

2007 SESSION

INTRODUCED

070039304

HOUSE BILL NO. 3146

Offered January 19, 2007

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 19.2-265.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to discovery; duty to provide police reports.*

Patron—Gear

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 19.2-265.4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 19.2-265.4. Failure to provide discovery.

A. In any criminal prosecution for a felony in a circuit court or for a misdemeanor brought on direct indictment, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall have a duty to adequately and fully provide discovery as provided under Rule 3A:11 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. Rule 3A:11 shall be construed to apply to such felony and misdemeanor prosecutions. This duty to disclose shall be continuing and shall apply to any additional evidence or material discovered by the Commonwealth prior to or during trial which is subject to discovery or inspection and has been previously requested by the accused. In any criminal prosecution for a misdemeanor by trial de novo in circuit court, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall have a duty to adequately and fully provide discovery as provided under Rule 7C:5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. *In addition to the duties provided for in this subsection, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall have a duty to provide full and accurate copies of any police reports or similar information to the attorney for the defendant or, if unrepresented, to the defendant at his last known address within three days after the reports are received by the attorney for the Commonwealth.*

B. If at any time during the course of the proceedings it is brought to the attention of the court that the attorney for the Commonwealth has failed to comply with this section, the court may order the Commonwealth to permit the discovery or inspection, grant a continuance, or prohibit the Commonwealth from introducing evidence not disclosed, or the court may enter such other order as it deems just under the circumstances.

INTRODUCED

HB3146