

## SUBCOMMITTEE:

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 2263  
 2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
 3 (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice  
 4 on \_\_\_\_\_)  
 5 (Patrons Prior to Substitute--Delegates Mullin and Carter [HB 1779])

6 A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-3705.7, 8.01-195.10, 8.01-654, 17.1-310, 17.1-406, 18.2-8, 18.2-10,  
 7 18.2-18, 18.2-19, 18.2-22, 18.2-25, 18.2-26, 18.2-30, 18.2-31, 18.2-32, 18.2-251.01, 19.2-11.01,  
 8 19.2-71, 19.2-76.1, 19.2-100, 19.2-102, 19.2-120, 19.2-152.2, 19.2-157, 19.2-159, 19.2-163, 19.2-  
 9 163.01, 19.2-163.4:1, 19.2-169.3, 19.2-175, 19.2-217.1, 19.2-247, 19.2-270.4:1, 19.2-295.3, as it  
 10 is currently effective and as it shall become effective, 19.2-299, 19.2-299.1, 19.2-311, 19.2-319,  
 11 19.2-321.2, 19.2-327.1, 19.2-327.3, 19.2-327.11, 19.2-389.1, 19.2-389.3, 19.2-400, 53.1-204,  
 12 53.1-229, and 54.1-3307 of the Code of Virginia and to repeal §§ 8.01-654.1, 8.01-654.2, 17.1-  
 13 313, and 18.2-17, Article 4.1 (§§ 19.2-163.7 and 19.2-163.8) of Chapter 10 of Title 19.2, Article  
 14 4.1 (§§ 19.2-264.2 through 19.2-264.5) of Chapter 15 of Title 19.2, § 53.1-230, and Chapter 13  
 15 (§§ 53.1-232 through 53.1-236) of Title 53.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to abolition of the  
 16 death penalty.

17 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

18 **1. That §§ 2.2-3705.7, 8.01-195.10, 8.01-654, 17.1-310, 17.1-406, 18.2-8, 18.2-10, 18.2-18, 18.2-19,**  
 19 **18.2-22, 18.2-25, 18.2-26, 18.2-30, 18.2-31, 18.2-32, 18.2-251.01, 19.2-11.01, 19.2-71, 19.2-76.1, 19.2-**  
 20 **100, 19.2-102, 19.2-120, 19.2-152.2, 19.2-157, 19.2-159, 19.2-163, 19.2-163.01, 19.2-163.4:1, 19.2-**  
 21 **169.3, 19.2-175, 19.2-217.1, 19.2-247, 19.2-270.4:1, 19.2-295.3, as it is currently effective and as it**  
 22 **shall become effective, 19.2-299, 19.2-299.1, 19.2-311, 19.2-319, 19.2-321.2, 19.2-327.1, 19.2-327.3,**  
 23 **19.2-327.11, 19.2-389.1, 19.2-389.3, 19.2-400, 53.1-204, 53.1-229, and 54.1-3307 of the Code of**  
 24 **Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

25 **§ 2.2-3705.7. Exclusions to application of chapter; records of specific public bodies and**  
 26 **certain other limited exclusions.**

27           The following information contained in a public record is excluded from the mandatory disclosure  
28 provisions of this chapter but may be disclosed by the custodian in his discretion, except where such  
29 disclosure is prohibited by law. Redaction of information excluded under this section from a public record  
30 shall be conducted in accordance with § 2.2-3704.01.

31           1. State income, business, and estate tax returns, personal property tax returns, and confidential  
32 records held pursuant to § 58.1-3.

33           2. Working papers and correspondence of the Office of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, or  
34 the Attorney General; the members of the General Assembly, the Division of Legislative Services, or the  
35 Clerks of the House of Delegates or the Senate of Virginia; the mayor or chief executive officer of any  
36 political subdivision of the Commonwealth; or the president or other chief executive officer of any public  
37 institution of higher education in the Commonwealth. However, no information that is otherwise open to  
38 inspection under this chapter shall be deemed excluded by virtue of the fact that it has been attached to or  
39 incorporated within any working paper or correspondence. Further, information publicly available or not  
40 otherwise subject to an exclusion under this chapter or other provision of law that has been aggregated,  
41 combined, or changed in format without substantive analysis or revision shall not be deemed working  
42 papers. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to authorize the withholding of any resumes or  
43 applications submitted by persons who are appointed by the Governor pursuant to § 2.2-106 or 2.2-107.

44           As used in this subdivision:

45           "Members of the General Assembly" means each member of the Senate of Virginia and the House  
46 of Delegates and their legislative aides when working on behalf of such member.

47           "Office of the Governor" means the Governor; the Governor's chief of staff, counsel, director of  
48 policy, and Cabinet Secretaries; the Assistant to the Governor for Intergovernmental Affairs; and those  
49 individuals to whom the Governor has delegated his authority pursuant to § 2.2-104.

50           "Working papers" means those records prepared by or for a public official identified in this  
51 subdivision for his personal or deliberative use.

52           3. Information contained in library records that can be used to identify (i) both (a) any library  
53 patron who has borrowed or accessed material or resources from a library and (b) the material or resources

54 such patron borrowed or accessed or (ii) any library patron under 18 years of age. For the purposes of  
55 clause (ii), access shall not be denied to the parent, including a noncustodial parent, or guardian of such  
56 library patron.

57 4. Contract cost estimates prepared for the confidential use of the Department of Transportation in  
58 awarding contracts for construction or the purchase of goods or services, and records and automated  
59 systems prepared for the Department's Bid Analysis and Monitoring Program.

60 5. Lists of registered owners of bonds issued by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth,  
61 whether the lists are maintained by the political subdivision itself or by a single fiduciary designated by  
62 the political subdivision.

63 6. Information furnished by a member of the General Assembly to a meeting of a standing  
64 committee, special committee, or subcommittee of his house established solely for the purpose of  
65 reviewing members' annual disclosure statements and supporting materials filed under § 30-110 or of  
66 formulating advisory opinions to members on standards of conduct, or both.

67 7. Customer account information of a public utility affiliated with a political subdivision of the  
68 Commonwealth, including the customer's name and service address, but excluding the amount of utility  
69 service provided and the amount of money charged or paid for such utility service.

70 8. Personal information, as defined in § 2.2-3801, (i) filed with the Virginia Housing Development  
71 Authority concerning individuals who have applied for or received loans or other housing assistance or  
72 who have applied for occupancy of or have occupied housing financed, owned or otherwise assisted by  
73 the Virginia Housing Development Authority; (ii) concerning persons participating in or persons on the  
74 waiting list for federally funded rent-assistance programs; (iii) filed with any local redevelopment and  
75 housing authority created pursuant to § 36-4 concerning persons participating in or persons on the waiting  
76 list for housing assistance programs funded by local governments or by any such authority; or (iv) filed  
77 with any local redevelopment and housing authority created pursuant to § 36-4 or any other local  
78 government agency concerning persons who have applied for occupancy or who have occupied affordable  
79 dwelling units established pursuant to § 15.2-2304 or 15.2-2305. However, access to one's own  
80 information shall not be denied.

81           9. Information regarding the siting of hazardous waste facilities, except as provided in § 10.1-  
82 1441, if disclosure of such information would have a detrimental effect upon the negotiating position of a  
83 governing body or on the establishment of the terms, conditions, and provisions of the siting agreement.

84           10. Information on the site-specific location of rare, threatened, endangered, or otherwise  
85 imperiled plant and animal species, natural communities, caves, and significant historic and archaeological  
86 sites if, in the opinion of the public body that has the responsibility for such information, disclosure of the  
87 information would jeopardize the continued existence or the integrity of the resource. This exclusion shall  
88 not apply to requests from the owner of the land upon which the resource is located.

89           11. Memoranda, graphics, video or audio tapes, production models, data, and information of a  
90 proprietary nature produced by or for or collected by or for the Virginia Lottery relating to matters of a  
91 specific lottery game design, development, production, operation, ticket price, prize structure, manner of  
92 selecting the winning ticket, manner of payment of prizes to holders of winning tickets, frequency of  
93 drawings or selections of winning tickets, odds of winning, advertising, or marketing, where such  
94 information not been publicly released, published, copyrighted, or patented. Whether released, published,  
95 or copyrighted, all game-related information shall be subject to public disclosure under this chapter upon  
96 the first day of sales for the specific lottery game to which it pertains.

97           12. Information held by the Virginia Retirement System, acting pursuant to § 51.1-124.30, or a  
98 local retirement system, acting pursuant to § 51.1-803, or by a local finance board or board of trustees of  
99 a trust established by one or more local public bodies to invest funds for post-retirement benefits other  
100 than pensions, acting pursuant to Article 8 (§ 15.2-1544 et seq.) of Chapter 15 of Title 15.2, or by the  
101 board of visitors of the University of Virginia, acting pursuant to § 23.1-2210, or by the board of visitors  
102 of The College of William and Mary in Virginia, acting pursuant to § 23.1-2803, or by the Virginia College  
103 Savings Plan, acting pursuant to § 23.1-704, relating to the acquisition, holding, or disposition of a security  
104 or other ownership interest in an entity, where such security or ownership interest is not traded on a  
105 governmentally regulated securities exchange, if disclosure of such information would (i) reveal  
106 confidential analyses prepared for the board of visitors of the University of Virginia, prepared for the  
107 board of visitors of The College of William and Mary in Virginia, prepared by the retirement system, a

108 local finance board or board of trustees, or the Virginia College Savings Plan, or provided to the retirement  
109 system, a local finance board or board of trustees, or the Virginia College Savings Plan under a promise  
110 of confidentiality of the future value of such ownership interest or the future financial performance of the  
111 entity and (ii) have an adverse effect on the value of the investment to be acquired, held, or disposed of  
112 by the retirement system, a local finance board or board of trustees, the board of visitors of the University  
113 of Virginia, the board of visitors of The College of William and Mary in Virginia, or the Virginia College  
114 Savings Plan. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the disclosure of information  
115 relating to the identity of any investment held, the amount invested, or the present value of such  
116 investment.

117 13. Financial, medical, rehabilitative, and other personal information concerning applicants for or  
118 recipients of loan funds submitted to or maintained by the Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority  
119 under Chapter 11 (§ 51.5-53 et seq.) of Title 51.5.

120 14. Information held by the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority  
121 pertaining to any of the following: an individual's qualifications for or continued membership on its  
122 medical or teaching staffs; proprietary information gathered by or in the possession of the Authority from  
123 third parties pursuant to a promise of confidentiality; contract cost estimates prepared for confidential use  
124 in awarding contracts for construction or the purchase of goods or services; information of a proprietary  
125 nature produced or collected by or for the Authority or members of its medical or teaching staffs; financial  
126 statements not publicly available that may be filed with the Authority from third parties; the identity,  
127 accounts, or account status of any customer of the Authority; consulting or other reports paid for by the  
128 Authority to assist the Authority in connection with its strategic planning and goals; the determination of  
129 marketing and operational strategies where disclosure of such strategies would be harmful to the  
130 competitive position of the Authority; and information of a proprietary nature produced or collected by or  
131 for employees of the Authority, other than the Authority's financial or administrative records, in the  
132 conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, scientific, technical, or scholarly issues, whether  
133 sponsored by the Authority alone or in conjunction with a governmental body or a private concern, when

134 such information has not been publicly released, published, copyrighted, or patented. This exclusion shall  
135 also apply when such information is in the possession of Virginia Commonwealth University.

136 15. Information held by the Department of Environmental Quality, the State Water Control Board,  
137 the State Air Pollution Control Board, or the Virginia Waste Management Board relating to (i) active  
138 federal environmental enforcement actions that are considered confidential under federal law and (ii)  
139 enforcement strategies, including proposed sanctions for enforcement actions. Upon request, such  
140 information shall be disclosed after a proposed sanction resulting from the investigation has been proposed  
141 to the director of the agency. This subdivision shall not be construed to prevent the disclosure of  
142 information related to inspection reports, notices of violation, and documents detailing the nature of any  
143 environmental contamination that may have occurred or similar documents.

144 16. Information related to the operation of toll facilities that identifies an individual, vehicle, or  
145 travel itinerary, including vehicle identification data or vehicle enforcement system information; video or  
146 photographic images; Social Security or other identification numbers appearing on driver's licenses; credit  
147 card or bank account data; home addresses; phone numbers; or records of the date or time of toll facility  
148 use.

149 17. Information held by the Virginia Lottery pertaining to (i) the social security number, tax  
150 identification number, state sales tax number, home address and telephone number, personal and lottery  
151 banking account and transit numbers of a retailer, and financial information regarding the nonlottery  
152 operations of specific retail locations and (ii) individual lottery winners, except that a winner's name,  
153 hometown, and amount won shall be disclosed. If the value of the prize won by the winner exceeds \$10  
154 million, the information described in clause (ii) shall not be disclosed unless the winner consents in writing  
155 to such disclosure.

156 18. Information held by the Board for Branch Pilots relating to the chemical or drug testing of a  
157 person regulated by the Board, where such person has tested negative or has not been the subject of a  
158 disciplinary action by the Board for a positive test result.

159 19. Information pertaining to the planning, scheduling, and performance of examinations of holder  
160 records pursuant to the Virginia Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act (§ 55.1-2500 et seq.) prepared by

161 or for the State Treasurer or his agents or employees or persons employed to perform an audit or  
162 examination of holder records.

163 20. Information held by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management or a local governing  
164 body relating to citizen emergency response teams established pursuant to an ordinance of a local  
165 governing body that reveal the name, address, including e-mail address, telephone or pager numbers, or  
166 operating schedule of an individual participant in the program.

