

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES (CJIS) DIVISION NEWSLETTER

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ORGANIZATION

CJIS reorganization has stabilized. Changes were made throughout 2025 to ensure CJIS effectively meets the needs of the Commonwealth and its citizens. Contact information for each section is on the last page of the CJIS Newsletter.

CAPTAIN JULIA GUNDERSON, CJIS DIVISION COMMANDER

LT COOKE

Data Analysis & Reporting Team (DART)
Project Management Office (PMO)
Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN)
• Missing Children Clearinghouse
• Missing Persons

LT BLACKWELL

Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry (SOR)
Firearms Transaction Center (FTC)
Firearms and Sex Offender Investigative Unit (FSOIU)

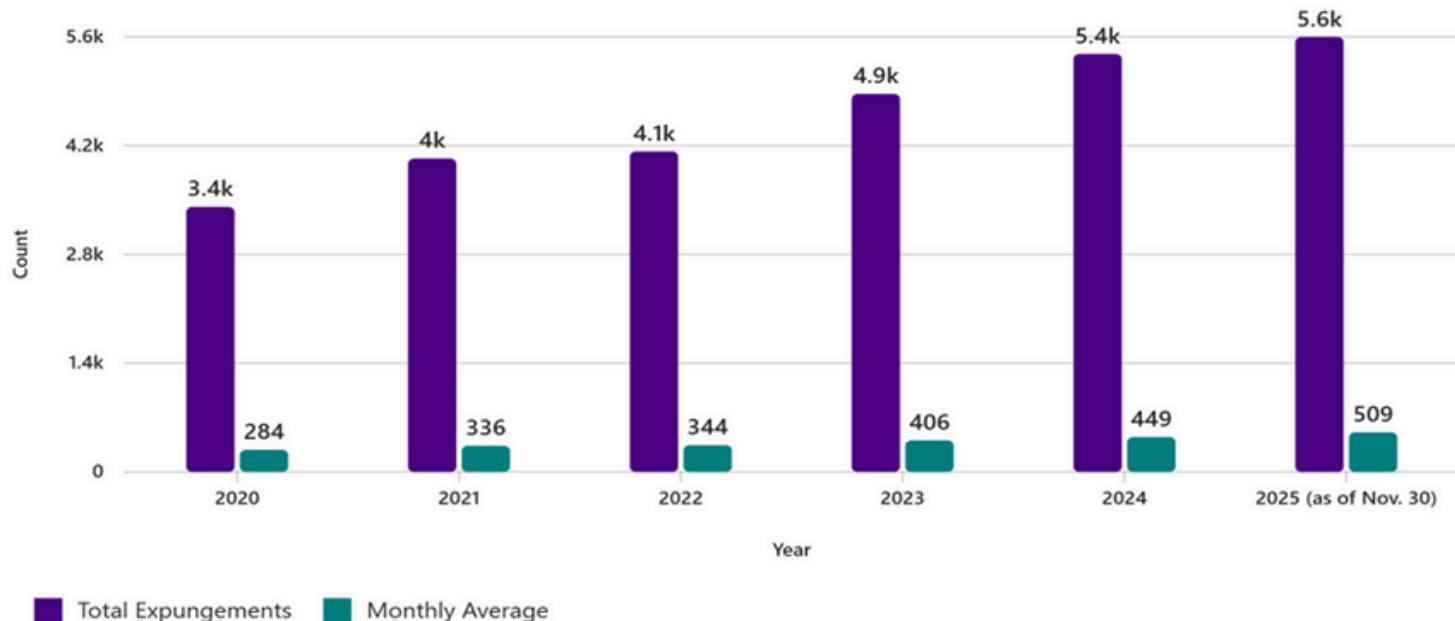
LT SOTTILE

Biometric Records Section (BRS)
• Livescan/Mugshots
Central Criminal Record Exchange
• Search, Photos, and Bookings (CCRE-SPB)
• Research and Resolution (CCRE-RR)
Civil & Applicant Records Exchange (CARE)
Grants & Legislative Analysis (GLA)

DRIVING KEY INITIATIVES

The CCRE-RR team is comprised of two critical units: the Mental Health and Disposition Research team and the Expungements team. The Mental Health and Disposition Research team manages responsibilities such as Suspect Alien reporting, processing mental health committal orders, conducting correctional history research, and fulfilling State Board of Elections requests. The Expungements team oversees record challenges, expungement petitions and orders, quarterly FBI audits, and deceased notifications.

