



## 2000 Facts and Figures

# THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

## SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

The Superintendent, with the rank of Colonel, is appointed by the Governor and serves as agency head of the Virginia Department of State Police. On June 22, Gov. Jim Gilmore appointed Col. W. Gerald Massengill as Superintendent to replace Col. M. Wayne Huggins, who resigned Jan. 28 to accept employment in the private sector.

The Department is divided primarily into three Bureaus: Administrative and Support Services, Criminal Investigation, and Field Operations. The Superintendent's Office includes the Professional Standards Unit and the Public Affairs Unit.

### ***Professional Standards Unit***

The **Professional Standards Unit** is responsible for the internal affairs, internal audit, and staff inspection functions within the Department of State Police.

The **Internal Affairs Section** conducts and coordinates the investigations of allegations of misconduct on the part of Department employees. During 2000, 891 internal investigations were processed.

The **Internal Audit Section** provides the Department with independent and objective audits and reviews of Department operations. During 2000, the section provided 15 comprehensive reports of operating sections within the Department. The reports included recommendations for strengthening internal controls.

The **Staff Inspection Section** conducts inspections of all organizational components within the Department. Eight staff inspections were conducted in 2000.

### ***Public Affairs Unit***

The Public Affairs Unit (PAU) maintains daily contact with the public and media, disseminates news releases about Department programs and activities, develops and implements public awareness programs, and answers questions on many topics. Personnel in this unit often respond to the scenes of major highway and criminal incidents to assist the media in providing information to the public. The staff includes the

director of public affairs and a public relations specialist at Administrative Headquarters and public relations coordinators deployed in field division headquarters in Chesapeake, Fairfax, and Richmond. A fourth field position deployed in Salem was approved and a coordinator was hired in 2000.

Public and media relations, information and education are important elements of the Public Affairs Unit.

Other duties of this Unit include:

- Promoting transportation safety
- Coordinating press conferences on Department programs, activities or incidents
- Conducting media interviews
- Writing news releases
- Coordinating speaking engagements for sworn personnel
- Developing and implementing highway safety campaigns
- Keeping the public aware of criminal activities and crime prevention techniques
- Serving as the primary contact for the media and citizens
- Overseeing the Department's annual exhibit for the State Fair of Virginia
- Preparing speeches and public presentations
- Designing and developing brochures, forms and certificates
- Handling shoulder patch requests
- Conducting media training
- Developing and maintaining the Department's Internet presence, and responding to and/or routing e-mail messages received over the web.

## **BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Bureau of Administrative and Support Services is comprised of most of the Department's non-sworn personnel as well as some sworn employees. The Bureau includes the Divisions of Communications, Criminal Justice Information Services, Data Processing, Personnel, Property and Finance, Training, and a Planning and Research Unit.

Employees in these areas provide the Department, especially troopers and special agents in the field, with essential services through their extensive technical and professional expertise. These services range from:

- Purchasing and configuring personal computers ... to designing complex and sophisticated computerized systems to maintain critical criminal files;
- Installing police radios and radar units in patrol vehicles ... to designing and implementing a Computer-Aided Dispatch System;
- Employing a qualified and diversified work force ... to managing an exciting volunteer program;

- Managing and maintaining Department buildings and grounds across the State ... to preparing, monitoring, and accounting for the Department's annual budget;
- Providing criminal justice agencies with rapid access to local, state and national criminal justice files ... to supervising Virginia's Firearms Transaction Program;
- Ensuring that all sworn employees meet mandated training requirements ... to overseeing the State's Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Program; and
- Conducting research into innovative law enforcement techniques and products ... to coordinating the Department's accreditation and grant management programs.

The Bureau also develops and proposes legislation involving traffic safety and criminal statutes, serves as liaison during General Assembly sessions for discussion of issues.

### ***Communications Division***

Responsibility for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of telephone, land mobile radio, and microwave radios is assigned to the Communications Division. Under the command of the Communications Officer, the Division designs, installs, operates, and maintains land mobile radios, microwave radios, and private telephone networks. The system includes 87 microwave radio sites, 46 of which also have land mobile radio base stations. This responsibility includes compliance with requirements of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Division is staffed by 64 persons, divided into 12 teams. The teams are responsible for:

- Maintaining mobile radios;
- Maintaining radar and portable radios;
- Installing, repairing and maintaining radio towers, antennas and emergency power plants;
- Installing field communications equipment at remote sites and area offices;
- Installing and maintaining equipment, telephones, and other telecommunications at Administrative Headquarters; and
- Deploying one maintenance team at each field Division for mobile and fixed communications equipment.

Work continues on the microwave communications system upgrade. Of the 23 sites considered to be the backbone of the microwave system, 19 have been converted to digital service. The FCC assigned 2 GHz microwave frequencies that the Department had been using to companies providing Personal Communications Services (PCS). PCS providers were required to relocate incumbent microwave users at no expense. Work is underway to relocate the last of the microwave stations affected by this change. Cooperative development or co-location agreements continue to fund equipment upgrades from analog to digital microwave system. Five additional sections of the system are presently planned for upgrade. The total worth of these co-location and relocation agreements has saved the Department over \$7 million over the past five years. Work in progress will save another \$750,000.

The Division is supporting all field efforts of the consultant selected to design and engineer the upgraded State Police land mobile radio network that will serve all of the Commonwealth's state level public safety agencies. Licenses have been obtained from the FCC for the necessary frequencies, and planning continues.

The Division is conducting a pilot phase of mobile computer terminals (MCTs) to be used for messaging and routine drivers' licenses checks and vehicle registrations. This project is the first to utilize a dual mode commercial wireless service to provide automatically the most economical operation for the troopers and widest possible coverage. An NIJ COPS Grant funded the project. The next phase will equip troopers with 400 mobile units and will be combined with the Shared Land Mobile Radio Project.

The Division continues to provide communications support for special events as they occur. Such activities include communications systems to support security for visiting dignitaries, National Drag Races in Dinwiddie County and the State Fair of Virginia in Richmond.

The Division supports telephone and local area network wiring requirements statewide for the Department, as well as other State agencies. At the present time, in excess of 5,000 items of equipment are being maintained for six additional agencies. The Division also continues to maintain approximately 9,000 items of radio equipment for most of the State's public safety agencies. The Communications Division has actively participated with the Capital Wireless Interoperability Network (CAPWIN) and Public Safety Wireless Network (PSWN) activities to improve interoperability in the Metropolitan Washington, D.C., area.

### ***Criminal Justice Information Services Division***

**The Criminal Justice Information Services Division** is responsible for the maintenance of all files within the Department. This includes the implementation, monitoring, destruction and archiving of records in accordance with the Records Retention Schedule. The Division also acts as the point-of-contact and liaison with the Library of Virginia. The Division processed and responded to 2,158 subpoenas and 90 Freedom of Information Act requests in 2000.

**Central Criminal Records Exchange** – The Criminal Investigative Reports Section received and processed 34,230 investigative reports in 2000.

Staff of the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) automated 3,542 non-computerized criminal records in calendar year 2000, leaving a total of 165,121 misdemeanor microfiche records to be automated.

The **Supreme Court/State Police disposition interface** consists of 242 Circuit and General District Courts, transmitting court dispositions to CCRE. In 2000, a total of 142,077 records were transmitted, negating the requirement to submit the SP-180/SP-222 hardcopy disposition forms to CCRE. In February, the arrest/disposition monitoring system was implemented. Designed to reduce human intervention, notifications are automatically generated for rejected disposition transactions and/or missing arrest fingerprint records. Since its inception, a total of 9,677 notifications have been generated. The majority of these letters were generated because the court did/could not

transmit the Document Control Number. There were 16.6% court disposition rejections for the year.

**The Non-criminal Justice Name-Search program** continues to experience growth, with 312,046 inquiries processed in 2000. The demand for the service has increased 312% in the past 10 years. The Non-criminal Justice Interface (NCJI) was implemented Feb. 8, 1996, to effectively address the demand. The NCJI eliminates the requirement for CCRE staff to receive and process "paper record name-search requests." As of Dec. 31, there were 57,171 electronic name-search transmissions received from participants, with an average response time of 72 hours or less since implementation.

