Virginia State Police

Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division Newsletter

July 2020

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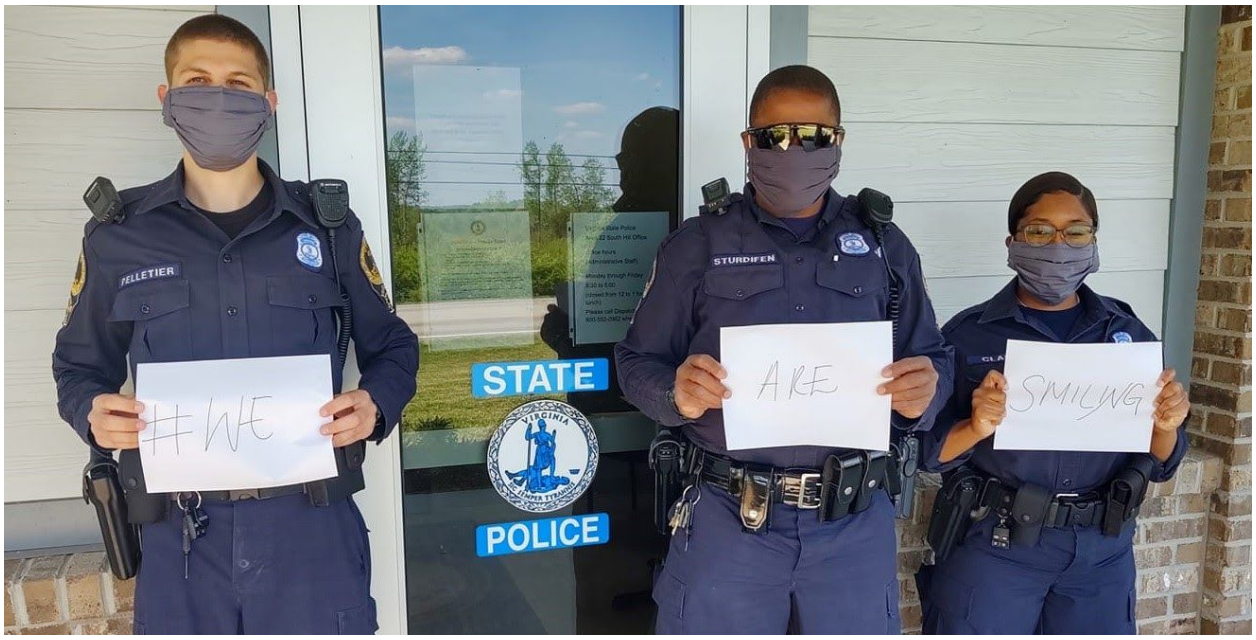

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CJIS Division

From the Capitol to COVID

During this year's legislative season, Lt. Crannis-Curl came up with a great and informative field trip for the CJIS Sections as a peek into the legislative process that often defines much of what we do on a daily basis. The VCIN and UCR sections were able to attend morning sessions. Many changes have resulted from the 2020 legislative session. A few will be covered throughout this newsletter.

While the legislative process kept much of CJIS busy, it was a drop in the bucket compared to what arrived mid-March. The virus that changed the world showed up and forced CJIS to adjust to concepts of social distancing and teleworking. A massive shift in day-to-day processes began. Fortunately, CJIS houses resilient and hard-working staff who adapted to the new safety guidelines. This adaptation opened up streamlined processes by using available technology.

AFIS-Livescan

Updates to Live Scan Terminals

The Uniform Statute Table (UST) has been updated by the Supreme Court of Virginia as a result of the 2020 General Assembly's proposed legislative changes becoming law, effective July 1, 2020.

In order to ensure a smooth transition of the UST updating process, Virginia State Police (VSP) Live Scan technicians remotely accessed and installed a Windows Task Scheduler on all Live Scan terminals during the month of June. The Windows Task Scheduler permits an automated update of the UST on July 1, 2020, without manual intervention from agencies.

Should you have any questions or issues regarding the 2020 UST update process, please email livescan@vsp.virginia.gov, with the subject line "2020 UST update."