Expungement requests have continued to rise year over year, a trend that will play a significant role in the upcoming implementation of Virginia's new Seal legislation. Both teams will be instrumental in ensuring the success of this initiative by collaborating with internal and external partners to identify enhancements that support efficient processes. The anticipated enactment of automatic and petition-based sealing is expected to reduce the volume of expungement requests and improve employment opportunities for qualifying individuals.



Expungements have grown by 64% since 2020, increasing from 3,413 in 2020 to 5,602 in 2025 (as of November). The monthly average has also surged from 284 per month in 2020 to 509 per month in 2025, reflecting a steady upward trend.

CCRE-SPB

SEARCH, PHOTOS, & BOOKING

The CCRE-SPB team is responsible for a wide range of critical functions, including:

- Processing criminal justice applicant fingerprint cards
- Conducting in-state, out-of-state, and military background checks
- Entering adult and juvenile arrest records
- Managing applications for civil and firearm rights restoration
- Handling requests for simple and absolute pardons

Additional responsibilities include:

- Printing incident photographs for sworn personnel
- Responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests
- Issuing building access cards for both civilian and sworn employees
- Producing credentials and retirement cards for sworn personnel
- Processing unapplied criminal history records and delayed bookings

For assistance with criminal and military background checks, email cjbackground_checks@vsp.virginia.gov. For photo lab inquiries, email vspphotolab@vsp.virginia.gov.

FTC

STREAMLINING BILLING

We are pleased to inform you that the Firearms Transaction Center is working closely with the Property and Finance Division to streamline the billing process by merging Seller Application billing with the monthly Firearms Transaction invoices.

Currently, Dealers are required to manage two separate accounts to make payments—one for Seller Applications and another for Firearms Transactions. This has understandably caused confusion and inconvenience over the years due to the need to maintain multiple login credentials and account numbers.

To simplify this process, we are developing a unified billing system that will allow Dealers to pay all invoices using a single billing account number. This enhancement is designed to improve efficiency and reduce administrative burden.

We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition and will provide ample notice and guidance before any changes take effect.

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION SYSTEMS

Effective July 1, 2025, Virginia Code § 2.2-5517 governing the use of automatic license plate recognition (LPR) systems by law enforcement agencies went into effect. Beginning January 1, 2026, all law enforcement agencies will be required to collect and report data in accordance with this statute to the Department of State Police.

Following the passage of this legislation, DART conducted a survey in July to determine which agencies currently utilize LPR technology. The results revealed that 57% of Virginia law enforcement agencies own, operate, or query an LPR system.

The implementation of this legislation introduces important changes to both the Incident-Based Reporting (IBR) and Community Policing Act (CPA) data collections:

- IBR Updates:
 - In the [Virginia NIBRS Technical Specification 2025.1](#), a new data element, VA Data Element 66 – Special Case Indicator, has been added to capture whether an offense was investigated using a License Plate Reader/Recognition (LPR) system.
 - This data element is required for each Group A offense submitted
- CPA Updates:
 - In [Community Policing Data Act Instructions and Technical Specifications v6](#), a new value “L – LPR Query/Hit” has been added to the existing data element Initial Reason for Stop.
 - A new data element, LPR Notification, was introduced to record the specific reason for an LPR alert (e.g., Stolen Vehicle, Outstanding Warrant, Other Criminal Investigation).