The mental health file records are maintained for the purpose of denying individuals on file the ability to purchase a firearm(s). Official notifications of individuals in these categories are received from clerks of courts upon court adjudication of an individual being incompetent, involuntarily committed or mentally incapacitated. There were 4,158 mental health records added, bringing the total records on file to 34,638.

**Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry** –The Sex Offender Registry (SOR) includes 9,304 fingerprint-based registrations received since July 1, 1998. The Registry is designed to protect the general public, and children in particular, by providing personal descriptive and sentencing information on individuals convicted of certain sex crimes. Photographs of offenders are available, and violent offender registrations are maintained on the Internet. There were 51,813 searches conducted against the Registry for employment-licensure purposes in 2000. During 2000, the SOR verified the address of 9,205 sex offenders, and initiated 4,553 criminal investigations to the field divisions.

**The Correctional Status Information (CSI)** interface was developed to comply with Section 19.2-390, Paragraph (E), of the Code of Virginia. Information received from the Department of Corrections updates the criminal record name file with active probation/parole statuses. Staffs from the departments of State Police and Corrections are working in a combined effort to expand CSI by 71 additional statuses, including the status action date. It is anticipated this record improvement initiative will be implemented by May 1, 2001. The information will identify an inmate's authorized or unauthorized release from and return to custody, and be directly connected to the commitment record in CCH. As of Dec. 31, an estimated 53,640 CSI (probationer/parolee) transactions were forwarded to the State Police. Of these, 14,565 (27%) were not accepted due to being duplicate transactions.

**The Microfilm Section** staff archived 1,073,831 documents during this calendar year.

**Photographic Laboratory** –The Photo Lab maintained records, files, film, and responded to 650 letters of requests for photographs. Additionally, 173,316 photographic prints were developed for use by sworn personnel in investigations and prosecution of motor vehicle crashes and criminal cases.

**The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)** is a shared state and local computer system. The Department and 22 state and local agencies have access to the system through terminals located in their agencies. There are 1,307,727 fingerprint cards and 44,489 unsolved latents on the database. During 2000, there were 1,172 suspects identified as a result of searches on the AFIS system.

The Department's **LiveScan Network** installed in local agencies, electronically captures and transmits arrest and fingerprint information to the State Police and FBI, where it is searched on AFIS as it is received. This provides for the detection of aliases and outstanding warrants, before arrested persons are released. LiveScan equipment is currently installed in 40 local agencies and one correctional reception center. It is anticipated that ten additional LiveScan sites will be installed in 2001.

During 2000, the fingerprint section processed 225,853 criminal, 84,171 applicant and 1,070 sex offender fingerprint cards.

**Virginia Firearms Transaction Program (VFTP)** –The VFTP provides for the approval at the point of sale for all firearms, except antiques, based on the results of a criminal history record information check on the buyer. In 2000, 182,170 firearm transactions were conducted. Of these, 2,568 were disapproved and 143 wanted persons were identified with 98 arrests reported. Also, in 2000, the State Police made 677 criminal arrests based on the illegal purchase, or attempted purchase, of a firearm. Certificates for 373 multiple handgun purchases were issued authorizing the purchase of more than one handgun within any 30-day period.

The **Direct Access** program has been tremendously successful with statistics indicating the current on-site terminal dealers handled approximately 31% of the transactions processed through the Firearms Transaction Center (FTC) during 2000. The FTC will continue to expand the Direct Access program via additional participating dealer locations. As on-line users increase, staff is diverted from telephoned firearm transactions to research and verification processes. Additional employee time devoted to these processes provides more efficient overall services to the firearm dealers and gun buying public.

The FTC maintains 5,673 machine gun registrations. Additionally, the FTC maintains the Criminal Firearms Clearinghouse, a central repository of information regarding all firearms seized, forfeited, found or otherwise coming into the possession of any law enforcement officer that are believed to have been used in committing a crime. In 2000, 4,696 reports were made to the Clearinghouse. Also, the State Police entered 12,302 concealed handgun permits into the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN). Since July 1, 1995, a total of 156,788 permits has been entered into VCIN.

**Uniform Crime Reporting** – The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Section is responsible for collecting monthly Incident Based Reporting (IBR) data from all contributing law enforcement agencies throughout the state on 46 different crime offenses. During 2000, 18 agencies became certified for IBR submission bringing the total IBR agencies to 257. These agencies represent 93% of the total UCR contributing agencies and 99% of the total population of Virginia. The UCR office no longer accepts summary hard copy reports. Data is submitted by diskettes that are scanned, copied, and uploaded to the mainframe. Approximately four times a month, this data is run through the edit process, which generates an error report for the agencies to correct any incidents that failed to be sent to the IBR central repository database. A monthly tape of Virginia's data is generated and sent to the FBI.

During 2000, the UCR office assisted local agencies daily with IBR training issues, interpretation of error reports and clarifications in offense definitions and reporting procedures, as well as assisting vendors with reporting issues. There are now 16 private vendors representing IBR certified agencies. Several large agencies have built their own in-house software systems. Quarterly agency data reports were mailed to each contributing law enforcement agency. The UCR office responded to approximately five to ten requests daily for crime statistics.

Statewide training sessions were held in the fall in seven different sites in Virginia. Approximately 400 local law enforcement personnel were provided uniform instructions and training in IBR.

Statistical crime data are published in the CJIS Newsletter and in the annual report, *Crime in Virginia*, which is distributed to contributing agencies, commonwealth's attorneys, judges, legislators, and other state agencies. The report is available to the public for a nominal fee. The 1999 Annual Report, published in June 2000, was the first publication containing IBR data. Staff members have been diligent during the year informing the media and the public of the new reporting system, and that comparisons to previous years should not be made.

**Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN)/National Crime Information Center (NCIC)** – The VCIN/NCIC system now serves 622 member agencies with 4,133 terminals. Of these, 2,081 terminals are non-mobile, and 2,052 are mobile terminals. In 1999, VCIN processed in excess of 191,000,000 transactions between NCIC/NLETS member agencies and state computer databases. This system processes messages and/or transactions in approximately three seconds.

Virginia agencies have entered numerous types of information in the VCIN/NCIC system, which is critical to law enforcement officers. As an example, these systems stored information relating to wanted persons, missing persons, and stolen vehicles. VCIN/NCIC currently retains Virginia information relating to 40,156 wanted persons, 950 missing persons, and 10,523 stolen vehicles.

In July, the Department completed the conversion from the dedicated terminal system to the personal computer based (TCP/IP) protocol. This new protocol has permitted new agencies to connect and existing agencies to expand their number of terminals. The VCIN conversion prepared agencies in Virginia to participate in NCIC 2000. It is still the intent of the Department to access NCIC 2000. The first phase will be fully operational by July 2002. The Department has started to convert all the files over to the new NCIC 2000 program. The Department has authorized specialty Units Dial-up Access into the VCIN system. The Department has explored the new Cyberlinxx software package as a method of accessing the VCIN system for inquiries only.

The Department has authorized installing new hardware in all the area offices to support the Cyberlinxx software. Completion date for this is April 30, 2001. This software is browser based and uses existing state networks as a means of accessing the VCIN system. Currently, there are 50 new agencies in the process of purchasing the Cyberlinxx License. To this date, 15 agencies have purchased Cyberlinxx software with eight agencies on line. This system will be utilized first by the Department of Social Services, Child Support Enforcement Section, county treasurers, and county

commissioners of revenue to inquire on Virginia and other selected states' vehicle registration files. As with all new technology, the Department will be required to develop strict guidelines to ensure the integrity of the VCIN/NCIC system is not compromised.

### ***Data Processing Division***

The Data Processing Division operates one of the largest computer centers in state government. Requirements for law enforcement applications are addressed by equipment and software provided by BULL Information Systems, NEC Corporation and UNISYS Corporation. The Division operates two separate computer rooms 24 hours a day.

