

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact §§ 9.1-102 and 44-146.18 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code*
3 *of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-1718.2, relating to missing persons; search and*
4 *rescue.*

5 [H 1808]
6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

8 **1. That §§ 9.1-102 and 44-146.18 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the**
9 **Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-1718.2 as follows:**

10 **§ 9.1-102. Powers and duties of the Board and the Department.**

11 The Department, under the direction of the Board, which shall be the policy-making body for
12 carrying out the duties and powers hereunder, shall have the power and duty to:

13 1. Adopt regulations, pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), for the
14 administration of this chapter including the authority to require the submission of reports and
15 information by law-enforcement officers within the Commonwealth. Any proposed regulations
16 concerning the privacy, confidentiality, and security of criminal justice information shall be submitted
17 for review and comment to any board, commission, or committee or other body which may be
18 established by the General Assembly to regulate the privacy, confidentiality, and security of information
19 collected and maintained by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof;

20 2. Establish compulsory minimum training standards subsequent to employment as a law-enforcement
21 officer in (i) permanent positions, and (ii) temporary or probationary status, and establish the time
22 required for completion of such training;

23 3. Establish minimum training standards and qualifications for certification and recertification for
24 law-enforcement officers serving as field training officers;

25 4. Establish compulsory minimum curriculum requirements for in-service and advanced courses and
26 programs for schools, whether located in or outside the Commonwealth, which are operated for the
27 specific purpose of training law-enforcement officers;

28 5. Establish (i) compulsory minimum training standards for law-enforcement officers who utilize
29 radar or an electrical or microcomputer device to measure the speed of motor vehicles as provided in
30 § 46.2-882 and establish the time required for completion of the training and (ii) compulsory minimum
31 qualifications for certification and recertification of instructors who provide such training;

32 6. Establish compulsory training courses for law-enforcement officers in laws and procedures relating
33 to entrapment, search and seizure, evidence, and techniques of report writing, which training shall be
34 completed by law-enforcement officers who have not completed the compulsory training standards set
35 out in subdivision 2, prior to assignment of any such officers to undercover investigation work. Failure
36 to complete the training shall not, for that reason, constitute grounds to exclude otherwise properly
37 admissible testimony or other evidence from such officer resulting from any undercover investigation;

38 7. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service and advanced training standards for those
39 persons designated to provide courthouse and courtroom security pursuant to the provisions of
40 § 53.1-120, and to establish the time required for completion of such training;

41 8. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service and advanced training standards for deputy
42 sheriffs designated to serve process pursuant to the provisions of § 8.01-293, and establish the time
43 required for the completion of such training;

44 9. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service, and advanced training standards, as well as
45 the time required for completion of such training, for persons employed as deputy sheriffs and jail
46 officers by local criminal justice agencies, correctional officers employed by the Department of
47 Corrections under the provisions of Title 53.1, and juvenile correctional officers employed at a juvenile
48 correctional facility as the term is defined in § 66-25.3;

49 10. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for all dispatchers employed by or in any local
50 or state government agency, whose duties include the dispatching of law-enforcement personnel. Such
51 training standards shall apply only to dispatchers hired on or after July 1, 1988;

52 11. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for all auxiliary police officers employed by or
53 in any local or state government agency. Such training shall be graduated and based on the type of
54 duties to be performed by the auxiliary police officers. Such training standards shall not apply to
55 auxiliary police officers exempt pursuant to § 15.2-1731;

56 12. Consult and cooperate with counties, municipalities, agencies of the Commonwealth, other state

57 and federal governmental agencies, and with universities, colleges, community colleges, and other
58 institutions, whether located in or outside the Commonwealth, concerning the development of police
59 training schools and programs or courses of instruction;

60 13. Approve institutions, curricula and facilities, whether located in or outside the Commonwealth,
61 for school operation for the specific purpose of training law-enforcement officers; but this shall not
62 prevent the holding of any such school whether approved or not;

63 14. Establish and maintain police training programs through such agencies and institutions as the
64 Board deems appropriate;

65 15. Establish compulsory minimum qualifications of certification and recertification for instructors in
66 criminal justice training schools approved by the Department;

