



The Honorable Senator Bill DeSteph  
Pocahontas Building, Room E608  
900 E. Main Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

25 January 2023

Dear Senator DeSteph,

On behalf of the men and women represented by the *Virginia Beach Police Benevolent Association* I would like to voice our support for your legislation, **S.B. 1296, "Grand larceny and certain property crimes: penalties"**.

Ever since the threshold increase to \$1,000 (one thousand) for the crime of Grand Larceny, communities across our commonwealth and our nation have seen an increase in crimes such as shoplifting and general larceny. Make no mistake, *this is not a coincidence*. The message that has been sent to the criminal is that private property is not valued, and the crime of stealing will not be taken serious by our courts. This attitude has succeeded in emboldening the thief and has served to place the property owner, manager, and employees of stores, in harms way. It is NOT the victimless crime some would believe. Often, these stolen items end up for sale via a secondary market which places the unsuspecting buyer in danger or could cause them to be liable for purchasing stolen goods.

Your effort to decrease the threshold, and to increase sentencing of repeat offenders, will have a positive effect in reducing crime and decreasing the victimization of innocent property owners and businesses.

Very Respectfully,

Brian R. Luciano

President, Virginia Beach Police Benevolent Association Local 34  
Vice President Region 9, The International Union of Police Associations



The Honorable Senator Bill DeSteph  
Pocahontas Building, Room E608  
900 E. Main Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

25 January 2023

Dear Senator DeSteph,

On behalf of the more than 500 brave men and women represented by the *Virginia Beach Police Benevolent Association* I offer our support for your legislation, **S.B. 1004, "Law-enforcement officers; protected personal information"**.

Thank you for understanding the dangers which our brave Law Enforcement officers operate in. These dangers *should never* extend to their personal life, and it certainly *should never be visited upon their families*. Allowing this information to be of record does nothing but place officers and their families in danger. I assure you that every officer, including myself, has had their life and the lives of their families threatened in the most heinous ways. These threats should never be ignored or taken lightly. Providing personal information will only act to incite these threats to action.

There has never been, and remains, no valuable reason why the personal information of a law enforcement officer's residence, phone number, and familial information, should be provided. Their professional information should suffice and will provide the transparency desired. Additionally, If the information is provided via order of the court, this information should be protected and sealed by the very same court.

The dangers of Law Enforcement are real and ever increasing. Each year is a new record for Line of Duty Deaths and assaults on officers. We should be looking to do everything we can to decrease this trend and make them and their families safer. Your thoughtful legislation will do just that.

Thank you for working to protect the brave men and women of Policing.

Very Respectfully,

Brian R. Luciano  
President, Virginia Beach Police Benevolent Association Local 34  
Vice President Region 9, The International Union of Police Associations



The Honorable Senator Bryce E. Reeves  
Pocahontas Building, Room E521  
900 E. Main Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

26 January 2023

Dear Senator Bryce E. Reeves,

On behalf of the more than 500 Police Officers, Detectives, and Forensics professionals represented by the *Virginia Beach Police Benevolent Association* I would like to offer you our strong support for **"S.B. 1200 "Police animals; killing or injuring, penalty"**.

Police canines and horses are more than just animals used as a resource; they are part of the police family. These proud animals are dedicated to serving their communities and protecting their fellow officers. The bond between these animals and their fellow "human" officers is a strong one.

We ask them to go into harms way, occasionally they face the dangers first, and very often alongside their human partners. Unfortunately, the criminal will not hesitate to visit violence upon these animals as they would any other officer. Since we ask so much of them, we must do what we can to protect them from such an outcome, and we must hold those who maliciously kill or injure these brave animals responsible. Be it a K9 searching for a dangerous felon, or a horse standing on a riot skirmish line, those who kill or injure them should face your recommended mandatory minimum of six months imprisonment.

Thank you for protecting these officers.

Very Respectfully,

Brian R. Luciano  
President, Virginia Beach Police Benevolent Association Local 34  
Vice President Region 9, The International Union of Police Associations