**NATMS/CCH Interface** – The Criminal History/Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)/Remote LiveScan Interface (CHARLI) was placed into production and now receives over 2,925 arrest records per week from 40 LiveScan agencies. CHARLI uses TCP/IP program-to-program control to allow the Unisys ClearPath IX 4400 mainframe to communicate with the UNIX Networked AFIS Transaction Management System (NATMS). NEC Corporation developed NATMS to Virginia's specifications to store and forward arrest records to the Computerized Criminal History System and to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System. An unsolicited VCIN message is returned to the originating agency with the results (state identification number) of the fingerprint check. A Card Scan Interface also was placed into production to handle those arrest records, which are still mailed to the Central Criminal Records Exchange. Over 4,110 arrest prints are transmitted to the FBI weekly. Identification messages from the FBI are sent to LiveScan agencies over VCIN within two hours of the booking.

**CAD/MIS** – The Virginia State Police Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system allows for rapid entry and retrieval of data associated with unit activity and calls for service. The CAD system consists of 15 servers, 42 dispatch terminals, and over 100 remote access users. A total of 1,294,733 incidents were entered into the CAD system in 2000. The dispatch terminals operating system was upgraded to Windows NT Workstation 4.0. The CAD servers in three divisions were moved out of the Communications Centers. Three new dispatch terminals were installed. Equipment was purchased to install a CAD network printer in each area office to allow users of any Division CAD system to print to any area office in the state. One network printer has been set up and tested in Fairfax. Eighty programs were changed to create new CAD functionality, such as logging every VCIN transaction with the requesting unit's badge number, automatically delivering any phone messages on file for on duty units to the dispatchers, and several new VCIN query commands.

The Virginia State Police CAD Management Information System (MIS) was placed into production in June. This database currently has CAD information back to March 1999. CAD historical data is transferred to MIS nightly. The data base currently holds in excess of five million records. An Intranet web page allows VSP network users to create custom queries to obtain desired data from the database. The web page also allows user access to weekly and monthly reports. The MIS database allows the Department to track and access information never before available, such as average response times, total number of calls, and average workloads.

### **Other Services Provided**

- All AFIS data communication lines were converted to frame relay.

- The State Police Headquarters Exchange and Microsoft Product servers were replaced.
- Data communications network equipment at State Police Headquarters was updated.
- The LiveScan Network was expanded to 43 locations. Forty sites are now in production, transmitting arrest fingerprints to the NATMS system at State Police Headquarters. The 40 sites represent 65 percent of the arrest workload.
- The Virginia State Police successfully implemented the CJIS Division's Sex Offender Registry interface to the FBI NCIC 2000 database on June 23. All new registrations and updates are transmitted to the FBI daily.

### ***Personnel Division***

The mission of the Personnel Division is to provide effective human resource management, with continued emphasis on attracting qualified personnel and diversifying the work force.

**Recruitment Section** –The Department recruited for entry-level law enforcement positions for the 101<sup>st</sup> Basic Session during November and December 1999, and January 2000. This resulted in 1,426 applications. The fifth administration of the new trooper entrance test was held in April 2000, and 418 applicants participated. Applicants are being further processed for the 101<sup>st</sup> Basic School scheduled to begin March 10, 2001.

The 100<sup>th</sup> Basic Session began on May 10. The Department hired 77 trooper trainees from 1,299 applicants. The 100<sup>th</sup> Basic Session graduated 69 new troopers in December.

The **Employment Section** advertised 325 sworn and non-sworn positions (254 full-time and 71 part-time) during 2000. In addition to the 77 trooper trainees hired, three full-time sworn positions, 66 full-time non-sworn positions, and 64 part-time positions were filled during this same period.

The Department continued a Mediation Program for all agency employees. The Employment Section processed 30 grievances during 2000.

During 2000, 51 volunteers gave 7,521.3 hours of their time in locations throughout the State. Volunteers who had served in 1999 were honored at a recognition event on April 11.

During 2000, the **Classification, Compensation, Transactions and Records Section** processed 141 hires, 140 promotions, 233 transfers, 127 separations and a number of address and name changes. A large number of records inquiries was received including employment history inquiries, legal inquiries from financial institutions, Freedom of Information Act inquiries, and other routine information requests.

Classification completed studies on Surplus Property, Food Services, Canine Handlers, Aviation Pilots, Communications and the Purchase and Stores Operations. A new division, Special Operations, was established in the Bureau of Field Operations, and a new position for Deputy Superintendent was established. In addition, a new Cybercrime Unit was established, the Nurse Practitioner position was audited, and a study of the Data Processing Division was completed.

Altogether, 53 classified position action requests were received, one from the Superintendent, 18 from the Bureau of Field Operations, five from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, five from Data Processing, seven from Criminal Justice Information Services, six from Communications, six from Property and Finance, six from Personnel, two from the Professional Standards Unit and one from Public Affairs.

In addition, during that same period, 22 wage positions were established, 11 salary surveys were completed, one differential pay study was approved, and numerous classification inquiries from other agencies were answered.

A departmental Salary Administration Plan was developed on Dec. 1, and the Department implemented Compensation Reform to include broad band pay scales and the conversion of job classes to roles.

### ***Planning and Research Unit***

The Planning and Research Unit provides planning and policy support to all divisions of the Department and is responsible for:

1. Conducting evaluations of new equipment, procedures, and technologies;
2. Updating staffing formulas;
3. Conducting evaluations of existing programs and policies;
4. Providing support for developing grant applications and budgetary submissions;
5. Developing and monitoring the Department's Strategic Plan;
6. Maintaining departmental manuals; and
7. Monitoring the Department's budgeting performance measures.

The Unit also is responsible coordinating the Department's accreditation and grants management programs and the mandates on local government.

During 2000, the Unit completed seven comprehensive studies of agency programs and operations and six evaluations of new law enforcement equipment/technologies. In addition, pursuant to Executive Order 51 (99), the Unit was responsible for developing the Department's web enablement plan. At the end of the year, the Unit was monitoring 26 grants that provide approximately \$14.3 million for agency projects.

**Accreditation** – The purpose of the accreditation process is to improve the delivery of law enforcement services by demonstrating that an agency's operations are in compliance with generally accepted standards. Accreditation requires a comprehensive review of every aspect of the Department's organization, operations, and administration.

In 1986, the Virginia State Police became the second state law enforcement agency in the nation to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), Inc. In 1991 and again in 1996, the Department achieved

reaccreditation following an on-site inspection and review by CALEA assessors of the agency's policies, procedures, and operations.

During 2001, the Department again will undergo reaccreditation on-site assessment. Maintaining accredited status is an on-going project for all accredited law enforcement agencies and requires constant monitoring and periodic updating of policies and procedures to ensure compliance with internationally accepted law enforcement accreditation standards.

### ***Property and Finance Division***

The Property and Finance Division encompasses a wide range of financial and property management functions. It is responsible for preparing, monitoring, and accounting for the Department's annual operating budget, which was in excess of \$177,861,610 for fiscal year 2000. It was responsible for procuring, warehousing, and distributing more than \$20,062,109 in supplies and equipment. The Property and Finance Division also is responsible for managing and maintaining more than 69 buildings and grounds across the State.

During 2000, the Area 6 Office construction project in Powhatan was completed. Construction is underway for addition/renovations to the Area 2, Warsaw, and Area 3, West Point, offices. Planning and design is proceeding on the Area 31, Melfa; Area 43, Danville and Area 38, Clifton Forge, office projects. Design work is continuing for the addition to the Administrative Headquarters Building.

In addition to its property and financial management duties, the Division oversees the mailroom and printing section, which processed 453,012 pieces of mail and printed more than 10,250,000 copies during 2000. It also manages the garage, which is responsible for equipping and issuing a fleet of approximately 1,800 vehicles.

The Property and Finance Division has the responsibility for the Virginia Excess Military Property Program which allows Virginia law enforcement agencies to procure, at no cost, military property and equipment that is in excess of the Department of Defense needs. The Department was appointed by the Governor to serve as the state coordinator for the program. The program serves over 200 Virginia law enforcement agencies and in 2000 the program distributed over \$3.5 million.