67 16. Conduct and stimulate research by public and private agencies which shall be designed to
68 improve police administration and law enforcement;

69 17. Make recommendations concerning any matter within its purview pursuant to this chapter;

70 18. Coordinate its activities with those of any interstate system for the exchange of criminal history
71 record information, nominate one or more of its members to serve upon the council or committee of any
72 such system, and participate when and as deemed appropriate in any such system's activities and
73 programs;

74 19. Conduct inquiries and investigations it deems appropriate to carry out its functions under this
75 chapter and, in conducting such inquiries and investigations, may require any criminal justice agency to
76 submit information, reports, and statistical data with respect to its policy and operation of information
77 systems or with respect to its collection, storage, dissemination, and usage of criminal history record
78 information and correctional status information, and such criminal justice agencies shall submit such
79 information, reports, and data as are reasonably required;

80 20. Conduct audits as required by § 9.1-131;

81 21. Conduct a continuing study and review of questions of individual privacy and confidentiality of
82 criminal history record information and correctional status information;

83 22. Advise criminal justice agencies and initiate educational programs for such agencies with respect
84 to matters of privacy, confidentiality, and security as they pertain to criminal history record information
85 and correctional status information;

86 23. Maintain a liaison with any board, commission, committee, or other body which may be
87 established by law, executive order, or resolution to regulate the privacy and security of information
88 collected by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof;

89 24. Adopt regulations establishing guidelines and standards for the collection, storage, and
90 dissemination of criminal history record information and correctional status information, and the privacy,
91 confidentiality, and security thereof necessary to implement state and federal statutes, regulations, and
92 court orders;

93 25. Operate a statewide criminal justice research center, which shall maintain an integrated criminal
94 justice information system, produce reports, provide technical assistance to state and local criminal
95 justice data system users, and provide analysis and interpretation of criminal justice statistical
96 information;

97 26. Develop a comprehensive, statewide, long-range plan for strengthening and improving law
98 enforcement and the administration of criminal justice throughout the Commonwealth, and periodically
99 update that plan;

100 27. Cooperate with, and advise and assist, all agencies, departments, boards and institutions of the
101 Commonwealth, and units of general local government, or combinations thereof, including planning
102 district commissions, in planning, developing, and administering programs, projects, comprehensive
103 plans, and other activities for improving law enforcement and the administration of criminal justice
104 throughout the Commonwealth, including allocating and subgranting funds for these purposes;

105 28. Define, develop, organize, encourage, conduct, coordinate, and administer programs, projects and
106 activities for the Commonwealth and units of general local government, or combinations thereof, in the
107 Commonwealth, designed to strengthen and improve law enforcement and the administration of criminal
108 justice at every level throughout the Commonwealth;

109 29. Review and evaluate programs, projects, and activities, and recommend, where necessary,
110 revisions or alterations to such programs, projects, and activities for the purpose of improving law
111 enforcement and the administration of criminal justice;

112 30. Coordinate the activities and projects of the state departments, agencies, and boards of the
113 Commonwealth and of the units of general local government, or combination thereof, including planning
114 district commissions, relating to the preparation, adoption, administration, and implementation of
115 comprehensive plans to strengthen and improve law enforcement and the administration of criminal
116 justice;

117 31. Do all things necessary on behalf of the Commonwealth and its units of general local

118 government, to determine and secure benefits available under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
119 Streets Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-351, 82 Stat. 197), as amended, and under any other federal acts and
120 programs for strengthening and improving law enforcement, the administration of criminal justice, and
121 delinquency prevention and control;

122 32. Receive, administer, and expend all funds and other assistance available to the Board and the
123 Department for carrying out the purposes of this chapter and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
124 Streets Act of 1968, as amended;

125 33. Apply for and accept grants from the United States government or any other source in carrying
126 out the purposes of this chapter and accept any and all donations both real and personal, and grants of
127 money from any governmental unit or public agency, or from any institution, person, firm or
128 corporation, and may receive, utilize and dispose of the same. Any arrangements pursuant to this section
129 shall be detailed in the annual report of the Board. Such report shall include the identity of the donor,
130 the nature of the transaction, and the conditions, if any. Any moneys received pursuant to this section
131 shall be deposited in the state treasury to the account of the Department. To these ends, the Board shall
132 have the power to comply with conditions and execute such agreements as may be necessary;

