



## Virginia Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence

Virginia State Capitol  
Senate Room 3  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

### APPROVED MINUTES

September 1, 2015  
10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

#### Members Present

Kathy Anderson, Director, Empowerhouse  
Teresa Berry, Director, Sexual Assault Resource Agency  
Francine C. Ecker, Director, DCJS  
Barbara Favola, Senate of Virginia  
Nancy Fowler, Manager, Office of Family Violence, Virginia Department of Social Services  
Kristen Howard, Executive Director, Virginia State Crime Commission  
Autumn Jones, Director, Arlington County Victim/Witness Program  
Melissa McMenemy, Statewide Facilitator for Victims of Domestic Violence, Office of the Attorney General  
Chana Ramsey, Director, James House  
Kathy Robertson, Associate Director of Homeless and Special Needs Housing  
Warren Rogers, Executive Director, Citizens Against Family Violence  
Mindy Stell, Director, President, Virginia Victim Assistance Network  
Kristi VanAudenhove, Executive Director, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Action Alliance

#### Members Absent

Heather Board, Virginia Department of Health

1. **Call to Order.** The Honorable Brian Moran, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, welcomed everyone to this first meeting of the board and gave brief remarks.
2. **Approval of past minutes.** Not Applicable
3. **Committee Member Introductions, Roles, and Responsibilities.** Francine Ecker, DCJS Director, gave brief background on the board and an overview of the meeting agenda. She invited members to introduce themselves and their agency role and responsibilities.
4. **Crime Commission Recommendations.** Kristen Howard, Executive Director of the Virginia State Crime Commission, provided an overview of the Crime Commission and the recommendations from their 2014 Sexual and Domestic Violence Agency Funding Study, which they conducted as directed by House Bill 885.
5. **Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.** Ms. Howard nominated Senator Barbara Favola as Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Stell. There were no other nominations and Senator Favola

was elected unanimously. Mr. Rogers nominated Teresa Berry to serve as Vice-Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Robertson. There were no other nominations and Ms. Berry was elected unanimously.

6. **Agency Roundtable Discussion.** Members of the Advisory Committee that represent state agencies or statewide non-profit organizations were invited to discuss their programs and detail the work currently being conducted by their agencies as they relate to domestic and sexual violence.
7. **Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional Standards Committee.** Members discussed the need to work collaboratively with the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance to identify and make recommendations for potential members of this committee. These recommendations will be brought to the next meeting.
8. **Summary of Public Comment.** Members of the public were present and were invited to share their input on the mission and work of the Advisory Committee of Sexual and Domestic Violence.

Sheree Hedrick, Executive Director of Hanover Safe Place spoke as a representative of the Action Alliance Policy Committee regarding the work of the Policy Committee and its commitment to the efforts of the Advisory Committee.

9. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.