167 21. Information held by state or local park and recreation departments and local and regional park  
168 authorities concerning identifiable individuals under the age of 18 years. However, nothing in this  
169 subdivision shall operate to prevent the disclosure of information defined as directory information under  
170 regulations implementing the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g,  
171 unless the public body has undertaken the parental notification and opt-out requirements provided by such  
172 regulations. Access shall not be denied to the parent, including a noncustodial parent, or guardian of such  
173 person, unless the parent's parental rights have been terminated or a court of competent jurisdiction has  
174 restricted or denied such access. For such information of persons who are emancipated, the right of access  
175 may be asserted by the subject thereof. Any parent or emancipated person who is the subject of the  
176 information may waive, in writing, the protections afforded by this subdivision. If the protections are so  
177 waived, the public body shall open such information for inspection and copying.

178 22. Information submitted for inclusion in the Statewide Alert Network administered by the  
179 Department of Emergency Management that reveal names, physical addresses, email addresses, computer  
180 or internet protocol information, telephone numbers, pager numbers, other wireless or portable  
181 communications device information, or operating schedules of individuals or agencies, where the release  
182 of such information would compromise the security of the Statewide Alert Network or individuals  
183 participating in the Statewide Alert Network.

184 23. Information held by the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission made confidential by § 17.1-  
185 913.

186 24. Information held by the Virginia Retirement System acting pursuant to § 51.1-124.30, a local  
187 retirement system acting pursuant to § 51.1-803 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the retirement  
188 system), or the Virginia College Savings Plan, acting pursuant to § 23.1-704 relating to:

189 a. Internal deliberations of or decisions by the retirement system or the Virginia College Savings  
190 Plan on the pursuit of particular investment strategies, or the selection or termination of investment  
191 managers, prior to the execution of such investment strategies or the selection or termination of such  
192 managers, if disclosure of such information would have an adverse impact on the financial interest of the  
193 retirement system or the Virginia College Savings Plan; and

194 b. Trade secrets provided by a private entity to the retirement system or the Virginia College  
195 Savings Plan if disclosure of such records would have an adverse impact on the financial interest of the  
196 retirement system or the Virginia College Savings Plan.

197 For the records specified in subdivision b to be excluded from the provisions of this chapter, the  
198 entity shall make a written request to the retirement system or the Virginia College Savings Plan:

199 (1) Invoking such exclusion prior to or upon submission of the data or other materials for which  
200 protection from disclosure is sought;

201 (2) Identifying with specificity the data or other materials for which protection is sought; and

202 (3) Stating the reasons why protection is necessary.

203 The retirement system or the Virginia College Savings Plan shall determine whether the requested  
204 exclusion from disclosure meets the requirements set forth in subdivision b.

205 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the disclosure of the identity or amount  
206 of any investment held or the present value and performance of all asset classes and subclasses.

207 25. Information held by the Department of Corrections made confidential by former § 53.1-233.

208 26. Information maintained by the Department of the Treasury or participants in the Local  
209 Government Investment Pool (§ 2.2-4600 et seq.) and required to be provided by such participants to the  
210 Department to establish accounts in accordance with § 2.2-4602.



211           27. Personal information, as defined in § 2.2-3801, contained in the Veterans Care Center Resident  
212 Trust Funds concerning residents or patients of the Department of Veterans Services Care Centers, except  
213 that access shall not be denied to the person who is the subject of the information.

214           28. Information maintained in connection with fundraising activities by the Veterans Services  
215 Foundation pursuant to § 2.2-2716 that reveal the address, electronic mail address, facsimile or telephone  
216 number, social security number or other identification number appearing on a driver's license or other  
217 document issued under Chapter 3 (§ 46.2-300 et seq.) of Title 46.2 or the comparable law of another  
218 jurisdiction, or credit card or bank account data of identifiable donors, except that access shall not be  
219 denied to the person who is the subject of the information. Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be  
220 construed to prevent the disclosure of information relating to the amount, date, purpose, and terms of the  
221 pledge or donation or the identity of the donor, unless the donor has requested anonymity in connection  
222 with or as a condition of making a pledge or donation. The exclusion provided by this subdivision shall  
223 not apply to protect from disclosure (i) the identities of sponsors providing grants to or contracting with  
224 the foundation for the performance of services or other work or (ii) the terms and conditions of such grants  
225 or contracts.

226           29. Information prepared for and utilized by the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council in  
227 the training of state prosecutors or law-enforcement personnel, where such information is not otherwise  
228 available to the public and the disclosure of such information would reveal confidential strategies,  
229 methods, or procedures to be employed in law-enforcement activities or materials created for the  
230 investigation and prosecution of a criminal case.

231           30. Information provided to the Department of Aviation by other entities of the Commonwealth in  
232 connection with the operation of aircraft where the information would not be subject to disclosure by the  
233 entity providing the information. The entity providing the information to the Department of Aviation shall  
234 identify the specific information to be protected and the applicable provision of this chapter that excludes  
235 the information from mandatory disclosure.

236           31. Information created or maintained by or on the behalf of the judicial performance evaluation  
237 program related to an evaluation of any individual justice or judge made confidential by § 17.1-100.

238           32. Information reflecting the substance of meetings in which (i) individual sexual assault cases  
239 are discussed by any sexual assault response team established pursuant to § 15.2-1627.4, (ii) individual  
240 child abuse or neglect cases or sex offenses involving a child are discussed by multidisciplinary child  
241 sexual abuse response teams established pursuant to § 15.2-1627.5, or (iii) individual cases of abuse,  
242 neglect, or exploitation of adults as defined in § 63.2-1603 are discussed by multidisciplinary teams  
243 established pursuant to §§ 15.2-1627.5 and 63.2-1605. The findings of any such team may be disclosed  
244 or published in statistical or other aggregated form that does not disclose the identity of specific  
245 individuals.

246           33. Information contained in the strategic plan, marketing plan, or operational plan prepared by  
247 the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority pursuant to § 2.2-2237.1 regarding target  
248 companies, specific allocation of resources and staff for marketing activities, and specific marketing  
249 activities that would reveal to the Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the  
250 strategies intended to be deployed by the Commonwealth, thereby adversely affecting the financial interest  
251 of the Commonwealth. The executive summaries of the strategic plan, marketing plan, and operational  
252 plan shall not be redacted or withheld pursuant to this subdivision.

253           34. Information discussed in a closed session of the Physical Therapy Compact Commission or  
254 the Executive Board or other committees of the Commission for purposes set forth in subsection E of §  
255 54.1-3491.

256           35. Information held by the Commonwealth of Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority (the  
257 Authority), an advisory committee of the Authority, or any other entity designated by the Authority,  
258 relating to (i) internal deliberations of or decisions by the Authority on the pursuit of particular investment  
259 strategies prior to the execution of such investment strategies and (ii) trade secrets, as defined in the  
260 Uniform Trade Secrets Act (§ 59.1-336 et seq.), provided by a private entity to the Authority, if such  
261 disclosure of records pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) would have an adverse impact on the financial interest  
262 of the Authority or a private entity.

263           36. Personal information provided to or obtained by the Virginia Lottery in connection with the  
264 voluntary exclusion program administered pursuant to § 58.1-4015.1.

265 37. Personal information provided to or obtained by the Virginia Lottery concerning the identity  
266 of any person reporting prohibited conduct pursuant to § 58.1-4043.

267 **§ 8.01-195.10. Purpose; action by the General Assembly required; definitions.**

268 A. The purpose of this article is to provide directions and guidelines for the compensation of  
269 persons who have been wrongfully incarcerated in the Commonwealth. Compensation for wrongful  
270 incarceration is governed by Article IV, Section 14 of the Constitution of Virginia, which prohibits the  
271 General Assembly from granting relief in cases in which the courts or other tribunals may have jurisdiction  
272 and any individual seeking payment of state funds for wrongful incarceration shall be deemed to have  
273 waived all other claims. The payment and receipt of any compensation for wrongful incarceration shall  
274 be contingent upon the General Assembly appropriating funds for that purpose. This article shall not  
275 provide an entitlement to compensation for persons wrongfully incarcerated or require the General  
276 Assembly to appropriate funds for the payment of such compensation. No estate of or personal  
277 representative for a decedent shall be entitled to seek a claim for compensation for wrongful incarceration.

278 B. As used in this article:

279 "Incarceration" or "incarcerated" means confinement in a local or regional correctional facility,  
280 juvenile correctional center, state correctional facility, residential detention center, or facility operated  
281 pursuant to the Corrections Private Management Act (§ 53.1-261 et seq.).

282 "Wrongful incarceration" or "wrongfully incarcerated" means incarceration for a felony conviction  
283 for which (i) the conviction has been vacated pursuant to Chapter 19.2 (§ 19.2-327.2 et seq.) or 19.3 (§  
284 19.2-327.10 et seq.) of Title 19.2, or the person incarcerated has been granted an absolute pardon for the  
285 commission of a crime that he did not commit; (ii) the person incarcerated ~~must~~ shall have entered a final  
286 plea of not guilty, or, regardless of the plea, ~~any person sentenced to death, or the person incarcerated was~~  
287 convicted of a Class 1 felony, a Class 2 felony, or any felony for which the maximum penalty is  
288 imprisonment for life; and (iii) the person incarcerated did not by any act or omission on his part  
289 intentionally contribute to his conviction for the felony for which he was incarcerated.

290 **§ 8.01-654. When and where petition filed; what petition to contain.**

291           A. 1. A petition for a writ of habeas corpus ad subjiciendum may be filed in the Supreme Court or  
292 any circuit court showing by affidavits or other evidence that the petitioner is detained without lawful  
293 authority.

294           2. A petition for writ of habeas corpus ad subjiciendum, other than a petition challenging a criminal  
295 conviction or sentence, shall be brought within one year after the cause of action accrues. A habeas corpus  
296 petition attacking a criminal conviction or sentence, ~~except as provided in § 8.01-654.1 for cases in which~~  
297 ~~a death sentence has been imposed~~, shall be filed within two years from the date of final judgment in the  
298 trial court or within one year from either final disposition of the direct appeal in state court or the time for  
299 filing such appeal has expired, whichever is later.

300           B. 1. With respect to any such petition filed by a petitioner whose detention originated under  
301 criminal process, and subject to the provisions of ~~subsection C of this section and of § 17.1-310~~, only the  
302 circuit court that entered the original judgment or order resulting in the detention complained of in the  
303 petition shall have authority to issue writs of habeas corpus. If a district court entered the original judgment  
304 or order resulting in the detention complained of in the petition, only the circuit court for the city or county  
305 wherein the district court sits shall have authority to issue writs of habeas corpus. Hearings on such  
306 petition, where granted in the circuit court, may be held at any circuit court within the same circuit as the  
307 circuit court in which the petition was filed, as designated by the judge thereof.

308           2. Such petition shall contain all allegations the facts of which are known to petitioner at the time  
309 of filing and such petition shall enumerate all previous applications and their disposition. No writ shall be  
310 granted on the basis of any allegation the facts of which petitioner had knowledge at the time of filing any  
311 previous petition. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a petitioner's first petition for a writ of  
312 habeas corpus when the sole allegation of such petition is that the petitioner was deprived of the right to  
313 pursue an appeal from a final judgment of conviction or probation revocation, except that such petition  
314 shall contain all facts pertinent to the denial of appeal that are known to the petitioner at the time of the  
315 filing, and such petition shall certify that the petitioner has filed no prior habeas corpus petitions attacking  
316 the conviction or probation revocation.

317 3. Such petition may allege detention without lawful authority through challenge to a conviction,  
318 although the sentence imposed for such conviction is suspended or is to be served subsequently to the  
319 sentence currently being served by petitioner.

320 4. In the event the allegations of illegality of the petitioner's detention can be fully determined on  
321 the basis of recorded matters, the court may make its determination whether such writ should issue on the  
322 basis of the record.

323 5. The court shall give findings of fact and conclusions of law following a determination on the  
324 record or after hearing, to be made a part of the record and transcribed.

325 6. If petitioner alleges as a ground for illegality of his detention the inadequacy of counsel, he shall  
326 be deemed to waive his privilege with respect to communications between such counsel and himself to  
327 the extent necessary to permit a full and fair hearing for the alleged ground.

328 ~~C. 1. With respect to any such petition filed by a petitioner held under the sentence of death, and~~  
329 ~~subject to the provisions of this subsection, the Supreme Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction to consider~~  
330 ~~and award writs of habeas corpus. The circuit court which entered the judgment order setting the sentence~~  
331 ~~of death shall have authority to conduct an evidentiary hearing on such a petition only if directed to do so~~  
332 ~~by order of the Supreme Court.~~

333 ~~2. Hearings conducted in a circuit court pursuant to an order issued under the provisions of~~  
334 ~~subdivision 1 of this subsection shall be limited in subject matter to the issues enumerated in the order.~~

335 ~~3. The circuit court shall conduct such a hearing within 90 days after the order of the Supreme~~  
336 ~~Court has been received and shall report its findings of fact and recommend conclusions of law to the~~  
337 ~~Supreme Court within 60 days after the conclusion of the hearing. Any objection to the report of the circuit~~  
338 ~~court must be filed in the Supreme Court within 30 days after the report is filed.~~

339 **§ 17.1-310. Habeas corpus, appeals, writs of error and supersedeas.**

340 The Supreme Court shall also have jurisdiction to award writs of habeas corpus and of such  
341 appeals, writs of error and supersedeas as may be legally docketed in or transferred to the Court. ~~In~~  
342 ~~accordance with § 8.01-654, the Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction to award writs of habeas corpus~~  
343 ~~upon petitions filed by prisoners held under the sentence of death.~~

344           **§ 17.1-406. Petitions for appeal; cases over which Court of Appeals does not have**  
345 **jurisdiction.**

346           A. Any aggrieved party may present a petition for appeal to the Court of Appeals from (i) any final  
347 conviction in a circuit court of a traffic infraction or a crime, ~~except where a sentence of death has been~~  
348 ~~imposed~~, (ii) any final decision of a circuit court on an application for a concealed weapons permit  
349 pursuant to Article 6.1 (§ 18.2-307.1 et seq.) of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2, (iii) any final order of a circuit  
350 court involving involuntary treatment of prisoners pursuant to § 53.1-40.1 or 53.1-133.04, or (iv) any final  
351 order for declaratory or injunctive relief under § 57-2.02. The Commonwealth or any county, city or town  
352 may petition the Court of Appeals for an appeal pursuant to this subsection in any case in which such party  
353 previously could have petitioned the Supreme Court for a writ of error under § 19.2-317. The  
354 Commonwealth may also petition the Court of Appeals for an appeal in a criminal case pursuant to § 19.2-  
355 398.

