

2020 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

20200396D

HOUSE BILL NO. 5086

Offered August 18, 2020

A BILL to amend and reenact § 9.1-102 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 9.1-187.1, 9.1-188.1, and 9.1-189.1 and by adding in Article 13 of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 a section numbered 9.1-190.1, relating to mobile crisis co-response team programs.

Patrons—Kory, Carroll Foy, Cole, J.G., Hope, Levine, McQuinn, Plum, Rasoul and Simonds; Senator: Surovell

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 9.1-102 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 9.1-187.1, 9.1-188.1, and 9.1-189.1 and by adding in Article 13 of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 a section numbered 9.1-190.1 as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. [Repealed];

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

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

9. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service, and advanced training standards, as well as the time required for completion of such training, for persons employed as deputy sheriffs and jail officers by local criminal justice agencies and correctional officers employed by the Department of Corrections under the provisions of Title 53.1. For correctional officers employed by the Department of Corrections, such standards shall include training on the general care of pregnant women, the impact of restraints on pregnant inmates and fetuses, the impact of being placed in restrictive housing or solitary confinement on pregnant inmates, and the impact of body cavity searches on pregnant inmates;

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

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

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58 12. Consult and cooperate with counties, municipalities, agencies of the Commonwealth, other state
59 and federal governmental agencies, and institutions of higher education within or outside the
60 Commonwealth, concerning the development of police training schools and programs or courses of
61 instruction;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

37. Establish training standards and publish and periodically update model policies for law-enforcement personnel in the following subjects:

a. The handling of family abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases, including standards for determining the predominant physical aggressor in accordance with § 19.2-81.3. The Department shall provide technical support and assistance to law-enforcement agencies in carrying out the requirements set forth in subsection A of § 9.1-1301;

b. Communication with and facilitation of the safe return of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;

c. Sensitivity to and awareness of cultural diversity and the potential for biased policing;

d. Protocols for local and regional sexual assault response teams;

e. Communication of death notifications;

f. The questioning of individuals suspected of driving while intoxicated concerning the physical location of such individual's last consumption of an alcoholic beverage and the communication of such information to the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority;

g. Vehicle patrol duties that embody current best practices for pursuits and for responding to emergency calls;

h. Criminal investigations that embody current best practices for conducting photographic and live lineups;

i. Sensitivity to and awareness of human trafficking offenses and the identification of victims of human trafficking offenses for personnel involved in criminal investigations or assigned to vehicle or street patrol duties; and

j. Missing children, missing adults, and search and rescue protocol;

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

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

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

41. Promote community policing philosophy and practice throughout the Commonwealth by providing community policing training and technical assistance statewide to all law-enforcement

181 agencies, community groups, public and private organizations and citizens; developing and distributing
182 innovative policing curricula and training tools on general community policing philosophy and practice
183 and contemporary critical issues facing Virginia communities; serving as a consultant to Virginia
184 organizations with specific community policing needs; facilitating continued development and
185 implementation of community policing programs statewide through discussion forums for community
186 policing leaders, development of law-enforcement instructors; promoting a statewide community policing
187 initiative; and serving as a statewide information source on the subject of community policing including,
188 but not limited to periodic newsletters, a website and an accessible lending library;

189 42. Establish, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Virginia State Crime
190 Commission, compulsory minimum standards for employment and job-entry and in-service training
191 curricula and certification requirements for school security officers, including school security officers
192 described in clause (b) of § 22.1-280.2:1, which training and certification shall be administered by the
193 Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) pursuant to § 9.1-184. Such training standards
194 shall be specific to the role and responsibility of school security officers and shall include (i) relevant
195 state and federal laws; (ii) school and personal liability issues; (iii) security awareness in the school
196 environment; (iv) mediation and conflict resolution, including de-escalation techniques such as a physical
197 alternative to restraint; (v) disaster and emergency response; (vi) awareness of cultural diversity and
198 implicit bias; (vii) working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance abuse
199 disorders, and past traumatic experiences; and (viii) student behavioral dynamics, including child and
200 adolescent development and brain research. The Department shall establish an advisory committee
201 consisting of local school board representatives, principals, superintendents, and school security
202 personnel to assist in the development of the standards and certification requirements in this subdivision.
203 The Department shall require any school security officer who carries a firearm in the performance of his
204 duties to provide proof that he has completed a training course provided by a federal, state, or local
205 law-enforcement agency that includes training in active shooter emergency response, emergency
206 evacuation procedure, and threat assessment;