133 34. Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of
134 its duties and execution of its powers under this chapter, including but not limited to, contracts with the
135 United States, units of general local government or combinations thereof, in Virginia or other states, and
136 with agencies and departments of the Commonwealth;

137 35. Adopt and administer reasonable regulations for the planning and implementation of programs
138 and activities and for the allocation, expenditure and subgranting of funds available to the
139 Commonwealth and to units of general local government, and for carrying out the purposes of this
140 chapter and the powers and duties set forth herein;

141 36. Certify and decertify law-enforcement officers in accordance with §§ 15.2-1706 and 15.2-1707;

142 37. Establish training standards and publish a model policy for law-enforcement personnel in the
143 handling of family abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases, including standards for
144 determining the predominant physical aggressor in accordance with § 19.2-81.3. The Department shall
145 provide technical support and assistance to law-enforcement agencies in carrying out the requirements
146 set forth in § 9.1-1301 and shall by December 1, 2009, submit a report on the status of implementation
147 of these requirements to the chairmen of the House and Senate Courts of Justice Committees;

148 38. Establish training standards and publish a model policy for law-enforcement personnel in
149 communicating with and facilitating the safe return of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;

150 39. Establish compulsory training standards for basic training and the recertification of
151 law-enforcement officers to ensure sensitivity to and awareness of cultural diversity and the potential for
152 biased policing;

153 40. Review and evaluate community-policing programs in the Commonwealth, and recommend where
154 necessary statewide operating procedures, guidelines, and standards which strengthen and improve such
155 programs, including sensitivity to and awareness of cultural diversity and the potential for biased
156 policing;

157 41. Publish and disseminate a model policy or guideline that may be used by state and local agencies
158 to ensure that law-enforcement personnel are sensitive to and aware of cultural diversity and the
159 potential for biased policing;

160 42. Establish a Virginia Law-Enforcement Accreditation Center. The Center may, in cooperation with
161 Virginia law-enforcement agencies, provide technical assistance and administrative support, including
162 staffing, for the establishment of voluntary state law-enforcement accreditation standards. The Center
163 may provide accreditation assistance and training, resource material, and research into methods and
164 procedures that will assist the Virginia law-enforcement community efforts to obtain Virginia
165 accreditation status;

166 43. Promote community policing philosophy and practice throughout the Commonwealth by
167 providing community policing training and technical assistance statewide to all law-enforcement
168 agencies, community groups, public and private organizations and citizens; developing and distributing
169 innovative policing curricula and training tools on general community policing philosophy and practice
170 and contemporary critical issues facing Virginia communities; serving as a consultant to Virginia
171 organizations with specific community policing needs; facilitating continued development and
172 implementation of community policing programs statewide through discussion forums for community
173 policing leaders, development of law-enforcement instructors; promoting a statewide community policing
174 initiative; and serving as a statewide information source on the subject of community policing including,
175 but not limited to periodic newsletters, a website and an accessible lending library;

176 44. Establish, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Virginia State Crime
177 Commission, compulsory minimum standards for employment and job-entry and in-service training
178 curricula and certification requirements for school security officers, which training and certification shall

179 be administered by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety pursuant to § 9.1-184. Such
180 training standards shall include, but shall not be limited to, the role and responsibility of school security
181 officers, relevant state and federal laws, school and personal liability issues, security awareness in the
182 school environment, mediation and conflict resolution, disaster and emergency response, and student
183 behavioral dynamics. The Department shall establish an advisory committee consisting of local school
184 board representatives, principals, superintendents, and school security personnel to assist in the
185 development of these standards and certification requirements;

186 45. Establish training standards and publish a model policy and protocols for local and regional
187 sexual assault response teams;

188 46. License and regulate property bail bondsmen and surety bail bondsmen in accordance with
189 Article 11 (§ 9.1-185 et seq.);