356           B. In accordance with other applicable provisions of law, appeals lie directly to the Supreme Court  
357 ~~from a conviction in which a sentence of death is imposed~~, from a final decision, judgment, or order of a  
358 circuit court involving a petition for a writ of habeas corpus; from any final finding, decision, order, or  
359 judgment of the State Corporation Commission; and from proceedings under §§ 54.1-3935 and 54.1-  
360 3937. Complaints of the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission shall be filed with the Supreme Court  
361 of Virginia. The Court of Appeals shall not have jurisdiction over any cases or proceedings described in  
362 this subsection.

363           **§ 18.2-8. Felonies, misdemeanors and traffic infractions defined.**

364           Offenses are either felonies or misdemeanors. Such offenses as are punishable with ~~death or~~  
365 confinement in a state correctional facility are felonies; all other offenses are misdemeanors. Traffic  
366 infractions are violations of public order as defined in § 46.2-100 and not deemed to be criminal in nature.

367           **§ 18.2-10. Punishment for conviction of felony; penalty.**

368           The authorized punishments for conviction of a felony are:

369           (a) For Class 1 felonies, ~~death, if the person so convicted was 18 years of age or older at the time~~  
370 ~~of the offense and is not determined to be a person with intellectual disability pursuant to § 19.2-264.3:1.1,~~

371 ~~or~~ imprisonment for life and, subject to subdivision (g), a fine of not more than \$100,000. ~~If the person~~  
372 ~~was under 18 years of age at the time of the offense or is determined to be a person with intellectual~~  
373 ~~disability pursuant to § 19.2-264.3:1.1, the punishment shall be imprisonment for life and, subject to~~  
374 ~~subdivision (g), a fine of not more than \$100,000. Any person who was 18 years of age or older at the~~  
375 ~~time of the offense and who is sentenced to imprisonment for life upon conviction of a Class 1 felony~~  
376 ~~shall not be eligible for (i) parole, (ii) any good conduct allowance or any earned sentence credits under~~  
377 ~~Chapter 6 (§ 53.1-186 et seq.) of Title 53.1, or (iii) conditional release pursuant to § 53.1-40.01.~~

378 (b) For Class 2 felonies, imprisonment for life or for any term not less than 20 years and, subject  
379 to subdivision (g), a fine of not more than \$100,000.

380 (c) For Class 3 felonies, a term of imprisonment of not less than five years nor more than 20 years  
381 and, subject to subdivision (g), a fine of not more than \$100,000.

382 (d) For Class 4 felonies, a term of imprisonment of not less than two years nor more than 10 years  
383 and, subject to subdivision (g), a fine of not more than \$100,000.

384 (e) For Class 5 felonies, a term of imprisonment of not less than one year nor more than 10 years,  
385 or in the discretion of the jury or the court trying the case without a jury, confinement in jail for not more  
386 than 12 months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.

387 (f) For Class 6 felonies, a term of imprisonment of not less than one year nor more than five years,  
388 or in the discretion of the jury or the court trying the case without a jury, confinement in jail for not more  
389 than 12 months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.

390 (g) Except as specifically authorized in subdivision (e) or (f), ~~or in Class 1 felonies for which a~~  
391 ~~sentence of death is imposed,~~ the court shall impose either a sentence of imprisonment together with a  
392 fine, or imprisonment only. However, if the defendant is not a natural person, the court shall impose only  
393 a fine.

394 For any felony offense committed (i) on or after January 1, 1995, the court may, and (ii) on or after  
395 July 1, 2000, shall, except in cases in which the court orders a suspended term of confinement of at least  
396 six months, impose an additional term of incarceration of not less than six months nor more than three  
397 years, which shall be suspended conditioned upon successful completion of a period of post-release

398 supervision pursuant to § 19.2-295.2 and compliance with such other terms as the sentencing court may  
399 require. However, such additional term may only be imposed when the sentence includes an active term  
400 of incarceration in a correctional facility.

401 For a felony offense prohibiting proximity to children as described in subsection A of § 18.2-370.2,  
402 the sentencing court is authorized to impose the punishment set forth in that section in addition to any  
403 other penalty provided by law.

404 **§ 18.2-18. How principals in second degree and accessories before the fact punished.**

405 In the case of every felony, every principal in the second degree and every accessory before the  
406 fact may be indicted, tried, convicted and punished in all respects as if a principal in the first degree;  
407 provided, however, that except in the case of a killing for hire under the provisions of subdivision A 2 of  
408 § 18.2-31 or a killing pursuant to the direction or order of one who is engaged in a continuing criminal  
409 enterprise under the provisions of subdivision A 10 of § 18.2-31 or a killing pursuant to the direction or  
410 order of one who is engaged in the commission of or attempted commission of an act of terrorism under  
411 the provisions of subdivision A 13 of § 18.2-31, an accessory before the fact or principal in the second  
412 degree to ~~a capital~~ an aggravated murder shall be indicted, tried, convicted and punished as though the  
413 offense were murder in the first degree.

414 **§ 18.2-19. How accessories after the fact punished; certain exceptions.**

415 Every accessory after the fact is guilty of (i) a Class 6 felony in the case of a homicide offense that  
416 is punishable ~~by death~~ or as a Class 1 or Class 2 felony or (ii) a Class 1 misdemeanor in the case of any  
417 other felony. However, no person in the relation of spouse, parent or grandparent, child or grandchild, or  
418 sibling, by consanguinity or affinity, or servant to the offender, who, after the commission of a felony,  
419 aids or assists a principal felon or accessory before the fact to avoid or escape from prosecution or  
420 punishment, shall be deemed an accessory after the fact.

421 **§ 18.2-22. Conspiracy to commit felony.**

422 (a) If any person shall conspire, confederate or combine with another, either within or ~~without this~~  
423 outside the Commonwealth, to commit a felony within ~~this~~ the Commonwealth, or if he shall so conspire,  
424 confederate or combine with another within ~~this~~ the Commonwealth to commit a felony either within or



425 ~~without this~~ outside the Commonwealth, he shall be guilty of a felony ~~which that~~ shall be punishable as  
426 follows:

427 (1) Every person who so conspires to commit an offense ~~which that~~ is punishable ~~by death~~ shall  
428 ~~be as a Class 1 felony~~ is guilty of a Class 3 felony;

429 (2) Every person who so conspires to commit an offense ~~which that~~ ~~is a noncapital~~ any other felony  
430 ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 5 felony; and

431 (3) Every person who so conspires to commit an offense the maximum punishment for which is  
432 confinement in a state correctional facility for a period of less than five years shall be confined in a state  
433 correctional facility for a period of one year, or, in the discretion of the jury or the court trying the case  
434 without a jury, may be confined in jail not exceeding ~~twelve~~ 12 months and fined not exceeding \$500,  
435 either or both.

436 (b) However, in no event shall the punishment for a conspiracy to commit an offense exceed the  
437 maximum punishment for the commission of the offense itself.

438 (c) Jurisdiction for the trial of any person accused of a conspiracy under this section shall be in the  
439 county or city wherein any part of such conspiracy is planned or in the county or city wherein any act is  
440 done toward the consummation of such plan or conspiracy.

441 (d) The penalty provisions of this section shall not apply to any person who conspires to commit  
442 any offense defined in the Drug Control Act (§ 54.1-3400 et seq.) or of Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.) of  
443 Chapter 7. The penalty for any such violation shall be as provided in § 18.2-256.

444 **§ 18.2-25. Attempts to commit Class 1 felony offenses; how punished.**

445 If any person attempts to commit an offense ~~which that~~ is punishable ~~with death~~ as a Class 1 felony,  
446 ~~he shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 2 felony.

447 **§ 18.2-26. Attempts to commit felonies other than Class 1 felony offenses; how punished.**

448 ~~Every~~ Except as provided in § 18.2-25, every person who attempts to commit an offense ~~which~~  
449 that is a ~~noncapital~~ felony shall be punished as follows:

450 (1) If the felony attempted is punishable by a maximum punishment of life imprisonment or a term  
451 of years in excess of twenty years, an attempt thereat shall be punishable as a Class 4 felony.

452 (2) If the felony attempted is punishable by a maximum punishment of twenty years' imprisonment,  
453 an attempt thereat shall be punishable as a Class 5 felony.

454 (3) If the felony attempted is punishable by a maximum punishment of less than twenty years'  
455 imprisonment, an attempt thereat shall be punishable as a Class 6 felony.

456 **§ 18.2-30. Murder and manslaughter declared felonies.**

457 Any person who commits ~~capital~~ aggravated murder, murder of the first degree, murder of the  
458 second degree, voluntary manslaughter, or involuntary manslaughter, ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a felony.

459 **§ 18.2-31. Aggravated murder defined; punishment.**

460 A. The following offenses shall constitute ~~capital~~ aggravated murder, punishable as a Class 1  
461 felony:

462 1. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person in the commission of abduction,  
463 as defined in § 18.2-48, when such abduction was committed with the intent to extort money or a pecuniary  
464 benefit or with the intent to defile the victim of such abduction;

465 2. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person by another for hire;

466 3. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person by a prisoner confined in a state  
467 or local correctional facility as defined in § 53.1-1, or while in the custody of an employee thereof;

468 4. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person in the commission of robbery or  
469 attempted robbery;

470 5. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person in the commission of, or  
471 subsequent to, rape or attempted rape, forcible sodomy, or attempted forcible sodomy or object sexual  
472 penetration;

473 6. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of a law-enforcement officer as defined in §  
474 9.1-101, a fire marshal appointed pursuant to § 27-30 or a deputy or an assistant fire marshal appointed  
475 pursuant to § 27-36, when such fire marshal or deputy or assistant fire marshal has police powers as set  
476 forth in §§ 27-34.2 and 27-34.2:1, an auxiliary police officer appointed or provided for pursuant to §§  
477 15.2-1731 and 15.2-1733, an auxiliary deputy sheriff appointed pursuant to § 15.2-1603, or any law-  
478 enforcement officer of another state or the United States having the power to arrest for a felony under the

479 laws of such state or the United States, when such killing is for the purpose of interfering with the  
480 performance of his official duties;

481 7. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of more than one person as a part of the same  
482 act or transaction;

483 8. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of more than one person within a three-year  
484 period;

485 9. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person in the commission of or attempted  
486 commission of a violation of § 18.2-248, involving a Schedule I or II controlled substance, when such  
487 killing is for the purpose of furthering the commission or attempted commission of such violation;

488 10. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person by another pursuant to the  
489 direction or order of one who is engaged in a continuing criminal enterprise as defined in subsection I of  
490 § 18.2-248;

491 11. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of a pregnant woman by one who knows that  
492 the woman is pregnant and has the intent to cause the involuntary termination of the woman's pregnancy  
493 without a live birth;

494 12. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of a person under the age of 14 by a person  
495 age 21 or older;

496 13. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person by another in the commission  
497 of or attempted commission of an act of terrorism as defined in § 18.2-46.4;

498 14. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of a justice of the Supreme Court, a judge of  
499 the Court of Appeals, a judge of a circuit court or district court, a retired judge sitting by designation or  
500 under temporary recall, or a substitute judge appointed under § 16.1-69.9:1 when the killing is for the  
501 purpose of interfering with his official duties as a judge; and

502 15. The willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any witness in a criminal case after a  
503 subpoena has been issued for such witness by the court, the clerk, or an attorney, when the killing is for  
504 the purpose of interfering with the person's duties in such case.

505 B. For a violation of subdivision A 6 where the offender was 18 years of age or older at the time  
506 of the offense, the punishment shall be no less than a mandatory minimum term of confinement for life.

507 C. If any one or more subsections, sentences, or parts of this section shall be judged  
508 unconstitutional or invalid, such adjudication shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining  
509 provisions thereof but shall be confined in its operation to the specific provisions so held unconstitutional  
510 or invalid.

511 **§ 18.2-32. First and second degree murder defined; punishment.**

512 Murder, other than ~~capital~~ aggravated murder, by poison, lying in wait, imprisonment, starving, or  
513 by any willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing, or in the commission of, or attempt to commit, arson,  
514 rape, forcible sodomy, inanimate or animate object sexual penetration, robbery, burglary or abduction,  
515 except as provided in § 18.2-31, is murder of the first degree, punishable as a Class 2 felony.

516 All murder other than ~~capital~~ aggravated murder and murder in the first degree is murder of the  
517 second degree and is punishable by confinement in a state correctional facility for not less than five nor  
518 more than forty years.

519 **§ 18.2-251.01. Substance abuse screening and assessment for felony convictions.**

520 A. When a person is convicted of a felony, ~~not except a capital offense~~ Class 1 felony, committed  
521 on or after January 1, 2000, he shall be required to undergo a substance abuse screening and, if the  
522 screening indicates a substance abuse or dependence problem, an assessment by a certified substance  
523 abuse counselor as defined in § 54.1-3500 employed by the Department of Corrections or by an agency  
524 employee under the supervision of such counselor. If the person is determined to have a substance abuse  
525 problem, the court shall require him to enter treatment and/or education program or services, if available,  
526 which, in the opinion of the court, is best suited to the needs of the person. The program or services may  
527 be located in the judicial district in which the conviction was had or in any other judicial district as the  
528 court may provide. The treatment and/or education program or services shall be licensed by the  
529 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or shall be a similar program or services  
530 which are made available through the Department of Corrections if the court imposes a sentence of one  
531 year or more or, if the court imposes a sentence of 12 months or less, by a similar program or services

532 available through a local or regional jail, a local community-based probation services agency established  
533 pursuant to § 9.1-174, or an ASAP program certified by the Commission on VASAP. The services agency  
534 or program may require the person entering such program or services under the provisions of this section  
535 to pay a fee for the education and treatment component, or both, based upon the defendant's ability to pay.