In 1998, the Division was tasked with the development, implementation and day-to-day operational control of the State and Local Law Enforcement Procurement Program, "The 1122 Program." This program allows state and local law enforcement agencies to purchase law enforcement equipment suitable for counter-narcotic activities through the federal procurement channels at substantial savings. State and local law enforcement agency purchases since inception of the 1122 program, through Dec. 31, totaled \$3,035,431.24 with a savings of \$1,094,795.87 over retail pricing.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act was established by Public Law 105-181, and provides \$25 million per year for federal fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001 to assist law enforcement agencies with the purchase of ballistic vests. The Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is authorized to grant law enforcement and correctional agencies up to half (50%) of the cost of ballistic vests purchased during these three federal fiscal years. The Governor's Office has designated the Department to coordinate

the process for all "state agency" law enforcement by providing a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). In federal fiscal years 1999 and 2000, a total of 495 ballistic vests was ordered for "state agency" law enforcement totaling \$151,380.39, with an approved reimbursement from BJA of \$69,702.71.

### ***Training Division***

During 2000, the Training Division ensured that all employees met mandated training requirements and, through the Virginia State Police Academy, provided 8,372 hours of instruction in 348 sessions for 7,128 employees and 597 students from outside agencies.

The 99<sup>th</sup> Basic School graduated 70 new troopers and the 100<sup>th</sup> Basic Session graduated 69 new troopers. Four CVEOs completed the 20<sup>th</sup> Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Basic Session.

Academy facilities were utilized by several outside agencies, including the Department of Emergency Management, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. These 22 sessions provided 334 hours of instruction to 502 Department employees and 95 outside students.

The Division hosted two sessions of contract training in which 40 hours of training were provided to 36 employees. The Division coordinated 4,039 hours of instruction by 355 of our employees to other police academies, police departments, and colleges. In addition, the Division coordinated the attendance of 1,154 of our employees in 40,361 hours of instruction at outside schools, seminars, and specialty training programs.

One rehired sworn employee completed mandated training in 2000.

One hundred fifty-five troopers completed Intoxilyzer 5000 Basic School receiving 6,200 hours of training. Fourteen instructors were recertified with 336 hours of instruction. Recertification was conducted for 381 sworn members receiving 1,524 hours of training.

Defensive driving classes were given 32 non-sworn employees in three sessions totaling 20 hours.

Seven new motorist assistance aides received 40 hours of training each.

During 2000, the Department's SCUBA Team conducted 41 training sessions, 61 recovery operations, and assisted 37 other agencies.

The Canine Training Program was responsible for training 15 new canine teams. Of these, nine were members of the Department and six were from outside law enforcement agencies. The Department's 51 canine teams received monthly in-service training for a total of 14,688 hours.

Fifteen new special agents completed 102-hours of Basic Special Agent Training.

Twenty-four special agent accountants completed 16-hours of in-service training.

Sixty-four state police and local officers completed a 32-hour Multi-jurisdictional Task Force training session in Virginia Beach.

Twenty-eight special agents completed a 24-hour Child Homicide Investigation Course at the Academy.

Forty-hour in-service was provided for 26 Department of Occupational and Professional Regulation In-Service Training.

The Range 2000 Use of Force Simulator Training was included for the first time in Basic Trooper training. Sixty-nine basic troopers completed eight hours of simulator training.

The range house was remodeled and converted into an armorer workshop.

All sworn employees completed spring and fall Firearms Training and qualification.

**The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Program** is a cooperative effort of the Department of State Police and the Department of Education DARE is taught in 130 of Virginia's 134 school divisions.

During the 1999-2000 school year, visitation lessons were presented to 145,022 students (grades K - 4). The DARE Core Program was presented to 72,407 students (grades 5 to 6). The Middle/Junior High School Program was provided to 33,921 students (grades 7 to 8). The High School Program was delivered to 4,276 students (grades 9 to 10).

The DARE Unit held an in-service training for Virginia DARE officers with approximately 175 officers receiving training. Officers received workshops on DARE America update, current Drug Trends and an update on the Middle School and Parent Programs. The DARE Unit also serves as the Eastern Regional Training Center and provided training and technical assistance to officers from 10 states and Washington, D. C. DARE training was provided to 297 officers from September 1999 - August 2000.

**The 4-SAFE-VA School Safety Program** has continued to be well received by both the school and law enforcement communities. The number of persons reached by the program increased for the 2000 calendar year to a total of 2,246. The "School Safety 101" one-day course was offered at eight locations with 347 individuals attending. A total of 23 general school safety talks (one to four hours in length) were presented with 1,438 people instructed. The program, also in cooperation with the Department of Emergency Management, held four regional training sessions for Emergency Management Coordinators. These sessions afforded valuable training to 165 local coordinators.

Two new courses were developed and implemented late in the 2000 calendar year. The "School Bus Safety" course was initially offered in December with 13 persons attending. This course will continue to be offered throughout 2001. Another new course, developed in conjunction with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, is the "Bomb Threat Planning and Response for Educational Facilities." This course was offered on four occasions with 283 people taught. The School Safety program has and will continue to offer on-site technical support to schools and school personnel as needed.

## **BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

The Department provides a thorough and comprehensive investigation of all criminal matters mandated by statute and established Department policy through the Bureau of Criminal Investigation. The Bureau is mandated to investigate any matter referred by the Governor. The Attorney General, commonwealth's attorneys, chiefs of police, sheriffs and grand juries may request the Department to investigate matters, which constitute Class 1, 2 or 3 felonies. The Bureau also conducts investigations of elected officials when directed by the Governor, Attorney General or grand juries. The Bureau consists of the Divisions of Criminal Intelligence, Drug Enforcement, General Investigations and Insurance Fraud.

### ***Criminal Intelligence Division (CID)***

The primary purpose of the Criminal intelligence Division (CID) is to identify, document, and disseminate criminal intelligence concerning persons involved in organized crime and terrorist groups. The CID is composed of three units: Research Unit, the Analytical Unit, which includes the Virginia Criminal Intelligence Center (VCIC), and the Technical Support Unit.

The CID operates the VCIC, a repository of intelligence information that is available to all Virginia law enforcement personnel. VCIC personnel provide research and analytical support to criminal justice agencies.

CID also is responsible for the Virginia Narcotic Pointer Index system, the Help Eliminate Auto Theft (HEAT) Hotline, the Drug Violation Hotline and the Insurance Fraud Hotline. During 2000, VCIC personnel processed 578 hotline calls.

CID administers the Witness Protection Program for the Department, providing both funding and technical assistance for the protection of threatened witnesses in the Commonwealth. The Witness Protection Program assisted in protecting 10 witnesses during 2000 from jurisdictions throughout the state.

**Technical Support Unit** – In 2000, the Technical Support Unit received 727 requests for service. Of those requests 632 were in support of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. Each request was directly related to ongoing criminal investigations that were supported with the installation of technical equipment. The Unit continues to support significant investigations being conducted for requesting law enforcement agencies.

The Unit continues to provide audio enhancement services to all law enforcement agencies, as well as supporting the courts and commonwealth's attorneys' offices through installation and operation of closed circuit television systems for victims of child abuse cases.

The Hostage/Barricade Unit and Witness Protection Program were developed to support state and local law enforcement through the deployment of sophisticated technical

equipment. The Hostage/Barricade Unit responded to 19 Hostage/Barricade incident requests in 2000.

### ***Drug Enforcement Division (DED)***

DED continues in its aggressive enforcement of Virginia's narcotics and substance abuse laws. The Division remains committed to its support of local law enforcement agencies' efforts to enforce these same laws.

DED's mission is accomplished through the efforts of sworn members and civilian support personnel in eight distinct functional areas:

- DED Regional Field Offices
- Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces
- Joint VSP/Federal Task Forces
- Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Interdiction Unit
- Marijuana Eradication/Operation Grand Slam
- G.I.A.N.T. Operations
- Pharmaceutical Drug Diversion Unit
- Asset Forfeiture

**DED Regional Field Offices** – Seven DED Regional Field Offices perform operational narcotics enforcement investigations, as well as support special operations (undercover, wire intercept, marijuana eradication), initiated by other law enforcement entities. Of the 114 special agents available for enforcement and task force duties at seven field offices, 57 perform routine enforcement duties, and 57 are assigned to task forces or to other special assignments.

From Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, the field offices participated in 1,780 investigations that yielded \$23,127,888 in seized narcotics; \$525,796 in seized currency; and 596 persons arrested on 737 felony and misdemeanor charges. In addition, 432 persons were arrested on 510 felony and misdemeanor charges in cases where DED assisted other agencies. DED also seized 17 vehicles and 89 weapons.

**Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces** – DED participates in 25 state/local multi-jurisdictional task forces, encompassing 93 local jurisdictions. Thirty State Police special agents and 137 local officers were assigned to state/local task forces.

During 2000, the multi-jurisdictional task forces participated in 3,237 investigations that accounted for \$14,694,178 in illicit drug seizures; \$1.6 million in seized U.S. currency; and 1,723 persons arrested on 2,211 charges. In addition, task forces assisted their agencies in cases that resulted in 397 persons arrested on 508 charges. These task forces also seized 38 vehicles and 119 weapons.

**Federal Task Forces** – DED participated in nine federal narcotics task forces during 2000. Nine State Police special agents, as well as officers from local police departments and agents from Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS), were assigned. The federal joint task forces conducted 24 investigations that accounted for \$459,280 in drug seizures, \$112,100 in seized U.S. currency, and 45 persons arrested on 55 charges.

These task forces also assisted in 43 arrests on 68 charges. Two vehicles and one weapon were seized.

**Multi-jurisdictional Narcotics Interdiction Unit** – On Sept. 24, 1996, the State Police formed the Richmond Metro Interdiction Narcotics Task Force, including Chesterfield County, Henrico County, Richmond and Petersburg Police Departments, Hanover County Sheriff's Office, Richmond International Airport Police Department, and the DEA. In 2000, the Task Force seized 352 pounds of marijuana, 21 pounds of cocaine, 11 lbs., 9 ounces of heroin, and one pound of methamphetamine, along with LSD, hydrocodone, ketamine, ecstasy, and steroids, all having a street value of over \$3.2 million. Seventy-one suspects were arrested on 126 charges. Fourteen firearms and \$780,977.00 in U.S. currency also were seized.

**Marijuana Eradication/Operation Grand Slam** – The Commonwealth remains a prime location for the cultivation of the marijuana plant. Virginia's domestically grown marijuana has the potential for being a major cash crop. With DEA funding, the Department of State Police, along with assistance of other state and local law enforcement agencies, conduct a regular program to eradicate domestically grown marijuana. During Operation Grand Slam in 2000, State Police and local law enforcement agencies found 12,400 plants in 116 outdoor plots. Marijuana eradication operations resulted in 230 arrests. Seizures included seven weapons, vehicles, and other personal property valued at \$5,800. Considering the estimated yield of consumable marijuana from each plant, the cash value of marijuana not reaching the streets as a result of eradication would be in excess of \$12.4 million.

**Governor's Initiative Against Narcotics Trafficking (GIANT)** – The GIANT mission is to facilitate and assure coordination and cooperation among member agencies. Five special agents are assigned to GIANT. The five facets of the GIANT mission are:

1. Development of intelligence pertaining to domestically grown marijuana, both indoor and outdoor, with the eradication of this marijuana and successful prosecution of the growers as a primary goal of GIANT;
2. Developing intelligence concerning air smuggling into Virginia using contacts to monitor suspicious activities of all known airports in the Commonwealth, and by locating clandestine airstrips and identifying users;
3. Reducing the supply of illegal drugs entering and being transported within the Commonwealth by interdicting drug shipments via land, air, and waterway;
4. Developing procedures that eliminate duplication of activities and breakdowns in communication among the various state agencies and law enforcement authorities, and;
5. Utilizing the resources of county and city law enforcement agencies to the maximum extent possible.

Six hundred eighteen GIANT operations during this period resulted in 225 arrests, the seizure of \$16.2 million worth of narcotics, 43 weapons, and \$1,111 in U.S. currency.

**Pharmaceutical Drug Diversion Unit** – The diversion of legitimate pharmaceuticals to illicit purposes continues to be a severe problem in Virginia. In fact, drug diversion predates the massive abuse of other drugs we know so well today. The Pharmaceutical Drug Diversion Unit works with the DEA, the Department of Health Professions, and the Department of Medical Assistance Services, plus local law enforcement agencies, to eliminate the diversion of prescription drugs to illicit purposes.

During 2000, the unit received 1,399 complaints of diversion activities throughout the Commonwealth. In responses to these complaints, 877 investigations were initiated and the 13 special agents assigned to the Unit arrested a total of 134 persons on 819 charges. Of the 134 persons arrested, 34 were licensed health care professionals. Fourteen search warrants were executed during the past year.

A major educational role of the unit is teaching local law enforcement officials about the extent of the drug diversion problem in their own jurisdictions and what they can do about it. This role also included educating health care professionals, both physicians and pharmacists, about the magnitude of the problem and the importance of self-policing and insuring the integrity of their individual health care delivery systems. During 2000, 13 presentations were conducted for 248 health care professionals and seven presentations were conducted for an audience of 567 law enforcement personnel.

### ***General Investigations Division (GID)***

GID responds to complaints about violations that constitute Class 1, 2 and 3 felonies, investigations are discretionary. Major emphasis is placed on responding to requests from the Governor, Attorney General, commonwealth's attorneys, grand juries, and chiefs of police and sheriffs throughout the Commonwealth.

A major priority of the GID is to provide specialized assistance to local law enforcement agencies. Personnel are permanently assigned to strategic locations throughout the state in order that adequate response can be made to any location in a reasonable time. The Division has 185 authorized positions, of which 133 are special agents actually assigned to conduct investigations. The remaining 52 positions are supervisors and support personnel. During 2000, GID conducted 4,708 investigations, of which 3,046 or 56.2 percent of the total were a result of requests from other enforcement agencies. Special agents made 2,645 arrests.

GID headquarters personnel are responsible for the day-to-day coordination of investigations occurring throughout the state and related administrative matters. Duties of headquarters personnel also include the following:

**Arson Investigation** – A lieutenant is the chief arson investigator and coordinates activities between the Bureau of Criminal Investigation and other investigative agencies throughout the state. Arson investigation training and assistance are provided when requested by localities. During 2000, the chief arson investigator provided or assisted in providing the following training related to arson investigations and explosive related matters:

- A weeklong Arson Investigation School attended by investigators from statewide law enforcement, fire services and insurance agencies.

- Training sessions exclusively for local fire services departments in the recognition and detection of incendiary fires.
- Training sessions across the state for officers on handling bomb threats, bomb scene search techniques and suspected explosive devices.
- Explosives recognition and blast characteristics training and demonstrations for law enforcement and fire service personnel in seminars, conferences and academies.

Within the Bureau there are a number of special agents who have been specifically trained to investigate arson-related matters. Of the 4,708 GID investigations conducted by the Division in 2000, 186 were fire investigations of incendiary origin, 116 fire cases were investigated which were found to be accidental and 200 more undetermined origin.

**Bomb and Explosives-Related Matters** – There are 42 trained bomb technicians assigned to the Division. During 2000, there were 195 actual explosive devices rendered safe and 89 hoax and suspicious items requiring examination by bomb technicians. There were 350 explosives-related incidents requiring the Division to respond and provide explosives-related expertise.

The Office of the Chief Arson Investigator assisted the 4-SAFE VA Program with a Bomb Threat Presentation to be presented to school staff throughout the Commonwealth. Bomb technicians in each field office were trained and have presented several presentations around the state.

**Auto Theft Unit** – The Auto Theft Unit consists of a total of nine special agents assigned to Richmond, Culpeper, Appomattox, Wytheville, Chesapeake, Salem and Fairfax with a secretary and a supervisor assigned to GID Headquarters. Members of the unit work closely with the Department of Motor Vehicles, National Insurance Crimes Bureau, and federal and local law-enforcement investigating crimes related to auto theft rings, chop-shops, insurance fraud and other illegal activity.