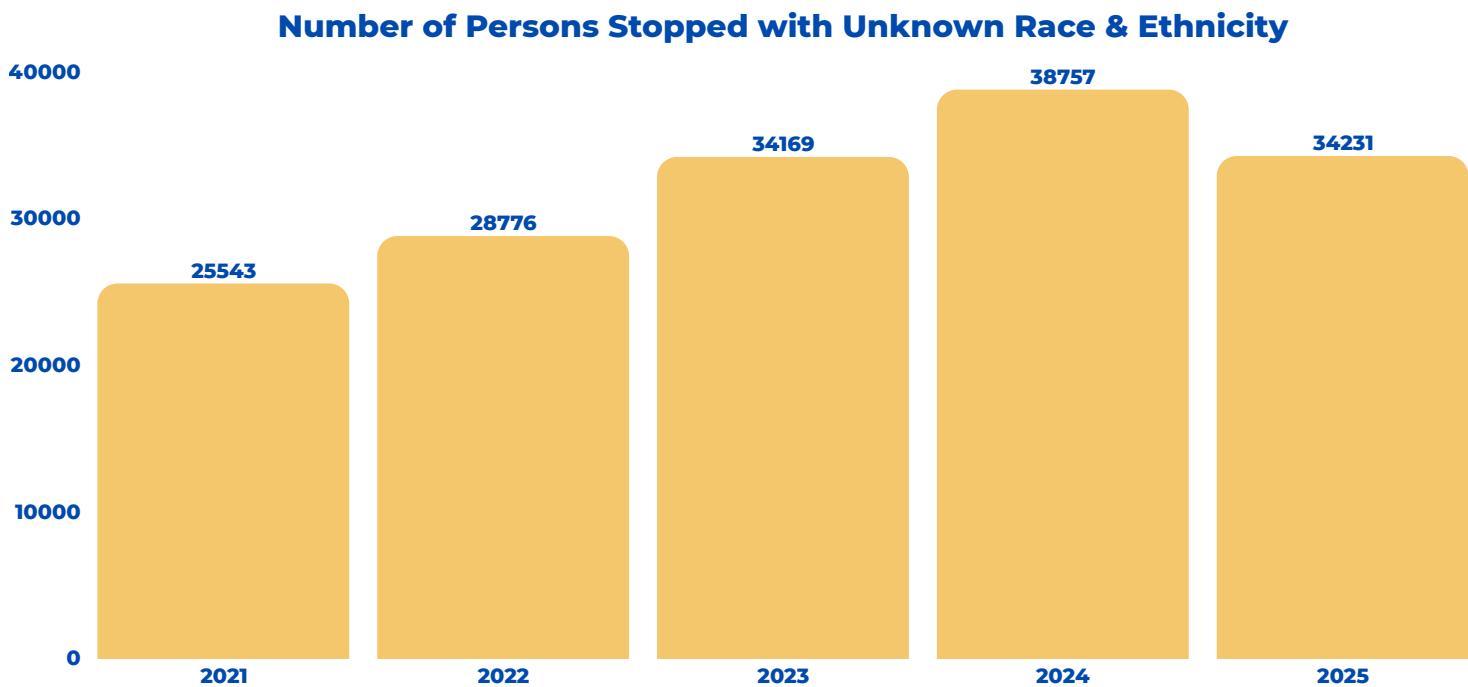
These updates ensure accurate tracking of LPR usage across the Commonwealth's law enforcement activities.



COMMUNITY POLICING ACT

The Virginia Community Policing Act (CPA), passed in 2020, requires law enforcement officers to collect certain data pertaining to investigative stops ([§ 52-30.2](#)). The data is analyzed by the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to determine the existence and prevalence of the practice of bias-based profiling. An annual report of the most recent findings is sent to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Office of the Attorney General ([July 2024 Report](#)).

Key factors in determining the existence of bias-based profiling involve analyzing demographics of persons stopped. Unfortunately, the number of persons stopped that are listed with both unknown race and ethnicity has been increasing each year. While these “unknowns” only account for approximately 3% of stops each year, they represent thousands of stops that DCJS is unable to analyze.



In 2025, DART began conducting monthly quality control reviews including notifying agencies that have a significant number of persons stopped with unknown demographics. While “unknown” is a valid data value for race and ethnicity, all agencies should monitor their data to ensure it is not used regularly.

Quality control reports are available for agencies to monitor issues such as these. They can be found in the Virginia Crime Repository Reporting Site under Community Policing Act - CPA > CPA Quality Control.

PRELIMINARY CRIME DATA - JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER

Please note this data may change as investigations are ongoing. The finalized 2025 crime data will be released in the annual publication, *Crime In Virginia*, later in the Spring/Summer. *Data below is as of December 17, 2025.*

Group A Crimes	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Aggravated Assault	10,400	10,216
Animal Cruelty	1,173	1,040
Arson	436	367
Bribery	34	30
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	7,237	5,888
Counterfeiting/Forgery	3,577	3,226
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	34,864	30,212
Drug Offenses	26,205	23,993
Embezzlement	1,304	1,060
Extortion/Blackmail	1,211	1,154
Forcible Sex Offenses	4,334	3,830
Fraud Offenses	3,368	3,702
Gambling Offenses	51	111
Human Trafficking	71	65
Kidnapping/Abduction	1,536	1,569
Larceny Offenses	90,271	79,639
Motor Vehicle Theft	10,239	7,809
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	338	296
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses	117	109
Pornography/Obscene Material	2,275	2,103
Prostitution Offenses	285	307
Robbery	2,179	2,040
Simple Assault and Intimidation	68,405	65,819
Stolen Property Offenses	1,589	1,305
Weapon Law Violations	10,898	10,153
TOTAL	282,397	256,043