536 B. As a condition of any suspended sentence and probation, the court shall order the person to  
537 undergo periodic testing and treatment for substance abuse, if available, as the court deems appropriate  
538 based upon consideration of the substance abuse assessment.

539 **§ 19.2-11.01. Crime victim and witness rights.**

540 A. In recognition of the Commonwealth's concern for the victims and witnesses of crime, it is the  
541 purpose of this chapter to ensure that the full impact of crime is brought to the attention of the courts of  
542 the Commonwealth; that crime victims and witnesses are treated with dignity, respect and sensitivity; and  
543 that their privacy is protected to the extent permissible under law. It is the further purpose of this chapter  
544 to ensure that victims and witnesses are informed of the rights provided to them under the laws of the  
545 Commonwealth; that they receive authorized services as appropriate; and that they have the opportunity  
546 to be heard by law-enforcement agencies, attorneys for the Commonwealth, corrections agencies and the  
547 judiciary at all critical stages of the criminal justice process to the extent permissible under law. Unless  
548 otherwise stated and subject to the provisions of § 19.2-11.1, it shall be the responsibility of a locality's  
549 crime victim and witness assistance program to provide the information and assistance required by this  
550 chapter, including verification that the standardized form listing the specific rights afforded to crime  
551 victims has been received by the victim.

552 As soon as practicable after identifying a victim of a crime, the investigating law-enforcement  
553 agency shall provide the victim with a standardized form listing the specific rights afforded to crime  
554 victims. The form shall include a telephone number by which the victim can receive further information  
555 and assistance in securing the rights afforded crime victims, the name, address and telephone number of  
556 the office of the attorney for the Commonwealth, the name, address and telephone number of the  
557 investigating law-enforcement agency, and a summary of the victim's rights under § 40.1-28.7:2.

558 1. Victim and witness protection and law-enforcement contacts.

559 a. In order that victims and witnesses receive protection from harm and threats of harm arising out  
560 of their cooperation with law-enforcement, or prosecution efforts, they shall be provided with information  
561 as to the level of protection which may be available pursuant to § 52-35 or to any other federal, state or  
562 local program providing protection, and shall be assisted in obtaining this protection from the appropriate  
563 authorities.

564 b. Victims and witnesses shall be provided, where available, a separate waiting area during court  
565 proceedings that affords them privacy and protection from intimidation, and that does not place the victim  
566 in close proximity to the defendant or the defendant's family.

567 2. Financial assistance.

568 a. Victims shall be informed of financial assistance and social services available to them as victims  
569 of a crime, including information on their possible right to file a claim for compensation from the Crime  
570 Victims' Compensation Fund pursuant to Chapter 21.1 (§ 19.2-368.1 et seq.) and on other available  
571 assistance and services.

572 b. Victims shall be assisted in having any property held by law-enforcement agencies for  
573 evidentiary purposes returned promptly in accordance with §§ 19.2-270.1 and 19.2-270.2.

574 c. Victims shall be advised that restitution is available for damages or loss resulting from an offense  
575 and shall be assisted in seeking restitution in accordance with §§ 19.2-305, and 19.2-305.1, Chapter 21.1  
576 (§ 19.2-368.1 et seq.), Article 21 (§ 58.1-520 et seq.) of Chapter 3 of Title 58.1, and other applicable laws  
577 of the Commonwealth.

578 3. Notices.

579 a. Victims and witnesses shall be (i) provided with appropriate employer intercession services to  
580 ensure that employers of victims and witnesses will cooperate with the criminal justice process in order  
581 to minimize an employee's loss of pay and other benefits resulting from court appearances and (ii) advised  
582 that pursuant to § 18.2-465.1 it is unlawful for an employer to penalize an employee for appearing in court  
583 pursuant to a summons or subpoena.

584 b. Victims shall receive advance notification when practicable from the attorney for the  
585 Commonwealth of judicial proceedings relating to their case and shall be notified when practicable of any

586 change in court dates in accordance with § 19.2-265.01 if they have provided their names, current  
587 addresses and telephone numbers.

588 c. Victims shall receive notification, if requested, subject to such reasonable procedures as the  
589 Attorney General may require pursuant to § 2.2-511, from the Attorney General of the filing and  
590 disposition of any appeal or habeas corpus proceeding involving their case.

591 d. Victims shall be notified by the Department of Corrections or a sheriff or jail superintendent (i)  
592 in whose custody an escape, change of name, transfer, release or discharge of a prisoner occurs pursuant  
593 to the provisions of §§ 53.1-133.02 and 53.1-160 or (ii) when an accused is released on bail, if they have  
594 provided their names, current addresses and telephone numbers in writing. Such notification may be  
595 provided through the Virginia Statewide VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) System  
596 or other similar electronic or automated system.

597 e. Victims shall be advised that, in order to protect their right to receive notices and offer input, all  
598 agencies and persons having such duties must have current victim addresses and telephone numbers given  
599 by the victims. Victims shall also be advised that any such information given shall be confidential as  
600 provided by § 19.2-11.2.

601 f. Victims of sexual assault, as defined in § 19.2-11.5, shall be advised of their rights regarding  
602 physical evidence recovery kits as provided in Chapter 1.2 (§ 19.2-11.5 et seq.).

603 g. Upon the victim's request, the victim shall be notified by the Commissioner of Behavioral Health  
604 and Developmental Services or his designee of the release of a defendant (i) who was found to be  
605 unrestorably incompetent and was committed pursuant to Article 5 (§ 37.2-814 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of  
606 Title 37.2, committed pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 37.2-900 et seq.) of Title 37.2, or certified pursuant to §  
607 37.2-806 or (ii) who was acquitted by reason of insanity and committed pursuant to § 19.2-182.3.

608 4. Victim input.

609 a. Victims shall be given the opportunity, pursuant to § 19.2-299.1, to prepare a written victim  
610 impact statement prior to sentencing of a defendant and may provide information to any individual or  
611 agency charged with investigating the social history of a person or preparing a victim impact statement  
612 under the provisions of §§ 16.1-273 and 53.1-155 or any other applicable law.

613           b. Victims shall have the right to remain in the courtroom during a criminal trial or proceeding  
614 pursuant to the provisions of § 19.2-265.01.

615           c. On motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth, victims shall be given the opportunity,  
616 pursuant to ~~§§ 19.2-264.4 and~~ § 19.2-295.3, to testify prior to sentencing of a defendant regarding the  
617 impact of the offense.

618           d. In a felony case, the attorney for the Commonwealth, upon the victim's written request, shall  
619 consult with the victim either verbally or in writing (i) to inform the victim of the contents of a proposed  
620 plea agreement and (ii) to obtain the victim's views about the disposition of the case, including the victim's  
621 views concerning dismissal, pleas, plea negotiations and sentencing. However, nothing in this section shall  
622 limit the ability of the attorney for the Commonwealth to exercise his discretion on behalf of the citizens  
623 of the Commonwealth in the disposition of any criminal case. The court shall not accept the plea agreement  
624 unless it finds that, except for good cause shown, the Commonwealth has complied with clauses (i) and  
625 (ii). Good cause shown shall include, but not be limited to, the unavailability of the victim due to  
626 incarceration, hospitalization, failure to appear at trial when subpoenaed, or change of address without  
627 notice.

628           Upon the victim's written request, the victim shall be notified in accordance with subdivision A 3  
629 b of any proceeding in which the plea agreement will be tendered to the court.

630           The responsibility to consult with the victim under this subdivision shall not confer upon the  
631 defendant any substantive or procedural rights and shall not affect the validity of any plea entered by the  
632 defendant.

633           5. Courtroom assistance.

634           a. Victims and witnesses shall be informed that their addresses, any telephone numbers, and email  
635 addresses may not be disclosed, pursuant to the provisions of §§ 19.2-11.2 and 19.2-269.2, except when  
636 necessary for the conduct of the criminal proceeding.

637           b. Victims and witnesses shall be advised that they have the right to the services of an interpreter  
638 in accordance with §§ 19.2-164 and 19.2-164.1.



639 c. Victims and witnesses of certain sexual offenses shall be advised that there may be a closed  
640 preliminary hearing in accordance with § 18.2-67.8 and, if a victim was 14 years of age or younger on the  
641 date of the offense and is 16 or under at the time of the trial, or a witness to the offense is 14 years of age  
642 or younger at the time of the trial, that two-way closed-circuit television may be used in the taking of  
643 testimony in accordance with § 18.2-67.9.

644 6. Post trial assistance.

645 a. Within 30 days of receipt of a victim's written request after the final trial court proceeding in the  
646 case, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall notify the victim in writing, of (i) the disposition of the  
647 case, (ii) the crimes of which the defendant was convicted, (iii) the defendant's right to appeal, if known,  
648 and (iv) the telephone number of offices to contact in the event of nonpayment of restitution by the  
649 defendant.

650 b. If the defendant has been released on bail pending the outcome of an appeal, the agency that  
651 had custody of the defendant immediately prior to his release shall notify the victim as soon as practicable  
652 that the defendant has been released.

653 c. If the defendant's conviction is overturned, and the attorney for the Commonwealth decides to  
654 retry the case or the case is remanded for a new trial, the victim shall be entitled to the same rights as if  
655 the first trial did not take place.

656 B. For purposes of this chapter, "victim" means (i) a person who has suffered physical,  
657 psychological, or economic harm as a direct result of the commission of (a) a felony, (b) assault and battery  
658 in violation of § 18.2-57 or 18.2-57.2, stalking in violation of § 18.2-60.3, a violation of a protective order  
659 in violation of § 16.1-253.2 or 18.2-60.4, sexual battery in violation of § 18.2-67.4, attempted sexual  
660 battery in violation of § 18.2-67.5, or maiming or driving while intoxicated in violation of § 18.2-51.4 or  
661 18.2-266, or (c) a delinquent act that would be a felony or a misdemeanor violation of any offense  
662 enumerated in clause (b) if committed by an adult; (ii) a spouse or child of such a person; (iii) a parent or  
663 legal guardian of such a person who is a minor; (iv) for the purposes of subdivision A 4 only, a current or  
664 former foster parent or other person who has or has had physical custody of such a person who is a minor,  
665 for six months or more or for the majority of the minor's life; or (v) a spouse, parent, sibling, or legal

666 guardian of such a person who is physically or mentally incapacitated or was the victim of a homicide;  
667 however, "victim" does not mean a parent, child, spouse, sibling, or legal guardian who commits a felony  
668 or other enumerated criminal offense against a victim as defined in clause (i).

669 C. Officials and employees of the judiciary, including court services units, law-enforcement  
670 agencies, the Department of Corrections, attorneys for the Commonwealth and public defenders, shall be  
671 provided with copies of this chapter by the Department of Criminal Justice Services or a crime victim and  
672 witness assistance program. Each agency, officer or employee who has a responsibility or responsibilities  
673 to victims under this chapter or other applicable law shall make reasonable efforts to become informed  
674 about these responsibilities and to ensure that victims and witnesses receive such information and services  
675 to which they may be entitled under applicable law, provided that no liability or cause of action shall arise  
676 from the failure to make such efforts or from the failure of such victims or witnesses to receive any such  
677 information or services.

678 **§ 19.2-71. Who may issue process of arrest.**

679 A. Process for the arrest of a person charged with a criminal offense may be issued by the judge,  
680 or clerk of any circuit court, any general district court, any juvenile and domestic relations district court,  
681 or any magistrate as provided for in Chapter 3 (§ 19.2-26 et seq.)~~of this title~~. However, no magistrate may  
682 issue an arrest warrant for a felony offense upon the basis of a complaint by a person other than a law-  
683 enforcement officer or an animal control officer without prior authorization by the attorney for the  
684 Commonwealth or by a law-enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the alleged offense.

685 B. No law-enforcement officer shall seek issuance of process by any judicial officer, for the arrest  
686 of a person for ~~the an~~ offense of ~~capital aggravated~~ murder as defined in § 18.2-31, without prior  
687 authorization by the attorney for the Commonwealth. Failure to comply with the provisions of this  
688 subsection shall not be (i) a basis upon which a warrant may be quashed or deemed invalid, (ii) deemed  
689 error upon which a conviction or sentence may be reversed or vacated, or (iii) a basis upon which a court  
690 may prevent or delay execution of sentence.

691 **§ 19.2-76.1. Submission of quarterly reports concerning unexecuted felony and misdemeanor**  
692 **warrants and other criminal process; destruction; dismissal.**

693           It shall be the duty of the chief law-enforcement officer of the police department or sheriff's office,  
694 whichever is responsible for such service, in each county, town or city of the Commonwealth to submit  
695 quarterly reports to the attorney for the Commonwealth for the county, town or city concerning unexecuted  
696 felony and misdemeanor arrest warrants, summonses, capiases or other unexecuted criminal processes as  
697 hereinafter provided. The reports shall list those existing felony arrest warrants in his possession that have  
698 not been executed within seven years of the date of issuance, those misdemeanor arrest warrants,  
699 summonses and capiases and other criminal processes in his possession that have not been executed within  
700 three years from the date of issuance, and those unexecuted misdemeanor arrest warrants, summonses and  
701 capiases in his possession that were issued for a now deceased person, based on mistaken identity or as a  
702 result of any other technical or legal error. The reports shall be submitted in writing no later than the tenth  
703 day of April, July, October, and January of each year, together with the unexecuted felony and  
704 misdemeanor warrants, or other unexecuted criminal processes listed therein. Upon receipt of the report  
705 and the warrants listed therein, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall petition the circuit court of the  
706 county or city for the destruction of such unexecuted felony and misdemeanor warrants, summonses,  
707 capiases or other unexecuted criminal processes. The attorney for the Commonwealth may petition that  
708 certain of the unexecuted warrants, summonses, capiases and other unexecuted criminal processes not be  
709 destroyed based upon justifiable continuing, active investigation of the cases. The circuit court shall order  
710 the destruction of each such unexecuted felony warrant and each unexecuted misdemeanor warrant,  
711 summons, capias and other criminal process except (i) any warrant ~~which that~~ charges capital aggravated  
712 murder and (ii) any unexecuted criminal process whose preservation is deemed justifiable by the court.  
713 No arrest shall be made under the authority of any warrant or other process which has been ordered  
714 destroyed pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall be construed to relate to or affect the time  
715 within which a prosecution for a felony or a misdemeanor shall be commenced.