In 2000, members of the Unit investigated 425 cases, resulting in 71 arrests and the recovery of 232 stolen vehicles and 69 pieces of stolen construction, off-road equipment and stolen parts. The total value of these recoveries was \$2,845,615.

Unit members responded to 519 calls for assistance from other law-enforcement members and certain members of the Unit provided auto theft investigation training to more than 180 troopers and local law-enforcement officers. Members of this Unit also coordinate monthly regional meetings with other auto theft investigators and insurance company special investigative units in order to stay abreast of current theft trends and coordinate enforcement efforts.

**Crime Scene Examination** – The Division is staffed with crime scene technicians trained by the Division of Forensic Science. The technicians are often called upon by other State Police employees and by local law enforcement agencies to examine and evaluate evidence at the crime scene. In 2000, 701 scenes were examined in cases of murder, rape, robbery, arson, burglary and numerous other major crimes.

**Fugitive Apprehension Unit** – The Fugitive Apprehension Unit is staffed with two special agents at the Richmond, Chesapeake, and Fairfax offices. There is one agent stationed at the Culpeper, Appomattox, Salem, and Wytheville offices and a supervisor at GID Headquarters.

The Unit's mission is to effect the swift apprehension of all fugitives, particularly in connection with violent crime. The Unit is mandated to work closely with local and federal law enforcement agencies to accomplish its goal. During 2000, members were assigned 645 cases and arrested 597 fugitives.

**Economic/Cyber Crimes Unit** – This Unit is the result of a reorganization of the High Technology Crimes Investigative (HTCIA), and the Accountants, consisting of seven high tech agents and 23 accountants. The Computer Evidence Recovery Unit (CERU) also is assigned to GID.

The HTCIA opened 171 cases in 2000, involving a variety of investigations for this Department and other local/federal agencies. The accountants concentrate on the investigations of white-collar crime and in 2000 conducted 852 investigations.

**Computer Evidence Recovery Unit (CERU)** – CERU provides assistance to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies with on-scene execution of search warrants for computer-related evidence, evidence recovery through forensic examination and quarterly training classes in computer search and seizure.

In 2000, the CERU assisted with 45 investigations involving the seizure of 75 computers and other related equipment. Twenty-five cases originated from state agencies, 20 from local agencies. Types of violations and number of violations included:

• Financial fraud	7	(15%)
• Narcotics	4	(08%)
• Pornography/Child Indecent Liberties	17	(37%)
• Other Pornography	1	(02%)
• Computer Trespass	3	(07%)
• Homicide	3	(07%)
• Forgery/Counterfeiting	3	(07%)
• Other (includes gambling, threats, and auto theft)	7	(16%)

The CERU provided computer search and seizure training to 140 local, state, and federal law enforcement officers during 2000.

**National White-Collar Crime Center** – The director of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation is the Department's representative to the National White-Collar Crime Center, a federally funded project with 706 member agencies, 119 associate member agencies, and 85 affiliate agencies throughout the country. Members of the center assist with the investigation and prosecution of various white-collar crimes.

**Polygraph** – There are 28 special agents trained as examiners who administer polygraph examination upon request. During 2000, 842 criminal polygraphs were conducted.

**Violent Crimes Investigative Unit** – This Unit has 10 special agents assigned to field offices around the state. Agents opened 43 cases in 2000 with 31 opened as a result of requests from local law enforcement agencies.

One agent is assigned to the Unit to conduct criminal investigative analysis and assisted law enforcement throughout Virginia with 14 cases involving homicides, sexual assaults, threat assessments, equivocal death investigations and false allegations. This agent also presented 40 programs to law enforcement agencies on criminal investigative analysis, hostage negotiation, school violence, and workplace violence.

The Virginia Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP) is under the Violent Crimes Investigative Unit. During 2000, 18 homicide cases were entered into VICAP, bringing the total cases in the system as of the end of the year to 666.

**Hostage Negotiation** – The Department now has 43 trained hostage negotiators available for hostage or barricade situations. The negotiators trained on several occasions with the Department of Corrections, local law-enforcement agencies and the State Police tactical teams.

### ***Insurance Fraud Division (IFD)***

Effective Jan. 1, 1999, the General Assembly approved establishing an Insurance Fraud Investigative Unit within the Department of State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigation. The purposes of this Unit are threefold:

1. Initiate independent inquiries and conduct independent investigations when the Department has reason to believe that insurance fraud may have been or is currently being committed, and to undertake studies to determine the extent of such insurance fraud;
2. Respond to notification or complaints alleging insurance fraud generated by federal, state and local police, other law-enforcement authorities, governmental agencies or Units, and any other person;
3. Review notices and reports of insurance fraud; select the incidents of suspected fraud that, in its judgment, require further detailed investigation; and conduct the investigations.

IFD currently has 14 special agents located strategically throughout the state. Their primary focus is on fraudulent property and casualty insurance claims that in essence violate Section 18.2-178, taking money under false pretenses. The law now requires that if insurance professionals have reason to believe that someone is violating this statute, they are compelled to disclose this information to the Department of State Police. Recent examples of insurance fraud include faking accidents, staging burglaries, fraudulently reporting theft and Workers' Compensation injuries. The Division is constantly uncovering some newly developed "scam" aimed at fraudulently receiving claim funds from insurance carriers.

It has been estimated that insurance fraud costs each insured citizen approximately \$200 in additional insurance premiums annually and as much as \$1,000 for the cost of goods and services. This new Division is dedicated to reducing the impact of fraudulent insurance claims on the law-abiding citizens of Virginia. A hotline for persons to call in with information about suspected insurance fraud has been established. The toll-free telephone number is:

**1-877-62FRAUD.**

Last year there were 23 calls received through the toll free hotline service. A reward program is being considered to provide a monthly reward for information leading to the arrest and/or conviction of individuals committing insurance fraud. An Internet web site has been completed to provide information on the various aspects of insurance fraud to the general public and other interested parties. The address is:

[www.stampoutfraud.com](http://www.stampoutfraud.com)

**Investigative Results** – During 2000, the Insurance Fraud Division received 662 notifications of potential property and casualty insurance fraud from the insurance industry, law enforcement agencies and the general public. There were 232 criminal investigations initiated resulting in 73 cases prosecuted, which led to 119 criminal charges being placed for insurance fraud and related offenses. Courts ordered restitution in the amount of \$329,151.

Insurance fraud has a significant economic impact on society as represented by the total amount of claimed loss that was actually received by individuals submitting suspected insurance fraud claims. During 2000, in cases handled by the Insurance Fraud Division, there was over \$3 million that was actually collected by individuals suspected of insurance fraud while \$4.7 million in claims was attempted. Many attempts failed due to the efforts by the insurance industry and law enforcement to prevent these losses.

An electronic reporting system has been established whereby the insurance industry and the general public can report incidents of suspected insurance fraud directly to the Insurance Fraud Division on line. This service is available through the Department's and the stampoutfraud.com Internet web sites.

## **BUREAU OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

The primary responsibility of the Bureau of Field Operations is the patrolling of over 64,000 miles of state roadways and interstate highways throughout Virginia. Uniformed State Police personnel provide both traffic enforcement and criminal law enforcement as the need arises and based upon the ability of local law enforcement to respond. The Bureau also is responsible for managing the Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection Program, enforcing motor carrier and commercial vehicle safety regulations, and the Special Operations Division.

The Commonwealth's geography and size dictate the need to decentralize uniformed police services into seven field divisions. These divisions are further subdivided into 48

State Police areas that consist of one or more cities and/or counties. Manpower is allocated based upon workload demands at the city and county level.

**Special Operations Division (SOD)** – The Special Operations Division was established on July 1, 2000, pursuant to Governor Gilmore's S.A.B.R.E. Initiative in the 2000 Session of the Virginia General Assembly. The primary activities of this Division include highway narcotics interdiction, surveillance of public transportation systems, and narcotic canine sweeps of parcels, schools, and vehicles. The Division also is responsible for assisting local police departments in high crime, drug-infested areas.