207 43. License and regulate property bail bondsmen and surety bail bondsmen in accordance with
208 Article 11 (§ 9.1-185 et seq.);

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

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

213 46. Establish minimum standards for (i) employment, (ii) job-entry and in-service training curricula,
214 and (iii) certification requirements for campus security officers. Such training standards shall include, but
215 not be limited to, the role and responsibility of campus security officers, relevant state and federal laws,
216 school and personal liability issues, security awareness in the campus environment, and disaster and
217 emergency response. The Department shall provide technical support and assistance to campus police
218 departments and campus security departments on the establishment and implementation of policies and
219 procedures, including but not limited to: the management of such departments, investigatory procedures,
220 judicial referrals, the establishment and management of databases for campus safety and security
221 information sharing, and development of uniform record keeping for disciplinary records and statistics,
222 such as campus crime logs, judicial referrals and Clery Act statistics. The Department shall establish an
223 advisory committee consisting of college administrators, college police chiefs, college security
224 department chiefs, and local law-enforcement officials to assist in the development of the standards and
225 certification requirements and training pursuant to this subdivision;

226 47. Assess and report, in accordance with § 9.1-190, the crisis intervention team programs established
227 pursuant to § 9.1-187;

228 48. In conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, advise law-enforcement agencies and
229 attorneys for the Commonwealth regarding the identification, investigation, and prosecution of human
230 trafficking offenses using the common law and existing criminal statutes in the Code of Virginia;

231 49. Register tow truck drivers in accordance with § 46.2-116 and carry out the provisions of
232 § 46.2-117;

233 50. Administer the activities of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional
234 Standards Committee by providing technical assistance and administrative support, including staffing, for
235 the Committee;

236 51. In accordance with § 9.1-102.1, design and approve the issuance of photo-identification cards to
237 private security services registrants registered pursuant to Article 4 (§ 9.1-138 et seq.);

238 52. In consultation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Virginia
239 Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, develop multidisciplinary curricula on
240 trauma-informed sexual assault investigation;

241 53. In consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, develop a
242 model addiction recovery program that may be administered by sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, jail officers,

administrators, or superintendents in any local or regional jail. Such program shall be based on any existing addiction recovery programs that are being administered by any local or regional jails in the Commonwealth. Participation in the model addiction recovery program shall be voluntary, and such program may address aspects of the recovery process, including medical and clinical recovery, peer-to-peer support, availability of mental health resources, family dynamics, and aftercare aspects of the recovery process;

54. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for certification and recertification of law-enforcement officers serving as school resource officers. Such training shall be specific to the role and responsibility of a law-enforcement officer working with students in a school environment and shall include (i) relevant state and federal laws; (ii) school and personal liability issues; (iii) security awareness in the school environment; (iv) mediation and conflict resolution, including de-escalation techniques; (v) disaster and emergency response; (vi) awareness of cultural diversity and implicit bias; (vii) working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance abuse disorders, or past traumatic experiences; and (viii) student behavioral dynamics, including current child and adolescent development and brain research;

55. Establish a model policy for the operation of body-worn camera systems as defined in § 15.2-1723.1 that also addresses the storage and maintenance of body-worn camera system records;

56. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for detector canine handlers employed by the Department of Corrections, standards for the training and retention of detector canines used by the Department of Corrections, and a central database on the performance and effectiveness of such detector canines that requires the Department of Corrections to submit comprehensive information on each canine handler and detector canine, including the number and types of calls and searches, substances searched for and whether or not detected, and the number of false positives, false negatives, true positives, and true negatives;

57. Establish compulsory training standards for basic training of law-enforcement officers for recognizing and managing stress, self-care techniques, and resiliency; ~~and~~

58. *Assess and report, in accordance with § 9.1-190.1, the mobile crisis co-response team programs established pursuant to § 9.1-187.1; and*

~~58.~~ 59. Perform such other acts as may be necessary or convenient for the effective performance of its duties.

Article 13.

Crisis Intervention Teams and Mobile Crisis Co-Response Teams.

§ 9.1-187.1. Establishment of mobile crisis co-response team programs.

A. For purposes of this chapter:

"Mental health first response and alert system" means a process in which a call for service or other communication to an emergency 911 system or that is communicated with any other equivalent reporting system gets routed for the appropriate services, including calls for service being directed to a mobile crisis co-response team.