716           Notwithstanding the foregoing, an attorney for the Commonwealth may at any time move for the  
717 dismissal and destruction of any unexecuted warrant or summons issued by a magistrate upon presentation  
718 of such warrant or summons to the court in which the warrant or summons would otherwise be returnable.  
719 The court shall not order the dismissal and destruction of any warrant ~~which that~~ charges capital

720 aggravated murder and shall not order the dismissal and destruction of an unexecuted criminal process  
721 whose preservation is deemed justifiable by the court. Dismissal of such a warrant or summons shall be  
722 without prejudice.

723 As used herein, the term "chief law-enforcement officer" refers to the chiefs of police of cities,  
724 counties and towns and sheriffs of cities and counties, unless a political subdivision has otherwise  
725 designated its chief law-enforcement officer by appropriate resolution or ordinance, in which case the  
726 local designation shall be controlling.

727 **§ 19.2-100. Arrest without warrant.**

728 The arrest of a person may be lawfully made also by any peace officer or private person without a  
729 warrant upon reasonable information that the accused stands charged in the courts of a state with a crime  
730 punishable by ~~death or~~ imprisonment for a term exceeding one year. But when so arrested the accused  
731 shall be taken before a judge, magistrate or other officer authorized to issue criminal warrants in ~~this~~ the  
732 Commonwealth with all practicable speed and complaint made against him under oath setting forth the  
733 ground for the arrest as in ~~the preceding section;~~ § 19.2-99, and thereafter his answer shall be heard as if  
734 he had been arrested on a warrant.

735 **§ 19.2-102. In what cases bail allowed; conditions of bond.**

736 Unless the offense with which the prisoner is charged is shown to be an offense punishable by  
737 ~~death or~~ life imprisonment under the laws of the state in which it was committed, any judge, magistrate  
738 or other person authorized by law to admit persons to bail in ~~this~~ the Commonwealth may admit the person  
739 arrested to bail by bond, with sufficient sureties, and in such sum as he deems proper, conditioned upon  
740 his appearance before a judge at a time specified in such bond and upon his surrender for arrest upon the  
741 warrant of the Governor of ~~this~~ the Commonwealth.

742 **§ 19.2-120. Admission to bail.**

743 Prior to conducting any hearing on the issue of bail, release or detention, the judicial officer shall,  
744 to the extent feasible, obtain the person's criminal history.

745 A. A person who is held in custody pending trial or hearing for an offense, civil or criminal  
746 contempt, or otherwise shall be admitted to bail by a judicial officer, unless there is probable cause to  
747 believe that:

- 748 1. He will not appear for trial or hearing or at such other time and place as may be directed, or
- 749 2. His liberty will constitute an unreasonable danger to himself or the public.

750 B. The judicial officer shall presume, subject to rebuttal, that no condition or combination of  
751 conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the person or the safety of the public if the person is  
752 currently charged with:

- 753 1. An act of violence as defined in § 19.2-297.1;
- 754 2. An offense for which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment ~~or death~~;
- 755 3. A violation of § 18.2-248, 18.2-248.01, 18.2-255, or 18.2-255.2 involving a Schedule I or II  
756 controlled substance if (i) the maximum term of imprisonment is 10 years or more and the person was  
757 previously convicted of a like offense or (ii) the person was previously convicted as a "drug kingpin" as  
758 defined in § 18.2-248;
- 759 4. A violation of § 18.2-308.1, 18.2-308.2, or 18.2-308.4 and which relates to a firearm and  
760 provides for a mandatory minimum sentence;
- 761 5. Any felony, if the person has been convicted of two or more offenses described in subdivision  
762 1 or 2, whether under the laws of the Commonwealth or substantially similar laws of the United States;
- 763 6. Any felony committed while the person is on release pending trial for a prior felony under  
764 federal or state law or on release pending imposition or execution of sentence or appeal of sentence or  
765 conviction;
- 766 7. An offense listed in subsection B of § 18.2-67.5:2 and the person had previously been convicted  
767 of an offense listed in § 18.2-67.5:2 or a substantially similar offense under the laws of any state or the  
768 United States and the judicial officer finds probable cause to believe that the person who is currently  
769 charged with one of these offenses committed the offense charged;

770 8. A violation of § 18.2-374.1 or 18.2-374.3 where the offender has reason to believe that the  
771 solicited person is under 15 years of age and the offender is at least five years older than the solicited  
772 person;

773 9. A violation of § 18.2-46.2, 18.2-46.3, 18.2-46.5, or 18.2-46.7;

774 10. A violation of § 18.2-36.1, 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or 46.2-341.24 and the person has, within the  
775 past five years of the instant offense, been convicted three times on different dates of a violation of any  
776 combination of these Code sections, or any ordinance of any county, city, or town or the laws of any other  
777 state or of the United States substantially similar thereto, and has been at liberty between each conviction;

778 11. A second or subsequent violation of § 16.1-253.2 or 18.2-60.4 or a substantially similar offense  
779 under the laws of any state or the United States;

780 12. A violation of subsection B of § 18.2-57.2;

781 13. A violation of subsection C of § 18.2-460 charging the use of threats of bodily harm or force  
782 to knowingly attempt to intimidate or impede a witness;

783 14. A violation of § 18.2-51.6 if the alleged victim is a family or household member as defined in  
784 § 16.1-228; or

785 15. A violation of § 18.2-355, 18.2-356, 18.2-357, or 18.2-357.1.

786 C. The judicial officer shall presume, subject to rebuttal, that no condition or combination of  
787 conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the person or the safety of the public if the person is  
788 being arrested pursuant to § 19.2-81.6.

789 D. For a person who is charged with an offense giving rise to a rebuttable presumption against  
790 bail, any judicial officer may set or admit such person to bail in accordance with this section.

791 E. The judicial officer shall consider the following factors and such others as it deems appropriate  
792 in determining, for the purpose of rebuttal of the presumption against bail described in subsection B,  
793 whether there are conditions of release that will reasonably assure the appearance of the person as required  
794 and the safety of the public:

795 1. The nature and circumstances of the offense charged;

796 2. The history and characteristics of the person, including his character, physical and mental  
797 condition, family ties, employment, financial resources, length of residence in the community, community  
798 ties, past conduct, history relating to drug or alcohol abuse, criminal history, membership in a criminal  
799 street gang as defined in § 18.2-46.1, and record concerning appearance at court proceedings; and

800 3. The nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community that would be posed  
801 by the person's release.

802 F. The judicial officer shall inform the person of his right to appeal from the order denying bail or  
803 fixing terms of bond or recognizance consistent with § 19.2-124.

804 G. If the judicial officer sets a secured bond and the person engages the services of a licensed bail  
805 bondsman, the magistrate executing recognizance for the accused shall provide the bondsman, upon  
806 request, with a copy of the person's Virginia criminal history record, if readily available, to be used by the  
807 bondsman only to determine appropriate reporting requirements to impose upon the accused upon his  
808 release. The bondsman shall pay a \$15 fee payable to the state treasury to be credited to the Literary Fund,  
809 upon requesting the defendant's Virginia criminal history record issued pursuant to § 19.2-389. The  
810 bondsman shall review the record on the premises and promptly return the record to the magistrate after  
811 reviewing it.

812 **§ 19.2-152.2. Purpose; establishment of pretrial services and services agencies.**

813 It is the purpose of this article to provide more effective protection of society by establishing  
814 pretrial services agencies that will assist judicial officers in discharging their duties pursuant to Article 1  
815 (§ 19.2-119 et seq.) of Chapter 9 of this title. Such agencies are intended to provide better information and  
816 services for use by judicial officers in determining the risk to public safety and the assurance of appearance  
817 of persons age 18 or over or persons under the age of 18 who have been transferred for trial as adults held  
818 in custody and charged with an offense, other than an offense punishable by death, as a Class 1 felony,  
819 who are pending trial or hearing. Any city, county or combination thereof may establish a pretrial services  
820 agency and any city, county or combination thereof required to submit a community-based corrections  
821 plan pursuant to § 53.1-82.1 shall establish a pretrial services agency.

822 **§ 19.2-157. Duty of court when accused appears without counsel.**

823 Except as may otherwise be provided in §§ 16.1-266 through 16.1-268, whenever a person charged  
824 with a criminal offense the penalty for which may be ~~death or~~ confinement in the state correctional facility  
825 or jail, including charges for revocation of suspension of imposition or execution of sentence or probation,  
826 appears before any court without being represented by counsel, the court shall inform him of his right to  
827 counsel. The accused shall be allowed a reasonable opportunity to employ counsel or, if appropriate, the  
828 statement of indigence provided for in § 19.2-159 may be executed.

829 **§ 19.2-159. Determination of indigency; guidelines; statement of indigence; appointment of**  
830 **counsel.**

831 A. If the accused shall claim that he is indigent, and the charge against him is a criminal offense  
832 ~~which that~~ may be punishable by ~~death or~~ confinement in the state correctional facility or jail, subject to  
833 the provisions of § 19.2-160, the court shall determine from oral examination of the accused or other  
834 competent evidence whether or not the accused is indigent within the contemplation of law pursuant to  
835 the guidelines set forth in this section.

836 B. In making its finding, the court shall determine whether or not the accused is a current recipient  
837 of a state or federally funded public assistance program for the indigent. If the accused is a current recipient  
838 of such a program and does not waive his right to counsel or retain counsel on his own behalf, he shall be  
839 presumed eligible for the appointment of counsel. This presumption shall be rebuttable where the court  
840 finds that a more thorough examination of the financial resources of the defendant is necessary. If the  
841 accused shall claim to be indigent and is not presumptively eligible under the provisions of this section,  
842 then a thorough examination of the financial resources of the accused shall be made with consideration  
843 given to the following:

844 1. The net income of the accused, which shall include his total salary and wages minus deductions  
845 required by law. The court also shall take into account income and amenities from other sources including  
846 but not limited to social security funds, union funds, veteran's benefits, other regular support from an  
847 absent family member, public or private employee pensions, dividends, interests, rents, estates, trusts, or  
848 gifts.



849           2. All assets of the accused which are convertible into cash within a reasonable period of time  
850 without causing substantial hardship or jeopardizing the ability of the accused to maintain home and  
851 employment. Assets shall include all cash on hand as well as in checking and savings accounts, stocks,  
852 bonds, certificates of deposit, and tax refunds. All personal property owned by the accused which is readily  
853 convertible into cash shall be considered, except property exempt from attachment. Any real estate owned  
854 by the accused shall be considered in terms of the amounts which could be raised by a loan on the property.  
855 For purposes of eligibility determination, the income, assets, and expenses of the spouse, if any, who is a  
856 member of the accused's household, shall be considered, unless the spouse was the victim of the offense  
857 or offenses allegedly committed by the accused.

858           3. Any exceptional expenses of the accused and his family which would, in all probability, prohibit  
859 him from being able to secure private counsel. Such items shall include but not be limited to costs for  
860 medical care, family support obligations, and child care payments.

861           The available funds of the accused shall be calculated as the sum of his total income and assets  
862 less the exceptional expenses as provided in the first paragraph of this subdivision 3-above. If the accused  
863 does not waive his right to counsel or retain counsel on his own behalf, counsel shall be appointed for the  
864 accused if his available funds are equal to or below 125 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines  
865 prescribed for the size of the household of the accused by the federal Department of Health and Human  
866 Services. The Supreme Court of Virginia shall be responsible for distributing to all courts the annual  
867 updates of the federal poverty income guidelines made by the Department.

868           If the available funds of the accused exceed 125 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines  
869 and the accused fails to employ counsel and does not waive his right to counsel, the court may, in  
870 exceptional circumstances, and where the ends of justice so require, appoint an attorney to represent the  
871 accused. However, in making such appointments, the court shall state in writing its reasons for so doing.  
872 The written statement by the court shall be included in the permanent record of the case.

873           C. If the court determines that the accused is indigent as contemplated by law pursuant to the  
874 guidelines set forth in this section, the court shall provide the accused with a statement which shall contain  
875 the following:

876 "I have been advised this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by the (name of court) court  
877 of my right to representation by counsel in the trial of the charge pending against me; I certify that I am  
878 without means to employ counsel and I hereby request the court to appoint counsel for me."

879 \_\_\_\_\_ (signature of accused)

880 The court shall also require the accused to complete a written financial statement to support the  
881 claim of indigency and to permit the court to determine whether or not the accused is indigent within the  
882 contemplation of law. The accused shall execute the said statements under oath, and the said court shall  
883 appoint competent counsel to represent the accused in the proceeding against him, including an appeal, if  
884 any, until relieved or replaced by other counsel.

885 The executed statements by the accused and the order of appointment of counsel shall be filed with  
886 and become a part of the record of such proceeding.

887 All other instances in which the appointment of counsel is required for an indigent shall be made  
888 in accordance with the guidelines prescribed in this section.

889 D. Except in jurisdictions having a public defender, or unless (i) the public defender is unable to  
890 represent the defendant by reason of conflict of interest or (ii) the court finds that appointment of other  
891 counsel is necessary to attain the ends of justice, counsel appointed by the court for representation of the  
892 accused shall be selected by a fair system of rotation among members of the bar practicing before the  
893 court whose names are on the list maintained by the Indigent Defense Commission pursuant to § 19.2-  
894 163.01. If no attorney who is on the list maintained by the Indigent Defense Commission is reasonably  
895 available, the court may appoint as counsel an attorney not on the list who has otherwise demonstrated to  
896 the court's satisfaction an appropriate level of training and experience. The court shall provide notice to  
897 the Commission of the appointment of the attorney.