190 47. License and regulate bail enforcement agents in accordance with Article 12 (§ 9.1-186 et seq.);

191 48. In conjunction with the Virginia State Police and the State Compensation Board, advise criminal
192 justice agencies regarding the investigation, registration, and dissemination of information requirements
193 as they pertain to the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry Act (§ 9.1-900 et seq.);

194 49. Establish minimum standards for (i) employment, (ii) job-entry and in-service training curricula,
195 and (iii) certification requirements for campus security officers. Such training standards shall include, but
196 not be limited to, the role and responsibility of campus security officers, relevant state and federal laws,
197 school and personal liability issues, security awareness in the campus environment, and disaster and
198 emergency response. The Department shall provide technical support and assistance to campus police
199 departments and campus security departments on the establishment and implementation of policies and
200 procedures, including but not limited to: the management of such departments, investigatory procedures,
201 judicial referrals, the establishment and management of databases for campus safety and security
202 information sharing, and development of uniform record keeping for disciplinary records and statistics,
203 such as campus crime logs, judicial referrals and Clery Act statistics. The Department shall establish an
204 advisory committee consisting of college administrators, college police chiefs, college security
205 department chiefs, and local law-enforcement officials to assist in the development of the standards and
206 certification requirements and training pursuant to this subdivision;

207 50. Establish compulsory training standards and publish a model policy for law-enforcement
208 personnel regarding death notification;

209 51. Assess and report, in accordance with § 9.1-190, the crisis intervention team programs established
210 pursuant to § 9.1-187;

211 52. Establish, publish, and disseminate a model policy or guideline for law-enforcement personnel for
212 questioning individuals suspected of driving while intoxicated concerning the physical location of that
213 individual's last consumption of an alcoholic beverage and for communicating that information to the
214 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board;

215 53. Establish training standards and publish a model policy for law-enforcement personnel assigned
216 to vehicle patrol duties that embody current best practices for pursuits and for responding to emergency
217 calls;

218 54. Establish training standards and publish a model policy for law-enforcement personnel involved
219 in criminal investigations that embody current best practices for conducting photographic and live
220 lineups;

221 55. In conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, advise law-enforcement agencies and
222 attorneys for the Commonwealth regarding the identification, investigation, and prosecution of human
223 trafficking offenses using the common law and existing criminal statutes in the Code of Virginia. The
224 Department shall publish and disseminate a model policy or guideline for law-enforcement personnel
225 involved in criminal investigations or assigned to vehicle or street patrol duties to ensure that
226 law-enforcement personnel are sensitive to and aware of human trafficking offenses and the
227 identification of victims of human trafficking offenses;

228 56. Register tow truck drivers in accordance with § 46.2-116 and carry out the provisions of
229 § 46.2-117; and

230 57. Establish training standards and publish a model policy for missing children, missing adults, and
231 search and rescue protocol; and

232 58. Perform such other acts as may be necessary or convenient for the effective performance of its
233 duties.

234 **§ 15.2-1718.2. Receipt of critically missing adult reports.**

235 A. No police or sheriff's department shall establish or maintain any policy that requires the
236 observance of any waiting period before accepting a critically missing adult report. Upon receipt of a
237 critically missing adult report by any police or sheriff's department, the department shall immediately,
238 but in all cases within two hours of receiving the report, enter identifying and descriptive data about the
239 critically missing adult into the Virginia Criminal Information Network and the National Crime

240 Information Center Systems, forward the report to the Department of State Police, notify all other
241 law-enforcement agencies in the area, and initiate an investigation of the case.

242 B. For purposes of this section:

243 "Critically missing adult" means any missing adult 21 years of age or older whose disappearance
244 indicates a credible threat to the health and safety of the adult as determined by a law-enforcement
245 agency and under such other circumstances as deemed appropriate after consideration of all known
246 circumstances.

247 "Critically missing adult report" means a report prepared in a format prescribed by the
248 Superintendent of State Police for use by law-enforcement agencies to report critically missing adult
249 information, including a photograph, to the Department of State Police.