VCIN

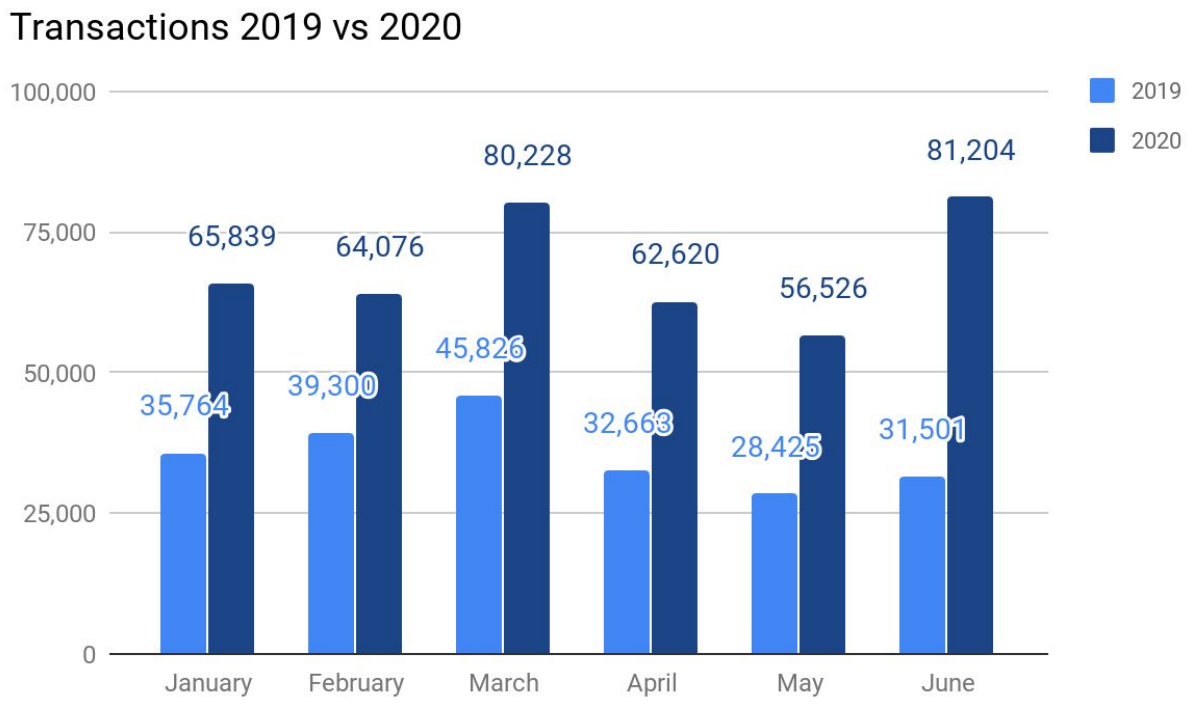
Recertification

The Virginia Criminal Information Network is pleased to announce that VCIN recertification training is now available through nexTEST. Recertification is only available to users that have previously completed the initial training in nexTEST. Users with an upcoming expiration date in VCIN will need to log into nexTEST to review the CJIS Security Training and Recertification modules in order to renew their certification. For questions concerning VCIN recertification please contact the VCIN Office by phone at 804-674-4660 or email at vcin.training@vsp.virginia.gov.

FTC

Record Numbers

The FTC has seen an increase of 157% of June 2020 transactions when compared to June of 2019. The totals for June of 2020 is 81,204 and June of 2019 was 31,501.



So far for the year we have completed 410,493 transactions, while last year we only completed 484,550 for the entire year.

CCRE

Simple Possession of Marijuana

In the 2020 General Assembly session, possession of marijuana was decriminalized. Out of this effort, legislators introduced new laws that took effect July 1, 2020, changing the way § 18.2-250.1 possession of marijuana is enforced and charge and conviction information is disseminated. Key changes to the enforcement procedures related to the possession of marijuana can be found under subsection B of § 18.2-250.1 *Possession of Marijuana* as listed below:

> B. Any violation of this section shall be charged by summons. A summons for a violation of this section may be executed by a law-enforcement officer when such violation is observed by such officer. The summons used by a law-enforcement officer pursuant to this section shall be in a form the same as the uniform summons for motor vehicle law violations as prescribed pursuant to § 46.2-388. No court costs shall be assessed for violations of this section. A person's criminal history record information as defined in § 9.1-101 shall not include records of any charges or judgments for a violation of this section, and records of such charges or judgments shall not be reported to the Central Criminal Records Exchange.

Fingerprints & Photographs for Felony Probation Violations

Equally important is the addition of fingerprints and photographs to be taken under § 19.2-392 of the Code of Virginia for felony violations of probation as listed in part (iv). This addition will directly aid in the Central Criminal Records Exchange's ability to include felony probation violation offenses and court dispositions to an individual's criminal history record. Failure to provide the arrest booking information could lead to the release of a firearm to a prohibited person, vulnerable populations being placed at risk or an adverse impact on the administration of justice. Additions to § 19.2-392 *Fingerprints and Photographs by Police Authorities* can be found below:

§ 19.2-392. Fingerprints and Photographs by Police Authorities.

A. All duly constituted police authorities having the power of arrest may take the fingerprints and photographs of: (i) any person arrested by them and charged with a felony or a misdemeanor an arrest for which is to be reported by them to the Central Criminal Records Exchange, (ii) any person who pleads guilty or is found guilty after being summoned in accordance with § 19.2-74, or (iii) any person charged with an offense that has been deferred by the court pursuant to §§ 18.2-57.3, 18.2-251, or 19.2-303.2, or (iv) upon the order of a court, any person found in contempt or in violation of the terms or conditions of a suspended sentence or probation for a felony offense pursuant to § 18.2-456, 19.2-306, or 53.1-165. Such authorities shall make such records available to the Central Criminal Records Exchange. Such authorities are authorized to provide, on the request of duly appointed law-enforcement officers, copies of any fingerprint records they may have, and to furnish services and technical advice in connection with the taking, classifying and preserving of fingerprints and fingerprint records.