898 **§ 19.2-163. Compensation of court-appointed counsel.**

899 Upon submission to the court, for which appointed representation is provided, of a detailed  
900 accounting of the time expended for that representation, made within 30 days of the completion of all  
901 proceedings in that court, counsel appointed to represent an indigent accused in a criminal case shall be

902 compensated for his services on an hourly basis at a rate set by the Supreme Court of Virginia in a total  
903 amount not to exceed the amounts specified in the following schedule:

904 1. In a district court, a sum not to exceed \$120, provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing  
905 limitation, the court in its discretion, and subject to guidelines issued by the Executive Secretary of the  
906 Supreme Court of Virginia, may waive the limitation of fees up to (i) an additional \$120 when the effort  
907 expended, the time reasonably necessary for the particular representation, the novelty and difficulty of the  
908 issues, or other circumstances warrant such a waiver; or (ii) an amount up to \$650 to defend, in the case  
909 of a juvenile, an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult that may be punishable by  
910 confinement in the state correctional facility for a period of more than 20 years, or a charge of violation  
911 of probation for such offense, when the effort expended, the time reasonably necessary for the particular  
912 representation, the novelty and difficulty of the issues, or other circumstances warrant such a waiver; or  
913 (iii) such other amount as may be provided by law. Such amount shall be allowed in any case wherein  
914 counsel conducts the defense of a single charge against the indigent through to its conclusion or a charge  
915 of violation of probation at any hearing conducted under § 19.2-306; thereafter, compensation for  
916 additional charges against the same accused also conducted by the same counsel shall be allowed on the  
917 basis of additional time expended as to such additional charges;

918 2. In a circuit court (i) to defend a Class 1 felony charge ~~that may be punishable by death~~, an  
919 amount deemed reasonable by the court; (ii) to defend a felony charge that may be punishable by  
920 confinement in the state correctional facility for a period of more than 20 years, or a charge of violation  
921 of probation for such offense, a sum not to exceed \$1,235, provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing  
922 limitation, the court in its discretion, and subject to guidelines issued by the Executive Secretary of the  
923 Supreme Court of Virginia, may waive the limitation of fees up to an additional \$850 when the effort  
924 expended, the time reasonably necessary for the particular representation, the novelty and difficulty of the  
925 issues, or other circumstances warrant such a waiver; (iii) to defend any other felony charge, or a charge  
926 of violation of probation for such offense, a sum not to exceed \$445, provided that, notwithstanding the  
927 foregoing limitation, the court in its discretion, and subject to guidelines issued by the Executive Secretary  
928 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, may waive the limitation of fees up to an additional \$155 when the

929 effort expended, the time reasonably necessary for the particular representation, the novelty and difficulty  
930 of the issues, or other circumstances warrant such a waiver; and (iv) in the circuit court only, to defend  
931 any misdemeanor charge punishable by confinement in jail or a charge of violation of probation for such  
932 offense, a sum not to exceed \$158. In the event any case is required to be retried due to a mistrial for any  
933 cause or reversed on appeal, the court may allow an additional fee for each case in an amount not to exceed  
934 the amounts allowable in the initial trial. In the event counsel is appointed to defend an indigent charged  
935 with a felony that ~~may be~~ is punishable by death as a Class 1 felony, such counsel shall continue to receive  
936 compensation as provided in this paragraph for defending such a felony, regardless of whether the charge  
937 is reduced or amended to a lesser felony that ~~may not be punishable by death~~, prior to final disposition of  
938 the case. In the event counsel is appointed to defend an indigent charged with any other felony, such  
939 counsel shall receive compensation as provided in this paragraph for defending such a felony, regardless  
940 of whether the charge is reduced or amended to a misdemeanor or lesser felony prior to final disposition  
941 of the case in either the district court or circuit court.

942 Counsel appointed to represent an indigent accused in a criminal case, who are not public  
943 defenders, may request an additional waiver exceeding the amounts provided for in this section. The  
944 request for any additional amount shall be submitted to the presiding judge, in writing, with a detailed  
945 accounting of the time spent and the justification for the additional amount. The presiding judge shall  
946 determine, subject to guidelines issued by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia,  
947 whether the request for an additional amount is justified in whole or in part, by considering the effort  
948 expended and the time reasonably necessary for the particular representation, and, if so, shall forward the  
949 request as approved to the chief judge of the circuit court or district court for approval.

950 If at any time the funds appropriated to pay for waivers under this section become insufficient, the  
951 Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia shall so certify to the courts and no further waivers  
952 shall be approved.

953 The circuit or district court shall direct the payment of such reasonable expenses incurred by such  
954 court-appointed counsel as it deems appropriate under the circumstances of the case. Counsel appointed  
955 by the court to represent an indigent charged with repeated violations of the same section of the Code of

956 Virginia, with each of such violations arising out of the same incident, occurrence, or transaction, shall be  
957 compensated in an amount not to exceed the fee prescribed for the defense of a single charge, if such  
958 offenses are tried as part of the same judicial proceeding. The trial judge shall consider any guidelines  
959 established by the Supreme Court but shall have the sole discretion to fix the amount of compensation to  
960 be paid counsel appointed by the court to defend a felony charge that ~~may be~~ is punishable ~~by death as a~~  
961 Class 1 felony.

962 The circuit or district court shall direct that the foregoing payments shall be paid out by the  
963 Commonwealth, if the defendant is charged with a violation of a statute, or by the county, city or town, if  
964 the defendant is charged with a violation of a county, city or town ordinance, to the attorney so appointed  
965 to defend such person as compensation for such defense.

966 Counsel representing a defendant charged with a Class 1 felony, ~~or counsel representing an~~  
967 ~~indigent prisoner under sentence of death in a state habeas corpus proceeding,~~ may submit to the court, on  
968 a monthly basis, a statement of all costs incurred and fees charged by him in the case during that month.  
969 Whenever the total charges as are deemed reasonable by the court for which payment has not previously  
970 been made or requested exceed \$1,000, the court may direct that payment be made as otherwise provided  
971 in this section.

972 When such directive is entered upon the order book of the court, the Commonwealth, county, city  
973 or town, as the case may be, shall provide for the payment out of its treasury of the sum of money so  
974 specified. If the defendant is convicted, the amount allowed by the court to the attorney appointed to  
975 defend him shall be taxed against the defendant as a part of the costs of prosecution and, if collected, the  
976 same shall be paid to the Commonwealth, or the county, city or town, as the case may be. In the event that  
977 counsel for the defendant requests a waiver of the limitations on compensation, the court shall assess  
978 against the defendant an amount equal to the pre-waiver compensation limit specified in this section for  
979 each charge for which the defendant was convicted. An abstract of such costs shall be docketed in the  
980 judgment docket and execution lien book maintained by such court.

981 Any statement submitted by an attorney for payments due him for indigent representation or for  
982 representation of a child pursuant to § 16.1-266 shall, after the submission of the statement, be forwarded

983 forthwith by the clerk to the Commonwealth, county, city or town, as the case may be, responsible for  
984 payment.

985 For the purposes of this section, the defense of a case may be considered conducted through to its  
986 conclusion and an appointed counsel entitled to compensation for his services in the event an indigent  
987 accused fails to appear in court subject to a *capias* for his arrest or a show cause summons for his failure  
988 to appear and remains a fugitive from justice for one year following the issuance of the *capias* or the  
989 summons to show cause, and appointed counsel has appeared at a hearing on behalf of the accused.

990 Effective July 1, 2007, the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia shall track and  
991 report the number and category of offenses charged involving adult and juvenile offenders in cases in  
992 which court-appointed counsel is assigned. The Executive Secretary shall also track and report the  
993 amounts paid by waiver above the initial cap to court-appointed counsel. The Executive Secretary shall  
994 provide these reports to the Governor, members of the House Appropriations Committee, and members  
995 of the Senate Finance Committee on a quarterly basis.

996 **§ 19.2-163.01. Virginia Indigent Defense Commission established; powers and duties.**

997 A. The Virginia Indigent Defense Commission (hereinafter Indigent Defense Commission or  
998 Commission) is established. The Commission shall be supervisory and shall have sole responsibility for  
999 the powers, duties, operations, and responsibilities set forth in this section.

1000 The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

1001 1. To publicize and enforce the qualification standards for attorneys seeking eligibility to serve as  
1002 court-appointed counsel for indigent defendants pursuant to § 19.2-159.

1003 2. To develop initial training courses for attorneys who wish to begin serving as court-appointed  
1004 counsel, and to review and certify legal education courses that satisfy the continuing requirements for  
1005 attorneys to maintain their eligibility for receiving court appointments.

1006 3. To maintain a list of attorneys admitted to practice law in Virginia who are qualified to serve as  
1007 court-appointed counsel for indigent defendants based upon the official standards and to disseminate the  
1008 list by July 1 of each year and updates throughout the year to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the  
1009 Supreme Court for distribution to the courts. In establishing and updating the list, the Commission shall

1010 consider all relevant factors, including but not limited to, the attorney's background, experience, and  
1011 training and the Commission's assessment of whether the attorney is competent to provide quality legal  
1012 representation.

1013 4. To establish official standards of practice for court-appointed counsel and public defenders to  
1014 follow in representing their clients, and guidelines for the removal of an attorney from the official list of  
1015 those qualified to receive court appointments and to notify the Office of the Executive Secretary of the  
1016 Supreme Court of any attorney whose name has been removed from the list.

1017 5. To develop initial training courses for public defenders and to review and certify legal education  
1018 courses that satisfy the continuing requirements for public defenders to maintain their eligibility.

1019 6. To periodically review and report to the Virginia State Crime Commission, the House and the  
1020 Senate Committees for Courts of Justice, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate  
1021 Committee on Finance on the caseload handled by each public defender office.

1022 7. To maintain all public defender ~~and regional capital defender~~ offices established by the General  
1023 Assembly.

1024 8. To hire and employ and, at its pleasure, remove an executive director, counsel, and such other  
1025 persons as it deems necessary, and to authorize the executive director to appoint, after prior notice to the  
1026 Commission, a deputy director, and for each of the above offices a public defender ~~or capital defender, as~~  
1027 ~~the case may be~~, who shall devote his full time to his duties and not engage in the private practice of law.

1028 9. To authorize the public defender ~~or capital defender~~ to employ such assistants as authorized by  
1029 the Commission.

1030 10. To authorize the public defender ~~or capital defender~~ to employ such staff, including secretarial  
1031 and investigative personnel, as may be necessary to carry out the duties imposed upon the public defender  
1032 office.

1033 11. To authorize the executive director of the Commission, in consultation with the public defender  
1034 ~~or capital defender~~ to secure such office space as needed, to purchase or rent office equipment, to purchase  
1035 supplies and to incur such expenses as are necessary to carry out the duties imposed upon him.

1036 12. To approve requests for appropriations and receive and expend moneys appropriated by the  
1037 General Assembly of Virginia, to receive other moneys as they become available to it and expend the  
1038 same in order to carry out the duties imposed upon it.

1039 13. To require and ensure that each public defender office collects and maintains caseload data  
1040 and fields in a case management database on an annual basis.

1041 14. To report annually on or before October 1 to the Virginia State Crime Commission, the House  
1042 and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate  
1043 Committee on Finance on the state of indigent criminal defense in the Commonwealth, including  
1044 Virginia's ranking amongst the 50 states in terms of pay allowed for court-appointed counsel appointed  
1045 pursuant to § 19.2-159 or subdivision C 2 of § 16.1-266.

1046 B. The Commission shall adopt rules and procedures for the conduct of its business. The  
1047 Commission may delegate to the executive director or, in the absence of the executive director, the deputy  
1048 executive director, such powers and duties conferred upon the Commission as it deems appropriate,  
1049 including powers and duties involving the exercise of discretion. The Commission shall ensure that the  
1050 executive director complies with all Commission and statutory directives. Such rules and procedures may  
1051 include the establishment of committees and the delegation of authority to the committees. The  
1052 Commission shall review and confirm by a vote of the Commission its rules and procedures and any  
1053 delegation of authority to the executive director at least every three years.

1054 C. The executive director shall, with the approval of the Commission, fix the compensation of each  
1055 public defender and all other personnel in each public defender office. The executive director shall also  
1056 exercise and perform such other powers and duties as may be lawfully delegated to him and such powers  
1057 and duties as may be conferred or imposed upon him by law.

1058 **§ 19.2-163.4:1. Repayment of representation costs by convicted persons.**

1059 In any case in which an attorney from a public defender or capital defender office represents an  
1060 indigent person charged with an offense and such person is convicted, the sum that would have been  
1061 allowed a court-appointed attorney as compensation and as reasonable expenses shall be taxed against the  
1062 person defended as a part of the costs of the prosecution, and, if collected, shall be paid to the



1063 Commonwealth or, if payment was made to the Commonwealth by a locality for defense of a local  
1064 ordinance violation, to the appropriate county, city or town. An abstract of such costs shall be docketed in  
1065 the judgment lien docket and execution book of the court.