250 **§ 44-146.18. Department of Emergency Services continued as Department of Emergency**
251 **Management; administration and operational control; coordinator and other personnel; powers**
252 **and duties.**

253 A. The State Office of Emergency Services is continued and shall hereafter be known as the
254 Department of Emergency Management. Wherever the words "State Department of Emergency Services"
255 are used in any law of the Commonwealth, they shall mean the Department of Emergency Management.
256 During a declared emergency this Department shall revert to the operational control of the Governor.
257 The Department shall have a coordinator who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the
258 Governor and also serve as State Emergency Planning Director. The Department shall employ the
259 professional, technical, secretarial, and clerical employees necessary for the performance of its functions.

260 B. The State Department of Emergency Management shall in the administration of emergency
261 services and disaster preparedness programs:

262 1. In coordination with political subdivisions and state agencies, ensure that the Commonwealth has
263 up-to-date assessments and preparedness plans to prevent, respond to and recover from all disasters
264 including acts of terrorism;

265 2. Conduct a statewide emergency management assessment in cooperation with political subdivisions,
266 private industry and other public and private entities deemed vital to preparedness, public safety and
267 security. The assessment shall include a review of emergency response plans, which include the variety
268 of hazards, natural and man-made. The assessment shall be updated annually;

269 3. Submit to the Governor and to the General Assembly, no later than the first day of each regular
270 session of the General Assembly, an annual executive summary and report on the status of emergency
271 management response plans throughout the Commonwealth and other measures taken or recommended
272 to prevent, respond to and recover from disasters, including acts of terrorism. This report shall be made
273 available to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents
274 and reports. Information submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in subdivision 4 of
275 § 2.2-3705.2 shall not be disclosed unless:

276 a. It is requested by law-enforcement authorities in furtherance of an official investigation or the
277 prosecution of a criminal act;

278 b. The agency holding the record is served with a proper judicial order; or

279 c. The agency holding the record has obtained written consent to release the information from the
280 State Department of Emergency Management;

281 4. Promulgate plans and programs that are conducive to adequate disaster mitigation preparedness,
282 response and recovery programs;

283 5. Prepare and maintain a State Emergency Operations Plan for disaster response and recovery
284 operations that assigns primary and support responsibilities for basic emergency services functions to
285 state agencies, organizations and personnel as appropriate;

286 6. Coordinate and administer disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery plans and
287 programs with the proponent federal, state and local government agencies and related groups;

288 7. Provide guidance and assistance to state agencies and units of local government in developing and
289 maintaining emergency management and continuity of operations (COOP) programs, plans and systems;

290 8. Make necessary recommendations to agencies of the federal, state, or local governments on
291 preventive and preparedness measures designed to eliminate or reduce disasters and their impact;

292 9. Determine requirements of the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions for those necessities
293 needed in the event of a declared emergency which are not otherwise readily available;

294 10. Assist state agencies and political subdivisions in establishing and operating training programs
295 and programs of public information and education regarding emergency services and disaster
296 preparedness activities;

297 11. Consult with the Board of Education regarding the development and revision of a model school
298 crisis and emergency management plan for the purpose of assisting public schools in establishing,
299 operating, and maintaining emergency services and disaster preparedness activities;

300 12. Consult with the State Council of Higher Education in the development and revision of a model

301 institutional crisis and emergency management plan for the purpose of assisting public and private
302 two-year and four-year institutions of higher education in establishing, operating, and maintaining
303 emergency services and disaster preparedness activities and, as needed, in developing an institutional
304 crisis and emergency management plan pursuant to § 23-9.2:9;

305 13. Develop standards, provide guidance and encourage the maintenance of local and state agency
306 emergency operations plans, which shall include the requirement for a provision that the Department of
307 Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund be contacted
308 immediately to deploy assistance in the event of an emergency as defined in the emergency response
309 plan when there are victims as defined in § 19.2-11.01. The Department of Criminal Justice Services and
310 the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund shall be the lead coordinating agencies for those
311 individuals determined to be victims, and the plan shall also contain current contact information for both
312 agencies;

313 14. Prepare, maintain, coordinate or implement emergency resource management plans and programs
314 with federal, state and local government agencies and related groups, and make such surveys of
315 industries, resources, and facilities within the Commonwealth, both public and private, as are necessary
316 to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

