

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2001 SESSION

CHAPTER 365

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-472.1 and 19.2-298.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to proof of failure to comply with the duty to register or reregister as a sexually violent offender.

[H 1953]

Approved March 19, 2001

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-472.1 and 19.2-298.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-472.1. Providing false information or failing to provide registration information; penalty.

Any person subject to § 19.2-298.1, other than a sexually violent offender, who knowingly fails to register or reregister, or who knowingly provides materially false information to the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. However, any person convicted of a sexually violent offense, as defined in § 19.2-298.1, who knowingly fails to register or reregister, or who knowingly provides materially false information to the Registry established pursuant to § 19.2-390.1 shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony.

A prosecution pursuant to this section shall be brought in the city or county where the registrant can be found or where the offender last registered or reregistered or, if the offender failed to comply with the duty to register, where the offender was last convicted of an offense for which registration or reregistration is required.

At any trial pursuant to this section, an affidavit from the State Police issued as required in subsection H of § 19.2-298.1 shall be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence of the failure to comply with the duty to register or reregister and a copy of such affidavit shall be provided to the registrant or his counsel seven days prior to hearing or trial by the attorney for the Commonwealth.

§ 19.2-298.1. Registration required of persons convicted of certain offenses.

A. For purposes of this section:

"Offense for which registration is required" means a violation or attempted violation of:

1. §§ 18.2-63, 18.2-64.1, 18.2-67.2:1, subsection B of § 18.2-67.5, § 18.2-90 with the intent to commit rape, §§ 18.2-370, 18.2-370.1, 18.2-374.1 or subsection D of § 18.2-374.1:1 or a third or subsequent conviction of § 18.2-67.4 or of subsection C of § 18.2-67.5;

2. A "sexually violent offense"; or

3. Where the victim is a minor or is physically helpless or mentally incapacitated as defined in § 18.2-67.10, a violation or attempted violation of subsection A of § 18.2-47, clause (iii) of § 18.2-48, subsection B of § 18.2-361 or subsection B of § 18.2-366, or subdivision B 1 of § 18.2-374.1.

"Sexually violent offense" means a violation or attempted violation of:

1. Clause (ii) of § 18.2-48, §§ 18.2-61, 18.2-67.1, 18.2-67.2, 18.2-67.3 or subsection A of § 18.2-67.5; or

2. §§ 18.2-63, 18.2-64.1, 18.2-67.2:1, subsection B of § 18.2-67.5, § 18.2-90 with the intent to commit rape, §§ 18.2-370, 18.2-370.1 or, where the victim is a minor or is physically helpless or mentally incapacitated as defined in § 18.2-67.10, a violation or attempted violation of subsection A of § 18.2-47, clause (iii) of § 18.2-48, subsection B of § 18.2-361, subsection B of § 18.2-366, or subdivision B 1 of § 18.2-374.1. Conviction of an offense listed under this subdivision shall be deemed a sexually violent offense only if the person has been convicted of any two or more such offenses occurring within a ten-year period, provided that person had been at liberty between such convictions.

B. Every person convicted on or after July 1, 1997, including juveniles tried and convicted in the circuit courts pursuant to § 16.1-269.1, whether sentenced as adults or juveniles, of an offense for which registration is required shall be required as a part of the sentence imposed upon conviction to register and reregister with the Department of State Police as provided in this section. The court shall remand the person to the custody of the local law-enforcement agency of the county or city for the purpose of obtaining the person's fingerprints and photographs of a type and kind specified by the Department of State Police for inclusion in the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry established pursuant to § 19.2-390.1. The court shall order the person to provide to the local law-enforcement agency all information required by the State Police for inclusion in the Registry.

It shall be the duty of the local law-enforcement agency to forward to the State Police all the necessary registration information within seven days of the date of sentencing and to promptly provide to the State Police such information as is necessary for any reregistration.