1066 **§ 19.2-169.3. Disposition of the unrestorably incompetent defendant; aggravated murder**  
1067 **charge; sexually violent offense charge.**

1068 A. If, at any time after the defendant is ordered to undergo treatment pursuant to subsection A of  
1069 § 19.2-169.2, the director of the community services board or behavioral health authority or his designee  
1070 or the director of the treating inpatient facility or his designee concludes that the defendant is likely to  
1071 remain incompetent for the foreseeable future, he shall send a report to the court so stating. The report  
1072 shall also indicate whether, in the board, authority, or inpatient facility director's or his designee's opinion,  
1073 the defendant should be released, committed pursuant to Article 5 (§ 37.2-814 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of  
1074 Title 37.2, committed pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 37.2-900 et seq.) of Title 37.2, or certified pursuant to §  
1075 37.2-806 in the event he is found to be unrestorably incompetent. Upon receipt of the report, the court  
1076 shall make a competency determination according to the procedures specified in subsection E of § 19.2-  
1077 169.1. If the court finds that the defendant is incompetent and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable  
1078 future, it shall order that he be (i) released, (ii) committed pursuant to Article 5 (§ 37.2-814 et seq.) of  
1079 Chapter 8 of Title 37.2, or (iii) certified pursuant to § 37.2-806. However, if the court finds that the  
1080 defendant is incompetent and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future and the defendant has been  
1081 charged with a sexually violent offense, as defined in § 37.2-900, he shall be screened pursuant to the  
1082 procedures set forth in §§ 37.2-903 and 37.2-904. If the court finds the defendant incompetent but  
1083 restorable to competency in the foreseeable future, it may order treatment continued until six months have  
1084 elapsed from the date of the defendant's initial admission under subsection A of § 19.2-169.2.

1085 B. At the end of six months from the date of the defendant's initial admission under subsection A  
1086 of § 19.2-169.2 if the defendant remains incompetent in the opinion of the board, authority, or inpatient  
1087 facility director or his designee, the director or his designee shall so notify the court and make  
1088 recommendations concerning disposition of the defendant as described in subsection A. The court shall  
1089 hold a hearing according to the procedures specified in subsection E of § 19.2-169.1 and, if it finds the

1090 defendant unrestorably incompetent, shall order one of the dispositions described in subsection A. If the  
1091 court finds the defendant incompetent but restorable to competency, it may order continued treatment  
1092 under subsection A of § 19.2-169.2 for additional six-month periods, provided a hearing pursuant to  
1093 subsection E of § 19.2-169.1 is held at the completion of each such period and the defendant continues to  
1094 be incompetent but restorable to competency in the foreseeable future.

1095 C. If any defendant has been charged with a misdemeanor in violation of Article 3 (§ 18.2-95 et  
1096 seq.) of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 or Article 5 (§ 18.2-119 et seq.) of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2, other than a  
1097 misdemeanor charge pursuant to § 18.2-130 or Article 2 (§ 18.2-415 et seq.) of Chapter 9 of Title 18.2,  
1098 and is being treated pursuant to subsection A of § 19.2-169.2, and after 45 days has not been restored to  
1099 competency, the director of the community service board, behavioral health authority, or the director of  
1100 the treating inpatient facility, or any of their designees, shall send a report indicating the defendant's status  
1101 to the court. The report shall also indicate whether the defendant should be released or committed pursuant  
1102 to § 37.2-817 or certified pursuant to § 37.2-806. Upon receipt of the report, if the court determines that  
1103 the defendant is still incompetent, the court shall order that the defendant be released, committed, or  
1104 certified, and may dismiss the charges against the defendant.

1105 D. Unless an incompetent defendant is charged with ~~capital~~ aggravated murder or the charges  
1106 against an incompetent criminal defendant have been previously dismissed, charges against an  
1107 unrestorably incompetent defendant shall be dismissed on the date upon which his sentence would have  
1108 expired had he been convicted and received the maximum sentence for the crime charged, or on the date  
1109 five years from the date of his arrest for such charges, whichever is sooner.

1110 E. If the court orders an unrestorably incompetent defendant to be screened pursuant to the  
1111 procedures set forth in §§ 37.2-903 and 37.2-904, it shall order the attorney for the Commonwealth in the  
1112 jurisdiction wherein the defendant was charged and the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and  
1113 Developmental Services to provide the Director of the Department of Corrections with any information  
1114 relevant to the review, including, but not limited to: (i) a copy of the warrant or indictment, (ii) a copy of  
1115 the defendant's criminal record, (iii) information about the alleged crime, (iv) a copy of the competency  
1116 report completed pursuant to § 19.2-169.1, and (v) a copy of the report prepared by the director of the

1117 defendant's community services board, behavioral health authority, or treating inpatient facility or his  
1118 designee pursuant to this section. The court shall further order that the defendant be held in the custody of  
1119 the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for secure confinement and treatment  
1120 until the Commitment Review Committee's and Attorney General's review and any subsequent hearing or  
1121 trial are completed. If the court receives notice that the Attorney General has declined to file a petition for  
1122 the commitment of an unrestorably incompetent defendant as a sexually violent predator after conducting  
1123 a review pursuant to § 37.2-905, the court shall order that the defendant be released, committed pursuant  
1124 to Article 5 (§ 37.2-814 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 37.2, or certified pursuant to § 37.2-806.

1125 F. In any case when an incompetent defendant is charged with ~~capital~~ aggravated murder and has  
1126 been determined to be unrestorably incompetent, notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the  
1127 charge shall not be dismissed and the court having jurisdiction over the ~~capital~~ aggravated murder case  
1128 may order that the defendant receive continued treatment under subsection A of § 19.2-169.2 in a secure  
1129 facility determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental  
1130 Services where the defendant shall remain until further order of the court, provided that (i) a hearing  
1131 pursuant to subsection E of § 19.2-169.1 is held at yearly intervals for five years and at biennial intervals  
1132 thereafter, or at any time that the director of the treating facility or his designee submits a competency  
1133 report to the court in accordance with subsection D of § 19.2-169.1 that the defendant's competency has  
1134 been restored, (ii) the defendant remains incompetent, (iii) the court finds continued treatment to be  
1135 medically appropriate, and (iv) the defendant presents a danger to himself or others. No unrestorably  
1136 incompetent defendant charged with ~~capital~~ aggravated murder shall be released except pursuant to a court  
1137 order.

1138 G. The attorney for the Commonwealth may bring charges that have been dismissed against the  
1139 defendant when he is restored to competency.

1140 **§ 19.2-175. Compensation of experts.**

1141 Each psychiatrist, clinical psychologist or other expert appointed by the court to render  
1142 professional service pursuant to § 19.2-168.1, 19.2-169.1, 19.2-169.5, 19.2-182.8, 19.2-182.9, ~~19.2-~~  
1143 ~~264.3:1, 19.2-264.3:3~~ or 19.2-301, who is not regularly employed by the Commonwealth of Virginia

1144 except by the University of Virginia School of Medicine and the ~~Medical College~~ of Virginia  
1145 Commonwealth University School of Medicine, shall receive a reasonable fee for such service. For any  
1146 psychiatrist, clinical psychologist, or other expert appointed by the court to render such professional  
1147 services who is regularly employed by the Commonwealth of Virginia, except by the University of  
1148 Virginia School of Medicine or the ~~Medical College~~ of Virginia Commonwealth University School of  
1149 Medicine, the fee shall be paid only for professional services provided during nonstate hours that have  
1150 been approved by his employing agency as being beyond the scope of his state employment duties. The  
1151 fee shall be determined in each instance by the court that appointed the expert, in accordance with  
1152 guidelines established by the Supreme Court after consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health  
1153 and Developmental Services. Except in ~~capital~~ aggravated murder cases pursuant to § 18.2-31, the fee  
1154 shall not exceed \$750, but in addition if any such expert is required to appear as a witness in any hearing  
1155 held pursuant to such sections, he shall receive mileage and a fee of \$100 for each day during which he is  
1156 required so to serve. An itemized account of expense, duly sworn to, must be presented to the court, and  
1157 when allowed shall be certified to the Supreme Court for payment out of the state treasury, and be charged  
1158 against the appropriations made to pay criminal charges. Allowance for the fee and for the per diem  
1159 authorized shall also be made by order of the court, duly certified to the Supreme Court for payment out  
1160 of the appropriation to pay criminal charges.

1161 **§ 19.2-217.1. Central file of aggravated murder indictments.**

1162 Upon the return by a grand jury of an indictment for ~~capital~~ aggravated murder and the arrest of  
1163 the defendant, the clerk of the circuit court in which such indictment is returned shall forthwith file a  
1164 certified copy of the indictment with the clerk of the Supreme Court of Virginia. All such indictments  
1165 shall be maintained in a single place by the clerk of the Supreme Court, and shall be available to members  
1166 of the public upon request. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall not be (i) a basis  
1167 upon which an indictment may be quashed or deemed invalid; (ii) deemed error upon which a conviction  
1168 may be reversed or a sentence vacated; or (iii) a basis upon which a court may prevent or delay execution  
1169 of a sentence.

1170 **§ 19.2-247. Venue in certain homicide cases.**

1171           Where evidence exists that a homicide has been committed either within or without the  
1172 Commonwealth, under circumstances that make it unknown where such crime was committed, the  
1173 homicide and any related offenses shall be amenable to prosecution in the courts of the county or city  
1174 where the body or any part thereof of the victim may be found or, if the victim was removed from the  
1175 Commonwealth for medical treatment prior to death and died outside the Commonwealth, in the courts of  
1176 the county or city from which the victim was removed for medical treatment prior to death, as if the offense  
1177 has been committed in such county or city. In a prosecution ~~for capital murder~~ pursuant to subdivision A  
1178 8 of § 18.2-31, the offense may be prosecuted in any jurisdiction in the Commonwealth in which any one  
1179 of the killings may be prosecuted.

1180           **§ 19.2-270.4:1. Storage, preservation and retention of human biological evidence in felony**  
1181 **cases.**

1182           A. Notwithstanding any provision of law or rule of court, upon motion of a person convicted of a  
1183 felony ~~but not sentenced to death~~ or his attorney of record to the circuit court that entered the judgment  
1184 for the offense, the court shall order the storage, preservation, and retention of specifically identified  
1185 human biological evidence or representative samples collected or obtained in the case for a period of up  
1186 to 15 years from the time of conviction, unless the court determines, in its discretion, that the evidence  
1187 should be retained for a longer period of time. Upon the filing of such a motion, the defendant may request  
1188 a hearing for the limited purpose of identifying the human biological evidence or representative samples  
1189 that are to be stored in accordance with the provisions of this section. Upon the granting of the motion,  
1190 the court shall order the clerk of the circuit court to transfer all such evidence to the Department of Forensic  
1191 Science. The Department of Forensic Science shall store, preserve, and retain such evidence. If the  
1192 evidence is not within the custody of the clerk at the time the order is entered, the court shall order the  
1193 governmental entity having custody of the evidence to transfer such evidence to the Department of  
1194 Forensic Science. Upon the entry of an order under this subsection, the court may upon motion or upon  
1195 good cause shown, with notice to the convicted person, his attorney of record and the attorney for the  
1196 Commonwealth, modify the original storage order, as it relates to time of storage of the evidence or  
1197 samples, for a period of time greater than or less than that specified in the original order.

1198           B. ~~In the case of a person sentenced to death, the court that entered the judgment shall, in all cases,~~  
1199 ~~order any human biological evidence or representative samples to be transferred by the governmental~~  
1200 ~~entity having custody to the Department of Forensic Science. The Department of Forensic Science shall~~  
1201 ~~store, preserve, and retain such evidence until the judgment is executed. If the person sentenced to death~~  
1202 ~~has his sentence reduced, then such evidence shall be transferred from the Department to the original~~  
1203 ~~investigating law enforcement agency for storage as provided in this section.~~

1204           C. Pursuant to standards and guidelines established by the Department of Forensic Science, the  
1205 order shall state the method of custody, transfer and return of any evidence to insure and protect the  
1206 Commonwealth's interest in the integrity of the evidence. Pursuant to standards and guidelines established  
1207 by the Department of Forensic Science, the Department of Forensic Science, local law-enforcement  
1208 agency or other custodian of the evidence shall take all necessary steps to preserve, store, and retain the  
1209 evidence and its chain of custody for the period of time specified.

1210           D. ~~C.~~ In any proceeding under this section, the court, upon a finding that the physical evidence is  
1211 of such a nature, size or quantity that storage, preservation or retention of all of the evidence is impractical,  
1212 may order the storage of only representative samples of the evidence. The Department of Forensic Science  
1213 shall take representative samples, cuttings or swabbings and retain them. The remaining evidence shall be  
1214 handled according to § 19.2-270.4 or as otherwise provided for in the Code.

1215           E. ~~D.~~ An action under this section or the performance of any attorney representing the petitioner  
1216 under this section shall not form the basis for relief in any habeas corpus or appellate proceeding. Nothing  
1217 in this section shall create any cause of action for damages against the Commonwealth, or any of its  
1218 political subdivisions or officers, employees or agents of the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions.