B. Such police authorities may establish and collect a reasonable fee not to exceed $10 for the first card and $5 for each successive card for the taking of fingerprints when voluntarily requested by any person for purposes other than criminal violations.

It is imperative that agencies take the extra step to review each code section to ensure they fully understand the new requirements.

UCR-IBR

Crime In Virginia

The "2019 Crime in Virginia" annual report was released May 26, 2020. The current, as well as previous reports, may be viewed on the State Police website at https://www.vsp.virginia.gov/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm. This detailed document provides rates and occurrences of crimes committed in towns, cities, and counties across the Commonwealth. The report lists criminal offenses by reporting agencies, and arrests by jurisdiction, while also indicating when bias motivation (hate crime) is associated with an offense. The report also presents detailed information on law enforcement officers killed and assaulted (LEOKA).

We appreciate the ongoing effort from all contributing agencies to help ensure their data are as complete and accurate as possible. This is particularly important because these data are the official crime figures for Virginia. They are used by criminal justice personnel, policymakers, and the public to better understand the nature and extent of crime issues.

Data for 2019 show:

- Statewide violent crimes (murder, forcible sex offenses, robbery and aggravated assault) increased by 2.45% compared to the previous year.
- Motor vehicle thefts decreased by 4.2%, with 41.3% of vehicles being stolen from a residence/home.
- Drug and narcotic arrests decreased by 6.0% when compared to the previous year. Marijuana arrests accounted for 57% of all drug arrests, with a decrease of 8.3% when compared to the previous year. Arrests for amphetamines/methamphetamines had the greatest increase, from 3,483 to 4,646 (33.4%).
- There were 185 hate crime offenses, involving 187 victims, representing a 16.2% increase compared to 2018. Over sixty percent (63.6%) were racially or ethnically motivated.

Offense Type	2019	Crime Rate	2018
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	428	5.01	4.59
Kidnapping/Abduction	1,801	21.10	19.79
Forcible Sex Offenses	5,854	68.58	68.50
Non forcible Sex Offenses	134	1.57	1.95
Aggravated Assault	11,125	130.34	119.83
Simple Assault and Intimidation	86,610	1014.70	1011.78
All Human Trafficking*	43	0.50	-
Arson	664	7.78	7.78
Bribery	38	0.45	0.23
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	13,978	163.76	177.35
Counterfeiting/Forgery	6,132	71.84	80.53
Destruction/Vandalism of Property	47,455	555.97	575.90
Embezzlement	2,624	30.74	29.67
Extortion/Blackmail	492	5.76	7.02
All Fraud Offenses*	33,600	393.65	378.53
Robbery	3,541	41.49	42.54
All Larceny Offenses	117,859	1380.81	1375.88
Motor Vehicle Theft	10,575	123.89	122.94
Stolen Property Offenses	1,434	16.80	17.25
All Drug Offenses	74,219	869.53	871.08
All Gambling Offenses	46	0.54	0.46
Pornography/Obscene Material	1,868	21.89	20.10
All Prostitution Offenses*	615	7.21	5.98
Weapon Law Violations	12,373	144.96	141.96
Animal Cruelty*	1,362	15.96	-

Crime counts are number of victims for offenses against a person, number of vehicles stolen for motor vehicle theft and number of offenses for all other offenses

*As of March 2019, six new Group A offenses are collected

UCR-IBR Continued…

Community Policing Data Collection

Effective July 1, 2020, the Uniform Crime Reporting Section will begin the collection of community policing data, as required by 2020 Acts of Assembly Chapter 1165, the *Community Policing Act*. This Act requires that each time a local law-enforcement officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff or State Police officer stops a driver of a motor vehicle, the officer shall collect data, based on the officer's observation or information provided to the officer by the driver.

The *Community Policing Act* also requires each state and local law-enforcement agency to collect and report to the State Police the number of complaints the agency receives alleging the use of excessive force. The collection of complaint data will occur annually and will be captured on a form that will be sent at a later date.

Use of Force - Officer Involved Shooting Data Collection

On January 1, 2019, the FBI launched a National Use-of-Force Data Collection initiative to acquire statistical data on the circumstances, subjects, and officers involved in police use-of-force incidents. Virginia followed by acting as an intermediary for the collecting and reporting of use-of-force data on March 19, 2019. Facilitating the transmission and collection of this data eases the burden on agencies who opt to participate in the data collection by satisfying both statutory reporting of officer-involved shooting incidents and collecting additional use-of-force incidents that meet the FBI guidelines.

As of today, there are 76 law enforcement agencies participating. Participation in this initiative is voluntary and encouraged to all Virginia law enforcement agencies. The data submitted will be aggregated by the FBI at a national, regional, or state level to aid collective understanding of these incidents.

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