

# **The Commission on VASAP**

**2023 Annual Executive Summary**

January 2024



**Your Doorway to Safe & Sober Driving**

## **Introduction**

The Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program traces its roots to Fairfax County. In 1972, it became the site of one of 35 national “Alcohol Safety Action Projects” funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). On March 24, 1975, legislation passed by the General Assembly expanded this program statewide establishing driver education and rehabilitation programs in an effort to reduce the number of highway tragedies. In 1986, the General Assembly formed the Commission on Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (Commission on VASAP). This provided for the standardization of ASAP operations, thereby increasing the quality and equity of services to offenders statewide.

There are currently 24 Alcohol Safety Action Programs (ASAPs) throughout Virginia. Every jurisdiction in the Commonwealth is covered by one of the local programs. The ASAP programs share in the responsibility with other highway safety partners to help lower the number of impaired drivers on our roadways.

Section 18.2-271.2 of the Code of Virginia requires the Commission on VASAP to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Commission. This report provides an overview of Commission on VASAP activities during 2023.

The Commission on VASAP continues to provide quality services to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia without using any general state revenues. The Commission looks forward to ongoing success in 2024 as it works cooperatively with the General Assembly and other highway safety stakeholders to reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities.

## **Mission**

To improve highway safety by decreasing the incidence of driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs, leading to the reduction of alcohol and drug-related fatalities and crashes.

## **Programs**

VASAP has developed many educational programs designed to improve highway safety, providing a credible Alcohol Safety Action Program that responds to the needs of each locality in Virginia. Included among these are:

- ASAP Education Groups
- Community Service Programs
- Driver Improvement Program
- DUI Court
- Multiple Offender Restoration Review
- Intervention Interview
- Reckless/Aggressive Driver Program
- Ignition Interlock
- Young Offender Program

## Overview of the Commission

§18.2-271.2. Commission on VASAP; purpose; membership; terms; meetings; staffing; compensation and expenses; chairman's executive summary.

A. There is hereby established in the legislative branch of state government the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP). The Commission shall administer and supervise the state system of local alcohol and safety action programs, develop and maintain operation and performance standards for local alcohol and safety action programs, and allocate funding to such programs. The Commission shall have a total membership of 15 members that shall consist of six legislative members and nine nonlegislative citizen members. Members shall be appointed as follows: four current or former members of the House Committee for Courts of Justice, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; two members of the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; three sitting or retired judges, one each from the circuit, general district and juvenile and domestic relations district courts, who regularly hear or heard cases involving driving under the influence and are familiar with their local alcohol safety action programs, to be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on District Courts; one director of a local alcohol safety action program to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates upon consideration of the recommendations of the legislative members of the Commission; one director of a local alcohol safety action program to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules upon consideration of the recommendations of the legislative members of the Commission; one representative from the law-enforcement profession, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one nonlegislative citizen at large, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; one representative from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles whose duties are substantially related to matters to be addressed by the Commission to be appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, and one representative from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services whose duties also substantially involve such matters, to be appointed by the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Legislative members shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office. In accordance with the staggered terms previously established, nonlegislative citizen members shall serve two-year terms. All members may be reappointed. Appointments to fill vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be made for the unexpired terms. Any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made in the same manner as the original appointment.

B. The Commission shall meet at least four times each year at such places as it may from time to time designate. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership. The Commission shall be empowered to establish and ensure the maintenance of minimum standards and criteria for program operations and performance, accounting, auditing, public information, and administrative procedures for the various local alcohol safety action programs and shall be responsible for overseeing the administration of the statewide VASAP system. Such programs shall be certified by the Commission in accordance with procedures set forth in the Commission on VASAP Certification Manual. The Commission shall also oversee program plans, operations and performance and a system for allocating funds to cover deficits that may occur in the budgets of local programs.

C. The Commission shall appoint and employ and, at its pleasure, remove an executive director and such other persons as it may deem necessary, and determine their duties and fix their salaries or compensation.