"Mental health service provider" means the same as such term is defined in § 54.1-2400.1.

"Mobile crisis co-response team" means a group of mental health service providers working with law-enforcement officers as a team, with the mental health service providers leading such team, to help stabilize individuals during law-enforcement encounters and crisis situations.

B. By January 1, 2021, the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, in collaboration with law-enforcement and mental health stakeholders, shall support the development and establishment of a mental health first response and alert system that uses mobile crisis co-response team programs in areas throughout the Commonwealth. Areas may be composed of any combination of one or more localities or institutions of higher education contained therein that may have law-enforcement officers as defined in § 9.1-101. The mobile crisis co-response teams shall respond to crisis situations involving persons whose behaviors are consistent with mental illness, substance abuse problems, or both. The goals of the mental health first response and alert system and mobile crisis co-response team programs shall be:

1. Providing immediate response by specially trained mental health service providers and law-enforcement officers;

2. Reducing the amount of time officers spend out of service awaiting assessment and disposition;

3. Affording persons with mental illness, substance abuse problems, or both a sense of dignity in crisis situations;

4. Reducing the likelihood of physical confrontation;

5. Decreasing arrests and use of force by law-enforcement officers;

6. Identifying underserved populations with mental illness, substance abuse problems, or both, and linking them to appropriate care, including follow-up and wrap-around services to individuals, family members, and caregivers to reduce the likelihood of future crises;

304 7. Providing support and assistance for mental health treatment service providers and
305 law-enforcement officers;
306 8. Decreasing the use of arrest and detention of persons experiencing mental health crises, substance
307 abuse crises, or both by providing better access to timely treatment;
308 9. Providing a therapeutic location or protocol to bring individuals in crisis for assessment that is
309 not a law-enforcement or jail facility;
310 10. Increasing public recognition and appreciation for the mental health needs of a community;
311 11. Decreasing injuries to law-enforcement officers during crisis events;
312 12. Reducing inappropriate arrests of individuals with mental illness in crisis situations;
313 13. Decreasing the need for mental health treatment in jail;
314 14. Accelerating access to care for individuals in crisis through improved and streamlined referral
315 mechanisms to mental health services;
316 15. Improving the notifications made to law-enforcement officers, mental health service providers,
317 and the public of an individual experiencing a mental health crisis if the individual poses an immediate
318 public safety threat; and
319 16. Decreasing the use of psychiatric hospitalizations as treatment for mental health crises.
320 C. The Department, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental
321 Services, shall establish criteria for the development of mobile crisis co-response teams that shall
322 include assessment of the effectiveness of the area's plan for community involvement, training, and
323 therapeutic response alternatives.
324 D. By November 1, 2021, the Department, and the Department of Behavioral Health and
325 Developmental Services, shall submit to the Governor and Chairmen of the House Committee on Public
326 Safety and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary a report outlining the status of the mobile crisis
327 co-response team programs, including copies of any requests for proposals and the criteria developed
328 for such areas.
329 **§ 9.1-188.1. Mobile crisis co-response team training.**
330 The Department, in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental
331 Services, the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, and law-enforcement, brain injury, and
332 mental health stakeholders, shall develop a training program for all persons involved in the mobile
333 crisis co-response team programs. Such training shall be provided by the Department of Behavioral
334 Health and Developmental Services and all team members shall receive this training.
335 **§ 9.1-189.1. Mobile crisis co-response team protocol.**
336 Each mobile crisis co-response team shall develop a protocol that permits the team to release a
337 person with mental illness, substance abuse problems, or both whom they encounter in crisis situations
338 when the mobile crisis co-response team has determined the person is sufficiently stable and to refer
339 him for emergency treatment services. Consideration shall be given to the particular needs of the
340 non-English speaking persons when developing such protocol and establishing each mobile crisis
341 co-response team.
342 **§ 9.1-190.1. Mobile crisis co-response team programs assessment.**
343 The Department, and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, shall assess
344 and report on the impact and effectiveness of the mobile crisis co-response team programs in meeting
345 the programs' goals. The assessment shall include the consideration of the number of incidents, injuries
346 to the parties involved, successes and problems encountered, the overall operation of the mobile crisis
347 co-response team programs, and recommendations for improvement of the programs. The Department,
348 and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, shall submit a report to the
349 Governor and Chairmen of the House Committee on Public Safety and the Senate Committee on the
350 Judiciary by November 15, 2022, 2023, and 2024.