C. Every person serving a sentence of confinement or under community supervision as defined in § 53.1-1 on July 1, 1997, for an offense for which registration is required shall be required to register with the Department of State Police and shall be given notice of the duty to register pursuant to

§ 53.1-116.1 or § 53.1-160.1 as appropriate. In addition, any person who was convicted under Chapter 17 (18 U.S.C. § 2421 et seq.) of Title 18 of the United States Code and who resides in or was convicted in Virginia, shall be required to register with the Department of State Police.

D. Every person required to register shall register within ten days of his release from confinement in a state, local or juvenile correctional facility or, if a sentence of confinement is not imposed, within ten days of suspension of the sentence or in the case of a juvenile, of disposition. In addition, all persons convicted of violations under the laws of the United States or any other state substantially similar to an offense for which registration is required shall provide to the local agency all necessary information for inclusion in the Registry within ten days of establishing a residence within the Commonwealth. The local law-enforcement agency shall obtain from the person who presents himself for registration or reregistration, two sets of fingerprints and two photographs of a type and kind specified by the State Police for inclusion in the Registry and advise the person of his duties regarding reregistration. Any person required to register shall also be required to reregister within ten days following any change of residence, whether within or without the Commonwealth. If a probation or parole officer becomes aware of a change of residence for any of his probationers or parolees required to register, the probation or parole officer shall notify the State Police within ten days. Whenever a person subject to registration changes residence to another state, the State Police shall notify the designated law-enforcement agency of that state.

The local law-enforcement agency shall promptly submit to the State Police all necessary information for registrations and reregistrations pursuant to this subsection.

E. The registration shall be maintained in the Registry established pursuant to § 19.2-390.1 and shall include the person's name, all aliases which he has used or under which he may have been known, the date and locality of the conviction for which registration is required, his fingerprints and a photograph of a type and kind specified by the State Police, his date of birth, social security number, current address and a description of the offense or offenses for which he was convicted and shall, if applicable, provide the same information on convictions prior to July 1, 1997, for any of the specified offenses or under a substantially similar law of the United States or any other state.

F. Every person required to register under this section, other than a person convicted of a sexually violent offense but including persons required to register between July 1, 1994, and July 1, 1997, shall reregister with the State Police on an annual basis from the date of the initial registration. Every person convicted of a sexually violent offense, including persons convicted of a sexually violent offense who were required to register between July 1, 1994, and July 1, 1997, shall reregister with the State Police every ninety days from the date of initial registration. For purposes of this section, reregistration means that the person has notified the State Police, confirmed his then current address and provided such other information, including identifying information, which the State Police may, pursuant to this section and by regulation, require. Upon registration and as may be necessary thereafter, the State Police shall provide the person with an address verification form to be used for reregistration. The form shall contain in bold print a statement indicating that failure to comply with the registration required is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor or a Class 6 felony as provided in § 18.2-472.1.

G. Nonresident offenders entering the Commonwealth for employment, to carry on a vocation, or as a student attending school who are required to register in their state of residence or who would be required to register under this section if a resident of the Commonwealth shall, within ten days of accepting employment or enrolling in school in the Commonwealth, be required to register and reregister pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section, "employment" and "carry on a vocation" include employment that is full-time or part-time for a period of time exceeding fourteen days or for an aggregate period of time exceeding thirty days during any calendar year, whether financially compensated, volunteered, or for the purpose of government or educational benefit. For purposes of this section "student" means a person who is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis, in any public or private educational institution, including any secondary school, trade or professional institution, or institution of higher education.

H. Whenever it appears from the records of the State Police that a person has failed to comply with the duty to register or reregister, the State Police shall promptly cause a warrant for the arrest of the person to be issued charging a violation of § 18.2-472.1 by the jurisdiction in which the offender last registered or reregistered or, if the offender failed to comply with the duty to register, in the jurisdiction in which the offender was last convicted of an offense for which registration or reregistration is required. *The State Police shall forward to the jurisdiction, together with the warrant, an affidavit signed by the custodian of the records that such person failed to comply with the duty to register or reregister. Such affidavit shall be admitted into evidence as prima facie evidence of the failure to comply with the duty to register or reregister in any trial for the violation of § 18.2-472.1.* The State Police shall also promptly notify the local law-enforcement agency of the jurisdiction of the offender's last known residence as shown in the records of the State Police.