D. The Commission shall appoint a Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program Advisory Board to make recommendations to the Commission regarding its duties and administrative functions. The membership of such Board shall be appointed in the discretion of the Commission and include personnel from (i) local safety action programs, (ii) the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, community service boards or behavioral health authorities and (iii) other community mental health services organizations. An assistant attorney general who provides counsel in matters relating to driving under the influence shall also be appointed to the Board.

E. Legislative members of the Commission shall receive compensation as provided in § 30-19.12. Funding for the costs of compensation of legislative members shall be provided by the Commission. All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825 to be paid out of that portion of moneys paid in VASAP defendant entry fees which is forwarded to the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program.

F. The Chairman of the Commission on VASAP shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Commission no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

## **Commission Members**

### **Legislative**

Senator Richard H. Stuart, Chairman  
Delegate James A. (Jay) Leftwich  
Delegate Timothy V. Anderson

Senator Scott A. Surovell  
Delegate Don L. Scott, Jr.  
Delegate Wren M. Williams

### **Judicial**

Honorable Mary Jane Hall  
Honorable George D. Varoutsos

Honorable Gino W. Williams

### **Department of Motor Vehicles**

Mr. John L. Saunders, Vice Chairman

### **Non-Legislative Citizen at Large**

Ms. Pat Eggleston

### **Behavioral Health and Developmental Services**

Ms. Margaret Steele

### **Local Program Directors**

Ms. Krystal Hulette

Ms. Tara Smith

## **Commission Staff**

Angela D. Coleman – Executive Director

Issar Ali – Field Services Specialist

EdQuina Bradley – Administrative Procedures Technician

Rosario Carrasquillo – Special Programs Design Technician

Shelby Edwards - Office Services Assistant

Glen D. Miller - IT Project Specialist

Christopher Morris – Special Programs Coordinator

Charlene Motley – Field Services Supervisor

Richard Phillips - Ignition Interlock Technical Support Specialist

LeAnne Turner – Executive Assistant

## **Commission Meeting Dates**

March 24, 2023   June 9, 2023   September 15, 2023   December 8, 2023

### **Highlights of the Commission for 2023**

#### **Local ASAP Support**

- maintained the state share fee at 3% since year 2005 instead of the allowable up to 10% as mandated in Virginia Code Section § 18.2-271.2, Subsection B to allow for ASAPs to have more revenue to assist with office operations and provision of services in their locality
- assisted the local programs in a continuing difficult economic climate by assuming payment for education workbooks for all ASAPs
- provided on-going technical support to the ASAPs regarding case management and ignition interlock procedures
- continued to work with the Department of Motor Vehicles on matters related to restricted license orders, ignition interlock, ASAP compliance and policy updates
- maintained the VASAP–DMV interface for electronic submission of ASAP data
- completed a budgetary review of all ASAP expenditures
- provided oversight for the vendor conducting financial audits of the ASAPs
- assisted local programs that experienced a verified service emergency due to staffing issues, or other reasons, beyond the local leadership’s control
- transitioned the Valley ASAP, which was experiencing financial and staffing issues, to a program with streamlined workflow processes, increased efficiency, lower operational costs and high-quality customer service
- allocated state funds totaling \$256,785 to Capital Area ASAP, John Tyler ASAP and Piedmont ASAP
- performed site visits at sixteen of the local ASAP offices

#### **Ignition Interlock and Remote Alcohol Monitoring**

- provided administrative oversight for vendors regarding the operation of the ignition interlock program in the Commonwealth
- conducted inspections of 91 ignition interlock service centers and 66 remote alcohol motoring device (RAMD) service centers
- responded to 8,243 requests for secondary ignition interlock reviews and other inquires from the local ASAPs
- administrated certification testing and monitored newly hired ignition interlock technicians

- added the state of Kentucky onto the INSPIRE interlock oversight platform and continued to work with other states to provide enhancements to the current platform increasing efficiencies in national oversight of interlock programs