Group B Arrests	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	174	159
Disorderly Conduct	6,038	6,269
Driving Under the Influence	13,282	12,701
Driving Under the Influence - Marijuana	82	119
Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	961	930
Liquor Law Violations	1,765	1,615
Trespass of Real Property	6,055	5,664
All Other Offenses	54,448	52,747
TOTAL	82,805	80,204

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GRANTS AND LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS (GLA) TEAM

In 2025, the CJIS Division restructured to better align with its mission—introducing the Grants and Legislative Analysis (GLA) Section, formerly known as SPASS. This newly formed team plays a vital role in shaping policy, securing federal funding, and supporting strategic initiatives across the Division.

GLA evaluates legislation, policies, programs, and budgets that impact CJIS operations. The team provides expert policy analysis and recommendations and manages over 30 federal grant projects that advance the Department's goals.

Meet the Team Behind the Mission

Catherine Day, Manager

With over 20 years in public service, Catherine leads GLA's strategic efforts. She's a subject matter expert in criminal history records and legislative policy and oversees the Division's extensive grant portfolio.

Retired Captain Thomas Turner, Policy Advisor

A VSP veteran with more than 50 years of service, Tom brings unmatched institutional knowledge and insight into CJIS programs and policy development.

Marshall Vogt, Senior Policy Analyst

Marshall joined VSP in 2025 after 15 years at the Virginia Department of Health. He brings expertise in data analysis, legislative affairs, and grant management to support GLA's growing impact.



SAFEGUARDING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH RESEARCH AND LEGAL SUPPORT

In 2025, the Sex Offender Registry (SOR) conducted 833 offender research investigations to determine eligibility for inclusion on the Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry. These investigations involved comprehensive reviews of criminal histories, court documentation, and statutory requirements under Virginia Code § 9.1-900 et seq. Each case requires close coordination with local law enforcement, courts, and correctional institutions to ensure accurate and lawful determinations.

As a result of these efforts, the Registry now includes 26,025 registrants, reflecting both newly registered individuals and ongoing updates to existing records, such as information changes and documentation updates. This continued growth underscores the critical role of SOR in maintaining a robust and reliable system that supports public safety and offender accountability.



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This registry is made available through the Internet with the intent to better assist the public in preventing and protecting against the commission of future criminal sexual acts by convicted sex offenders.

Beyond research and registry maintenance, SOR provides essential support to judicial proceedings involving registry violations. Since May 2025, the unit has received 59 subpoenas requiring a Custodian of Records to testify in court. These subpoenas typically involve cases where official documentation and expert testimony are needed to verify compliance and validate registry entries. To meet these obligations, SOR personnel traveled a cumulative 4,607 miles from State Police Headquarters to court locations across the Commonwealth—demonstrating the unit's commitment to timely and accurate representation in legal matters.

Looking ahead, demand for SOR's expertise continues to grow, with 20 subpoenas already received for calendar year 2026, signaling an ongoing need for its critical role in supporting registry enforcement and judicial processes.

WINDOWS 11 COMPLIANCE REMINDER

Have your PCs been updated to Windows 11?

As of October 14, 2025, Microsoft no longer provides program support, critical security patches or system updates for all versions of Windows 10 on the General Availability Channel (GAC).

To remain compliant with the CJIS Security Policy (CJISSECPOL), agencies currently using Windows 10 on the GAC must take one of the following actions:

1. Upgrade to Windows 11 on supported hardware
2. Enroll in Microsoft's Extended Security Updates (ESU) program, which will provide critical patches for up to one year beyond the end-of-support date

If you need assistance or additional information regarding the CJIS Security Policy, please contact your VCIN Field Representative or the VCIN Administrative Office at 804-674-4660.



Windows 11

LOCATE REMINDER

When an out-of-state agency advises that they **will not extradite** a wanted person, even though your agency falls within the stated extradition limits listed in the NCIC entry, a Locate Wanted Person (LW) message should still be sent.

In this situation, the correct **extradition (EXL)** code to use in the LW message is **NOEX**. This ensures the record accurately reflects the agency's response to extradition and maintains proper documentation of your agency's contact and efforts.

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