317 15. Coordinate with the federal government and any public or private agency or entity in achieving
318 any purpose of this chapter and in implementing programs for disaster prevention, mitigation,
319 preparation, response, and recovery;

320 16. Establish guidelines pursuant to § 44-146.28, and administer payments to eligible applicants as
321 authorized by the Governor;

322 17. Coordinate and be responsible for the receipt, evaluation, and dissemination of emergency
323 services intelligence pertaining to all probable hazards affecting the Commonwealth;

324 18. Coordinate intelligence activities relating to terrorism with the Department of State Police; and

325 19. Develop an emergency response plan to address the needs of individuals with household pets and
326 service animals in the event of a disaster and assist and coordinate with local agencies in developing an
327 emergency response plan for household pets and service animals.

328 C. The State Department of Emergency Management shall during a period of impending emergency
329 or declared emergency be responsible for:

330 1. The receipt, evaluation, and dissemination of intelligence pertaining to an impending or actual
331 disaster;

332 2. Providing facilities from which state agencies and supporting organizations may conduct
333 emergency operations;

334 3. Providing an adequate communications and warning system capable of notifying all political
335 subdivisions in the Commonwealth of an impending disaster within a reasonable time;

336 4. Establishing and maintaining liaison with affected political subdivisions;

337 5. Determining requirements for disaster relief and recovery assistance;

338 6. Coordinating disaster response actions of federal, state and volunteer relief agencies;

339 7. Coordinating and providing guidance and assistance to affected political subdivisions to ensure
340 orderly and timely response to and recovery from disaster effects.

341 D. The State Department of Emergency Management shall be provided the necessary facilities and
342 equipment needed to perform its normal day-to-day activities and coordinate disaster-related activities of
343 the various federal, state, and other agencies during a state of emergency declaration by the Governor or
344 following a major disaster declaration by the President.

345 E. The State Department of Emergency Management is authorized to enter into all contracts and
346 agreements necessary or incidental to performance of any of its duties stated in this section or otherwise
347 assigned to it by law, including contracts with the United States, other states, agencies and government
348 subdivisions of the Commonwealth, and other appropriate public and private entities.

349 F. The State Department of Emergency Management shall encourage private industries whose goods
350 and services are deemed vital to the public good to provide annually updated preparedness assessments
351 to the local coordinator of emergency management on or before April 1 of each year, to facilitate
352 overall Commonwealth preparedness. For the purposes of this section, "private industry" means
353 companies, private hospitals, and other businesses or organizations deemed by the State Coordinator of
354 Emergency Management to be essential to the public safety and well-being of the citizens of the
355 Commonwealth.

356 G. *The State Department of Emergency Management shall establish a Coordinator of Search and
357 Rescue. Powers and duties of the Coordinator shall include:*

358 1. *Coordinating the search and rescue function of the State Department of Emergency Management;*

359 2. *Coordinating with local, state, and federal agencies involved in search and rescue;*

360 3. *Coordinating the activities of search and rescue organizations involved in search and rescue;*

361 4. *Maintaining a register of search and rescue certifications, training, and responses;*

- 362 5. Establishing a memorandum of understanding with the Virginia Search and Rescue Council and
363 its respective member agencies regarding search and rescue efforts;
364 6. Providing on-scene search and rescue coordination when requested by an authorized person;
365 7. Providing specialized search and rescue training to police, fire-rescue, EMS, emergency managers,
366 volunteer search and rescue responders, and others who might have a duty to respond to a search and
367 rescue emergency;
368 8. Gathering and maintaining statistics on search and rescue in the Commonwealth;
369 9. Compiling, maintaining, and making available an inventory of search and rescue resources
370 available in the Commonwealth;
371 10. Periodically reviewing search and rescue cases and developing best professional practices; and
372 11. Providing an annual report to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security on the
373 current readiness of Virginia's search and rescue efforts.
374 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as authorizing the State Department of Emergency
375 Management to take direct operational responsibilities from local, state, or federal law enforcement in
376 the course of search and rescue or missing person cases.