With the Division currently in the developmental stage, there are three highway narcotic interdiction teams. Since July 1, these teams made a total of 297 drug arrests, which included 149 felony charges. In addition, they arrested seven fugitives, one bank robber, one felony parole violator and seized 21 weapons. Illegal narcotics consisting of LSD hits, cocaine, crack cocaine, marijuana plants and marijuana were seized and valued at \$227,077. U.S. currency in the amount of \$39,610, jewelry valued at \$5,000.00, four vehicles valued at \$65,000 and stolen properties also were seized.

The Public Transportation Team during the same time period was responsible for 37 drug arrests, which included 31 felony charges. Crack cocaine, marijuana plants, marijuana and ketamine (rave drug) were seized and valued at \$266,800. In addition, 12 firearms were seized.

The **Division's Narcotic Canine Teams** responded to 521 requests, which resulted in 177 arrests and the seizure of 15 firearms and one other weapon. Illegal narcotics consisting of cocaine, marijuana plants, marijuana, methamphetamine and ecstasy tablets were seized and valued at \$739,001. U.S. currency in the amount of \$38,267, counterfeit currency in the amount of \$1,100 and two vehicles valued at \$13,000 were seized. Miscellaneous items valued at \$1,575 also were seized. Assistance was provided to 67 local agencies and three federal agencies in addition to state police personnel.

The **Tidewater Interdiction Team**, along with Bureau of Field Operations Division V, began a 90-day project on Sept. 18, 2000, in Newport News. After a one-week familiarization of the area, six troopers and two sergeants began enforcement operations on Sept. 25. This operation began phasing out on Dec. 15, with the personnel working only one to two days per week until March 2001. The team has made 162 arrests, seized \$41,813.00 of narcotics, seized \$6,823 in U.S. currency and seized 18 weapons. The team also assisted Newport News Police Department on 350 incidents.

At the request of Petersburg Acting Chief of Police Morris Jones, an intensified patrol project in the Petersburg area began Oct. 19 and continued for Thursday and Friday nights for one month. An evaluation of the project was made after the one-month period, and at various dates and times, SOD personnel were scheduled to work with the Petersburg Police Department's Street Crimes Unit. Five troopers and one sergeant from the Special Operations Division and Bureau of Field Operations Division I participated. To date, the team has made 112 arrests and summons, seized \$4,133 worth of narcotics, seized \$2,285 in U.S. currency, and seized three weapons.

Two operations were conducted in conjunction with BCI Drug Enforcement Division, the Virginia Marine Resource Commission and U.S. Coast Guard personnel. A total of 35 vessels were stopped, 13 of which were searched. In addition to seizing drug paraphernalia and cocaine residue, six charges were placed which included brandishing a firearm and possession of marijuana. Six vessels were put out of service for safety violations.

At the request of the Colonial Beach Chief of Police, intensified patrol efforts were undertaken by the **East (Richmond) Interdiction Team** in Colonial Beach on Sept. 23. Between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m., combined patrols with the local police were conducted, in conjunction with an intensified checking detail by Division I troopers and two Westmoreland County deputies. Arrests for possession of marijuana, driving under the influence and drunk in public were affected, along with traffic infractions. One runaway child was located, and city officers enforced one curfew violation.

At the request of King George Sheriff's Department, intensified patrol efforts were undertaken by the East (Richmond) Interdiction Team on Dec. 7. During this effort, combined patrols with the Sheriff's Department were conducted on U.S. Rt. 301 in King George County. Fourteen vehicles and one residence were searched for narcotics, resulting in six charges against three individuals. Further, 11 traffic summons were issued following 40 traffic stops.

Seized were various amounts of marijuana, some believed to be laced with phenylcyclohexyl piperidine (PCP), two smoking devices, \$3,287 in U.S. currency, and one vehicle. Information garnered from the traffic stop assisted the East Interdiction Team and Public Transportation Team with enough information to obtain search warrants for a residence in Manassas. Another individual from which narcotics were seized was found to have left a newborn baby alone at his apartment. That individual also was charged with felony child endangerment.

In addition, SOD personnel assisted BCI and numerous police department and sheriff's departments with various requests for service.

**Operation Alert** – Operation Alert is a program especially designed to interdict criminal activity on the highways of Virginia. Specialized training is provided to troopers to heighten their awareness when engaged in traffic stops and during public contacts urging the trooper to look for unusual circumstances that typically indicate criminal conduct and activity.

The Department's efforts in Operation Alert during 2000 resulted in troopers making a total of 15,535 Operation Alert traffic stops that resulted in 6,064 arrests and the filing of 4,426 criminal charges. Sworn personnel removed an estimated \$2,727,918 worth of narcotics and dangerous drugs from the highways of the Commonwealth. In addition, troopers seized \$271,164 in currency and 246 weapons as a result of the Department's enforcement effort.

**Aviation Unit** – The State Police Aviation Unit was formed on Jan. 1, 1984, to provide for the administration and coordination of the Department's aviation resources. The Unit operates six helicopters and four airplanes from four bases located in Lynchburg, Manassas, Abingdon, and Richmond. The Unit's primary mission is to provide aircraft

for search, rescue, law enforcement and medical evacuation. During its 17-year existence the Aviation Unit has recorded 67,098 flight hours responding to 39,687 flight requests.

The Department currently has a contract to replace the four Bell 206 helicopters with Bell 407 helicopters. The new Bell helicopters are expected to be delivered beginning in February 2001. Also on contract to purchase is an American Eurocopter Corporation BK-117 helicopter for medical evacuation operations. This helicopter is expected to be delivered in August 2001.

**Medical Evacuation** –The Department operates two helicopter medical evacuation programs that serve Central and Southwest Virginia. These programs provide rapid response, advanced medical procedures, and transportation of critically injured patients to a level one trauma center. Combined, these programs serve 34 hospitals and the citizens residing in 47 counties and 21 cities.

Med-Flight I began operations on April 1, 1984, and responds to calls for assistance in a 60-mile radius of Richmond. Med-Flight II began operations on Jan. 1, 1987, and responds to calls for assistance in a 60-mile radius of Abingdon.

In 2000, both programs responded to a total of 959 requests with 660 patients transported. The total number of flights for both programs from April 1, 1984, to Dec. 31, 2000, was 10,603 responses to calls with 7,668 patients transported as a result of these calls. A third medical evacuation program, Med-Flight III, is anticipated to become operational on Sept. 1, 2001. This program will respond to calls for assistance predominately along the Lynchburg-Route 29 corridor to Danville and in a 60-mile radius of Lynchburg as requested.

**Search and Rescue** – During 2000, the Aviation Unit responded to 293 requests for searches for escapees, missing persons, criminals, and stolen property. Utilizing a Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) system on one helicopter and a 30 million-candlepower searchlight on the other helicopters, the Unit has been successful in locating fugitives, missing persons, and lost children. During this period, the Unit also recovered two missing vehicles. As a result, eight arrests were made.

**Surveillance** – The Aviation Unit also conducts surveillance using our aircraft. In 2000, the Unit was requested 23 times for drug or narcotic surveillance, 36 times for other criminal matters and 54 miscellaneous calls. As a result, three arrests were made and 2,961 marijuana plants were located at a value of \$2,961,000.

**Other Duties** – The Aviation Unit provides aerial support to any federal, state, or municipal agency whereby the solution of a police problem or mission may be obtained. During 2000, the Unit provided aerial support to 157 agencies external to the Department of State Police. These flights included photographing crime scenes, providing support for presidential motorcades, participating in multi-agency task force efforts, and demonstrations of the capabilities of the Aviation Unit's aircraft. Between Jan. 1, and Dec. 31, 2000, the Aviation Unit flew 3,591 hours responding to 2,468 flight requests.

**Motorist Assistance Program** – The Motorist Assistance Program was expanded into the Roanoke/Salem metropolitan area in July 2000 to provide much needed assistance to motorists travelling on Interstate-81. During 2000, motorist assistance aides provided assistance to disabled or stranded motorists on more than 63,739 occasions.

