure geographic disbursement of funds. The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$998,162**, comprised of state funds, for **46 awards**.
- **Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution Grant Program (VSTOP Continuation):** The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$4,555,283**, comprised of \$3,572,826 in federal funds and \$982,457 in subrecipient provided match, for **82 awards**.
- **Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution Grant Program (VSTOP Competitive):** There was discussion on determining funding levels in a competitive grant process and the federal requirements to be considered under the Law Enforcement category for VSTOP funding. DCJS staff also assured committee members that applicants can ask for advice on completing a successful application for future funding opportunities. The Grants Committee recommended funding in the amount of **\$366,666**, comprised of \$266,667 in federal funds and \$99,999 in subrecipient provided match, for **3 awards**.

A motion was made by Ms. Renee Maxey and seconded by Mr. Stephen Keatts to approve these grants as recommended by the Grants Committee. The motion passed.

Recusals:

Chief Travis Christian for the Operation Ceasefire Supplemental Grant for the City of Petersburg, the Operation Ceasefire Competitive Grant for the City of Petersburg, and the Operation Ceasefire Forensic and Analytical Technology Grant for the City of Petersburg.

Judge John Marshall for the Operation Ceasefire Supplemental Grant for Henrico County, and the Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replacement Program Grant for Henrico County.

Mr. Bradley Marshall for the Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replacement Program grant for the Town of Haymarket.

Mr. Rusty McGuire for the VSTOP Continuation Grant for Louisa County.

Mr. Anthony Williams for the Operation Ceasefire Supplemental Grant for the City of Petersburg, Operation Ceasefire Competitive Grant for the City of Petersburg, Operation Ceasefire Forensic and Analytical Technology Grant for the City of Petersburg, and the Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replacement Program Grant for the City of Petersburg.

V. Old Business

2024 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program Plan

Ms. Jennifer MacArthur, Manager of the Adult Justice Programs at DCJS, gave a report on the 2024 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program Plan at the last meeting. She is now requesting that the Board grant approval to approve the continuation of funding for the 2024 Byrne/SCIP Plan and budget.

A motion was made by Ms. Kate Hanger and seconded by Mr. Will Wittenbrook to approve the 2024 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program Plan and budget as recommended. The motion passed.

VI. New Business

There was no old business to discuss.

VII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Next Meeting

The next Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) Meeting will take place in the East Reading Room of the Patrick Henry Building on March 19, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.