### **Meetings, Trainings and Workgroups**

- attended scheduled meetings of the Drug Court Treatment Advisory Committee
- served as a member on the Drug Court Operations Committee
- attended meetings of the Virginia Addiction & Recovery Council
- participated in the training of new judges on June 15 in Newport News
- coordinated and presented training for the annual VASAP Training Conference held on August 8 – 10 at the Omni Richmond Hotel
- served on the Traffic Injury Research Foundation DWI Workgroup, October 22 – 25
- served as the chair for the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) Ignition Interlock Work Group on Reciprocity January – December
- attended policy board meetings at Chesapeake Bay ASAP, Court Community Corrections ASAP, John Tyler ASAP and Valley ASAP
- worked with the Virginia Department of Motors Vehicle updating the DMV/VASAP User Guide
- conducted training for newly hired ASAP employees July 10 – 11 and November 2 – 3
- conducted new ASAP director training June 7
- hosted policy board training facilitated by TEO Consulting at the Virginia Crossings September 27
- implemented the inaugural VASAP Leadership Program which provides professional development to qualified applicants who exhibit the leadership skills desired to lead the VASAP system into the future
- created, administered, and certified the annual VASAP Security Training program
- provided on-going Information Security Training to both VASAP and ASAP employees
- conducted certification training for the local ASAP directors in preparation of the triennial certification review
- conducted testing preparation for the VASAP certification exam

### **Technology**

- enhanced the INSPIRE application to create a certification process for Assistant Case Managers, Case Managers, and Directors
- worked with Adsystem on continuous process improvements to the case management process and client/vendor portals
- provided IT point of contact support for 24 ASAP offices and the commission office
- managed VITA support requests including computer hardware and office phones
- served as agency account administrator for 180+ DMV users
- served as agency account administrator for 695+ Enginuity (ECM) users

- continued management of the 24-hour online payment processing system for offenders
- continued to develop and improve the ECM VASAP Case Management Information System
- provided adhoc technical support for 24 ASAP offices
- created an online portal used by 300 + treatment providers to provide for a more efficient method of communication between the ASAP and the treatment provider

### **Public Information**

- released a written Commission on VASAP Holiday Statement on the dangers of drinking and driving during the month of December
- responded to and resolved, inquiries and concerns of legislators, citizens, courts, local attorneys, neighboring states, and other state agencies
- provided weekly legislative updates to ASAPs and other stakeholders
- 100% employee participation in the 2023 Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign
- provided VASAP informational cards, liter bags, wristbands, key chains and ink pens with customized safe driving messages to Virginia juvenile and domestic relations courts for use in driver licensing ceremonies
- provided VASAP informational cards, liter bags, wristbands, key chains and ink pens with customized safe driving messages to local ASAPs
- provided VASAP informational cards, liter bags, wristbands, key chains and ink pens with customized safe driving messages to Arrive Alive Driving School, Varina High School, Hanover County Department of Community Resources, Substance Abuse Free Environment (SAFE), Inc
- hosted an informational booth at the Virginia Wine Expo in Richmond March 4- 5 reminding over 6000 participants to drive sober
- hosted an informational booth at the Virginia District Court Clerk's Annual Conference in Roanoke April 3 – 4 and provided hundreds of VASAP informational cards to the clerks to disseminate to their courts.
- hosted an informational booth at Hermitage High School for their prom awareness April 26
- hosted an informational booth at the Ashland Strawberry Faire June 3
- hosted an informational booth at the Scott's Addition Pumpkin Festival October 21

### **Certification/Audits**

- successfully passed the financial audit of the commission office without any findings of deficiency
- created new ASAP regulations that covered numerous areas related to oversight of the local programs to include policy board structure, program financial records, program certification and personnel policies
- created ASAP employee certification exams





If you should have any questions regarding the content of the 2023 Annual Executive Summary or any of the programs offered by the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program, please contact:

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