Operating in the Richmond, Northern Virginia, Tidewater, and Roanoke/Salem metropolitan areas, State Police motorist assistance aides provided services such as fixing flat tires, providing gasoline, jump-starting vehicles, traffic control, and making cellular phone calls for additional assistance or to notify family members of a stranded motorist's situation. Motorist Assistance Aides also were instrumental in the arrest of drunk drivers and aggressive drivers by reporting erratic driving behavior to troopers who subsequently made the apprehension.

**Commercial Vehicle Enforcement** –The Department has 55 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers whose primary responsibilities include inspecting and measuring commercial vehicles that utilize the highways of the Commonwealth. During 2000, approximately 11 million commercial vehicles passed through Virginia's 13 permanent weigh stations for inspection. Through the inspection of these vehicles and through other enforcement initiatives, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers issued 71,996 summonses and made 159 criminal arrests. This program is vital to Virginia's overall highway safety program through the protection of roadways from overweight and oversized vehicles; through assurances that commercial vehicles are mechanically safe to operate on the highways; and through the validation of all commercial vehicle operators to ensure they are properly licensed to operate a commercial vehicles in the Commonwealth.

**Crime Prevention** – During 2000, the Department provided specialized training to selected troopers throughout the State in crime prevention and personal safety. Participating troopers received training in "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" (CPTED), business security and techniques to promote personal safety. All training was part of an intensified crime prevention curriculum that enabled troopers to achieve certification through the Department of Criminal Justice Services as crime prevention specialists. There are now approximately 85 certified crime prevention specialists within the ranks of the State Police.

During 2000, more than 213,000 citizens of Virginia were contacted through 4,040 various programs conducted and nearly 100,000 informational handouts were distributed by certified crime prevention troopers. Troopers conducted 835 crime prevention programs and 943 Safety Programs. In addition, 146 programs were conducted to address personal safety, 124 programs addressed the issues of road rage, 23 workplace violence workshops were held, and 17 programs were sponsored on recognizing and preventing schemes and scams.

Crime prevention troopers also conducted CPTED assessments on 745 businesses and on 10 residences.

Additionally, during 2000, troopers conducted 97 drug education programs, 37 class action programs, and nine HEAT programs to enhance safety in Virginia communities.

Also, during 2000, a major initiative continued at Virginia's 41 rest areas and welcome centers to promote both travel safety and personal safety. Crime prevention signs at each rest area location were maintained and brochures were distributed to enhance safety at these facilities and throughout the Commonwealth. More than 800,000 brochures have been distributed through this initiative.

**Specialty Teams** – Each of the seven field divisions deploys tactical teams, canine teams and SCUBA teams. These teams are available 24 hours a day to assist local law enforcement agencies or State Police personnel. Tactical teams assist in executing high-risk search or arrest warrants and in dealing with hostage situations. Canine teams are available to track lost persons or fugitives, search for suspects of crimes, and detect illegal drugs or explosives. SCUBA teams are used to recover drowning victims or evidence of criminal activity.

In 2000, **Patrol Canine Teams** responded to 257 requests of which 102 were from Department personnel and 155 were from other state and local law enforcement agencies. These requests resulted in 95 felony and 17 misdemeanor arrests.

Additionally, the Department's **Explosive/Weapons Detector Canine Teams** responded to 511 requests. These calls resulted in the recovery of seven weapons and three explosive devices.

Also, in 2000, the Department's **Narcotic Detection Canine Teams** responded to 1,457 requests for assistance. These responses resulted in 433 arrests and 359 drug seizures. The narcotics seized had an estimated street value of \$13,299,496. A total of \$229,696 in cash and \$446,275 in other property were also seized.

The Academy trained two **Accelerant Detector Canine Teams**. These two teams responded to 109 requests of which 67 were from the Department and 42 from other state and federal law enforcement agencies. The Canine Teams had 86 alerts inside buildings and 166 alerts to evidence samples collected.

The Department maintains fully-equipped and highly qualified **SCUBA** teams throughout Virginia. Each team is trained in the techniques of underwater rescue, search and recovery. In 2000, the State Police SCUBA teams recovered the bodies of 13 drowning victims, 15 weapons, four of which were murder weapons, four vehicles, and retrieved property valued at over \$130,780.

Within each of the seven State Police field divisions, a Tactical Operation Team is maintained. These teams are available to assist local agencies and other State Police members in the arrest and apprehension of individuals known to pose a threat to law enforcement officials and in other situations where there is a risk to police officer safety.

During 2000, State Police **Tactical Teams** assisted in the execution of 56 search warrants and drug raids, 16 instances of barricaded suspects, 14 searches for escapees, two hostage situations and five search and rescue missions. These teams also participated in 46 marijuana eradication initiatives, 21 surveillance operations, 38 incidents to provide protection for canine handlers, and 30 other related missions. Tactical Team personnel made a total of 170 arrests resulting in 515 charges, recovered 112 weapons and seized an estimated \$16,574,828 worth of illegal narcotics.

**Safety Division** – With the implementation of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program in 1932, Virginia embarked upon and has continued in a leadership role in promoting highway safety.

As of Dec. 31, 2000, there were 4,078 active inspection stations located throughout the Commonwealth. There were 13,421 licensed safety inspectors who performed approximately 6,600,000 inspections at appointed stations during 2000. Approximately 21 percent (1,386,000 vehicles) of all vehicles submitted for inspection were rejected for unsafe components.

This Division investigated 2,954 inspection complaints, which resulted in 2,552 instances of disciplinary action against 214 stations for various classes of offenses and the suspension of 41 inspection stations. These statistics include administrative errors made by inspection stations, and the majority of errors complaints were corrected by counseling sessions.

Disciplinary action was also taken against 1,474 safety inspectors, resulting in 73 suspensions.

Safety Division personnel conducted 704 business security checks.

**Motor Carrier Safety** –The Bureau's Motor Carrier Safety teams ensure that trucks and buses meet safety requirements on Virginia's highways. Troopers assigned to the Motor Carrier Safety program regularly present lectures to the public and other interested groups on motor carrier safety and hazardous materials regulations. They also serve as instructors in criminal justice training seminars.

Motor Carrier Safety teams responded to 81 hazardous material spills or incidents in 2000 and conducted 293 post-crash investigations of heavy commercial vehicles involved in accidents. They also conducted 31,792 in-depth investigations on heavy commercial vehicles and 6,724 of these (21%) were placed out of service for violations of regulations governing safety equipment and transportation of hazardous materials. Of the total number of vehicles inspected, 60% were found to have equipment defects.

**Field Support** – Safety Division sworn employees provided support for local field divisions during all major Combined Accident Reduction Effort (CARE) holidays. During 2000, Safety Division troopers had 13,143 arrests/summons issued, investigated 338 motor vehicle crashes, assisted local troopers with the investigation of 536 motor vehicle crashes, and assisted 7,817 disabled motorists.

## **Bureau of Field Operations - Summary of Activities**

In 2000, Virginia State Troopers assigned to the Bureau of Field Operations:

- Worked a total of 250,864 staff days patrolling 29,853,621 miles of highway.
- Responded to approximately 1.39 million incidents.
- Investigated 37,624 vehicle crashes.
- Assisted 223,771 stranded or otherwise distressed motorists
- Responded to 29,043 requests for assistance from sheriffs' departments, 18,346 requests from police departments and 4,798 requests from other agencies.
- Made 775,455 traffic arrests, including 274,249 speeding, 96,871 reckless driving and 9,827 driving under the influence.
- Made a total of 24,318 criminal arrests.
- Performed 31,792 in-depth safety inspections of heavy commercial vehicles and placed 6,724, or 21 percent of these vehicles out of service.
- Made 6,064 Operation Alert Program arrests, seized \$2,727,918 in narcotics and \$271,164 in currency.
- Made 4,040 crime prevention presentations to 213,000 citizens.
- Conducted 745 business security checks and 10 home security checks.
- Committed 5,600 man-hours to crime prevention programs and safety seminars.
- Achieved a 93 percent conviction rate for adjudicated cases.
- Seized 246 illegal weapons.