1219           **§ 19.2-295.3. (Effective until July 1, 2021) Admission of victim impact testimony.**

1220           Whether by trial or upon a plea of guilty, upon a finding that the defendant is guilty of a felony,  
1221 the court shall permit the victim, as defined in § 19.2-11.01, upon motion of the attorney for the  
1222 Commonwealth, to testify in the presence of the accused regarding the impact of the offense upon the  
1223 victim. The court shall limit the victim's testimony to the factors set forth in clauses (i) through (vi) of  
1224 subsection A of § 19.2-299.1. In the case of trial by jury, the court shall permit the victim to testify at the

1225 sentencing hearing conducted pursuant to § 19.2-295.1 or in the case of trial by the court or a guilty plea,  
1226 the court shall permit the victim to testify before the court prior to the imposition of a sentence. ~~Victim~~  
1227 ~~impact testimony in all capital murder cases shall be admitted in accordance with § 19.2-264.4.~~

1228 **§ 19.2-295.3. (Effective July 1, 2021) Admission of victim impact testimony.**

1229 Whether by trial or upon a plea of guilty, upon a finding that the defendant is guilty of a felony,  
1230 the court shall permit the victim, as defined in § 19.2-11.01, upon motion of the attorney for the  
1231 Commonwealth, to testify in the presence of the accused regarding the impact of the offense upon the  
1232 victim. The court shall limit the victim's testimony to the factors set forth in clauses (i) through (vi) of  
1233 subsection A of § 19.2-299.1. In the case of trial by jury and when the accused has requested the jury to  
1234 ascertain punishment as provided in subsection A of § 19.2-295, the court shall permit the victim to testify  
1235 at the sentencing hearing conducted pursuant to § 19.2-295.1. In all other cases of trial by jury, the case  
1236 of trial by the court, or the case of a guilty plea, the court shall permit the victim to testify before the court  
1237 prior to the imposition of the sentence by the presiding judge. ~~Victim impact testimony in all capital~~  
1238 ~~murder cases shall be admitted in accordance with § 19.2-264.4.~~

1239 **§ 19.2-299. Investigations and reports by probation officers in certain cases.**

1240 A. When a person is tried in a circuit court (i) upon a charge of assault and battery in violation of  
1241 § 18.2-57 or 18.2-57.2, stalking in violation of § 18.2-60.3, sexual battery in violation of § 18.2-67.4,  
1242 attempted sexual battery in violation of § 18.2-67.5, or driving while intoxicated in violation of § 18.2-  
1243 266, and is adjudged guilty of such charge, unless waived by the court and the defendant and the attorney  
1244 for the Commonwealth, the court may, or on motion of the defendant shall; or (ii) upon a felony charge  
1245 not set forth in subdivision (iii) below, the court may when there is a plea agreement between the defendant  
1246 and the Commonwealth and shall, unless waived by the defendant and the attorney for the Commonwealth,  
1247 when the defendant pleads guilty or nolo contendere without a plea agreement or is found guilty by the  
1248 court after a plea of not guilty or nolo contendere; or (iii) the court shall when a person is charged and  
1249 adjudged guilty of a felony violation, or conspiracy to commit or attempt to commit a felony violation, of  
1250 § 18.2-46.2, 18.2-46.3, 18.2-48, clause (2) or (3) of § 18.2-49, § 18.2-61, 18.2-63, 18.2-64.1, 18.2-64.2,  
1251 18.2-67.1, 18.2-67.2, 18.2-67.3, 18.2-67.4:1, 18.2-67.5, 18.2-67.5:1, 18.2-355, 18.2-356, 18.2-357, 18.2-

1252 361, 18.2-362, 18.2-366, 18.2-368, 18.2-370, 18.2-370.1, or 18.2-370.2, or any attempt to commit or  
1253 conspiracy to commit any felony violation of § 18.2-67.5, 18.2-67.5:2, or 18.2-67.5:3, direct a probation  
1254 officer of such court to thoroughly investigate and report upon the history of the accused, including a  
1255 report of the accused's criminal record as an adult and available juvenile court records, any information  
1256 regarding the accused's participation or membership in a criminal street gang as defined in § 18.2-46.1,  
1257 and all other relevant facts, to fully advise the court so the court may determine the appropriate sentence  
1258 to be imposed. Unless the defendant or the attorney for the Commonwealth objects, the court may order  
1259 that the report contain no more than the defendant's criminal history, any history of substance abuse, any  
1260 physical or health-related problems as may be pertinent, and any applicable sentencing guideline  
1261 worksheets. This expedited report shall be subject to all the same procedures as all other sentencing reports  
1262 and sentencing guidelines worksheets. The probation officer, after having furnished a copy of this report  
1263 at least five days prior to sentencing to counsel for the accused and the attorney for the Commonwealth  
1264 for their permanent use, shall submit his report in advance of the sentencing hearing to the judge in  
1265 chambers, who shall keep such report confidential. Counsel for the accused may provide the accused with  
1266 a copy of the presentence report. The probation officer shall be available to testify from this report in open  
1267 court in the presence of the accused, who shall have been provided with a copy of the presentence report  
1268 by his counsel or advised of its contents and be given the right to cross-examine the investigating officer  
1269 as to any matter contained therein and to present any additional facts bearing upon the matter. The report  
1270 of the investigating officer shall at all times be kept confidential by each recipient, and shall be filed as a  
1271 part of the record in the case. Any report so filed shall be made available only by court order and shall be  
1272 sealed upon final order by the court, except that such reports or copies thereof shall be available at any  
1273 time to any criminal justice agency, as defined in § 9.1-101, of this or any other state or of the United  
1274 States; to any agency where the accused is referred for treatment by the court or by probation and parole  
1275 services; and to counsel for any person who has been indicted jointly for the same felony as the person  
1276 subject to the report. Subject to the limitations set forth in § 37.2-901, any report prepared pursuant to the  
1277 provisions hereof shall without court order be made available to counsel for the person who is the subject  
1278 of the report if that person (a) is charged with a felony subsequent to the time of the preparation of the



1279 report or (b) has been convicted of the crime or crimes for which the report was prepared and is pursuing  
1280 a post-conviction remedy. Such report shall be made available for review without a court order to  
1281 incarcerated persons who are eligible for release by the Virginia Parole Board, or such person's counsel,  
1282 pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Virginia Parole Board for that purpose. The presentence report  
1283 shall be in a form prescribed by the Department of Corrections. In all cases where such report is not  
1284 ordered, a simplified report shall be prepared on a form prescribed by the Department of Corrections. For  
1285 the purposes of this subsection, information regarding the accused's participation or membership in a  
1286 criminal street gang may include the characteristics, specific rivalries, common practices, social customs  
1287 and behavior, terminology, and types of crimes that are likely to be committed by that criminal street gang.

1288 B. As a part of any presentence investigation conducted pursuant to subsection A when the offense  
1289 for which the defendant was convicted was a felony, the court probation officer shall advise any victim of  
1290 such offense in writing that he may submit to the Virginia Parole Board a written request (i) to be given  
1291 the opportunity to submit to the Board a written statement in advance of any parole hearing describing the  
1292 impact of the offense upon him and his opinion regarding the defendant's release and (ii) to receive copies  
1293 of such other notifications pertaining to the defendant as the Board may provide pursuant to subsection B  
1294 of § 53.1-155.

1295 C. As part of any presentence investigation conducted pursuant to subsection A when the offense  
1296 for which the defendant was convicted was a felony drug offense set forth in Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.)  
1297 of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2, the presentence report shall include any known association of the defendant  
1298 with illicit drug operations or markets.

1299 D. As a part of any presentence investigation conducted pursuant to subsection A, when the offense  
1300 for which the defendant was convicted was a felony, ~~not a capital offense~~ Class 1 felony, committed on  
1301 or after January 1, 2000, the defendant shall be required to undergo a substance abuse screening pursuant  
1302 to § 18.2-251.01.

1303 **§ 19.2-299.1. When Victim Impact Statement required; contents; uses.**

1304 The presentence report prepared pursuant to § 19.2-299 shall, with the consent of the victim, as  
1305 defined in § 19.2-11.01, in all cases ~~involving offenses other than capital murder~~, include a Victim Impact

1306 Statement. ~~Victim Impact Statements in all cases involving capital murder shall be prepared and submitted~~  
1307 ~~in accordance with the provisions of § 19.2-264.5.~~

1308 A Victim Impact Statement shall be kept confidential and shall be sealed upon entry of the  
1309 sentencing order. If prepared by someone other than the victim, it shall (i) identify the victim, (ii) itemize  
1310 any economic loss suffered by the victim as a result of the offense, (iii) identify the nature and extent of  
1311 any physical or psychological injury suffered by the victim as a result of the offense, (iv) detail any change  
1312 in the victim's personal welfare, lifestyle or familial relationships as a result of the offense, (v) identify  
1313 any request for psychological or medical services initiated by the victim or the victim's family as a result  
1314 of the offense, and (vi) provide such other information as the court may require related to the impact of  
1315 the offense upon the victim.

1316 If the court does not order a presentence investigation and report, the attorney for the  
1317 Commonwealth shall, at the request of the victim, submit a Victim Impact Statement. In any event, a  
1318 victim shall be advised by the local crime victim and witness assistance program that he may submit in  
1319 his own words a written Victim Impact Statement prepared by the victim or someone the victim designates  
1320 in writing.

1321 The Victim Impact Statement may be considered by the court in determining the appropriate  
1322 sentence. A copy of the statement prepared pursuant to this section shall be made available to the defendant  
1323 or counsel for the defendant without court order at least five days prior to the sentencing hearing. The  
1324 statement shall not be admissible in any civil proceeding for damages arising out of the acts upon which  
1325 the conviction was based. The statement, however, may be utilized by the Virginia Workers'  
1326 Compensation Commission in its determinations on claims by victims of crimes pursuant to Chapter 21.1  
1327 (§ 19.2-368.1 et seq.) ~~of this title.~~

1328 **§ 19.2-311. Indeterminate commitment to Department of Corrections in certain cases;**  
1329 **duration and character of commitment; concurrence by Department.**

1330 A. The judge, after a finding of guilt, when fixing punishment in those cases specifically  
1331 enumerated in subsection B ~~of this section~~, may, in his discretion, in lieu of imposing any other penalty  
1332 provided by law and, with consent of the person convicted, commit such person for a period of four years,

1333 which commitment shall be indeterminate in character. In addition, the court shall impose a period of  
1334 confinement which shall be suspended. Subject to the provisions of subsection C ~~hereof~~, such persons  
1335 shall be committed to the Department of Corrections for confinement in a state facility for youthful  
1336 offenders established pursuant to § 53.1-63. Such confinement shall be followed by at least one and one-  
1337 half years of supervisory parole, conditioned on good behavior. The sentence of indeterminate  
1338 commitment and eligibility for continuous evaluation and parole under § 19.2-313 shall remain in effect  
1339 but eligibility for use of programs and facilities established pursuant to § 53.1-63 shall lapse if such person  
1340 (i) exhibits intractable behavior as defined in § 53.1-66 or (ii) is convicted of a second criminal offense  
1341 which is a felony. A sentence imposed for any second criminal offense shall run consecutively with the  
1342 indeterminate sentence.

1343 B. The provisions of subsection A ~~of this section~~ shall be applicable to first convictions in which  
1344 the person convicted:

- 1345 1. Committed the offense of which convicted before becoming ~~twenty-one~~ 21 years of age;
- 1346 2. Was convicted of a felony offense other than any of the following: ~~capital~~ aggravated murder,  
1347 murder in the first degree or murder in the second degree or a violation of ~~§§~~ § 18.2-61, 18.2-67.1, or  
1348 18.2-67.2 or subdivision A 1 of § 18.2-67.3; and
- 1349 3. Is considered by the judge to be capable of returning to society as a productive citizen following  
1350 a reasonable amount of rehabilitation.

1351 C. Subsequent to a finding of guilt and prior to fixing punishment, the Department of Corrections  
1352 shall, concurrently with the evaluation required by § 19.2-316, review all aspects of the case to determine  
1353 whether (i) such defendant is physically and emotionally suitable for the program, (ii) such indeterminate  
1354 sentence of commitment is in the best interest of the Commonwealth and of the person convicted, and (iii)  
1355 facilities are available for the confinement of such person. After the review such person shall be again  
1356 brought before the court, which shall review the findings of the Department. The court may impose a  
1357 sentence as authorized in subsection A, or any other penalty provided by law.

1358 D. Upon the defendant's failure to complete the program established pursuant to § 53.1-63 or to  
1359 comply with the terms and conditions through no fault of his own, the defendant shall be brought before

1360 the court for hearing. Notwithstanding the provisions for pronouncement of sentence as set forth in § 19.2-  
1361 306, the court, after hearing, may pronounce whatever sentence was originally imposed, pronounce a  
1362 reduced sentence, or impose such other terms and conditions of probation as it deems appropriate.

1363 **§ 19.2-319. When execution of sentence to be suspended; bail; appeal from denial.**

1364 If a person sentenced by a circuit court to ~~death or~~ confinement in the state correctional facility  
1365 indicates an intention to apply for a writ of error, the circuit court shall postpone the execution of such  
1366 sentence for such time as it may deem proper.

1367 In any other criminal case wherein judgment is given by any court to which a writ of error lies,  
1368 and in any case of judgment for any civil or criminal contempt, from which an appeal may be taken or to  
1369 which a writ of error lies, the court giving such judgment may postpone the execution thereof for such  
1370 time and on such terms as it deems proper.

1371 In any case after conviction if the sentence, or the execution thereof, is suspended in accordance  
1372 with this section, or for any other cause, the court, or the judge thereof, may, and in any case of a  
1373 misdemeanor shall, set bail in such penalty and for appearance at such time as the nature of the case may  
1374 require; provided that, if the conviction was for a violent felony as defined in § 19.2-297.1 and the  
1375 defendant was sentenced to serve a period of incarceration not subject to suspension, then the court shall  
1376 presume, subject to rebuttal, that no condition or combination of conditions of bail will reasonably assure  
1377 the appearance of the convicted person or the safety of the public.

1378 In any case in which the court denies bail, the reason for such denial shall be stated on the record  
1379 of the case. A writ of error from the Court of Appeals shall lie to any such judgment refusing bail or  
1380 requiring excessive bail, ~~except that in any case where a person has been sentenced to death, a writ of~~  
1381 ~~error shall lie from the Supreme Court.~~ Upon review by the Court of Appeals ~~or the Supreme Court~~, if the  
1382 decision by the trial court to deny bail is overruled, the ~~appellate court~~ Court of Appeals shall either set  
1383 bail or remand the matter to circuit court for such further action regarding bail as the ~~appellate court~~ Court  
1384 of Appeals directs.

1385 **§ 19.2-321.2. Motion in the Supreme Court for delayed appeal in criminal cases.**

1386           A. Filing and content of motion. When, due to the error, neglect, or fault of counsel representing  
1387 the appellant, or of the court reporter, or of the Court of Appeals or the circuit court or an officer or  
1388 employee of either, an appeal from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court in a criminal case has (i)  
1389 never been initiated; (ii) been dismissed for failure to adhere to proper form, procedures, or time limits in  
1390 the perfection of the appeal; (iii) been dismissed in part because at least one assignment of error contained  
1391 in the petition for appeal did not adhere to proper form or procedures; or (iv) been denied or the conviction  
1392 has been affirmed, for failure to file or timely file the indispensable transcript or written statement of facts  
1393 as required by law or by the Rules of Supreme Court; then a motion for leave to pursue a delayed appeal  
1394 may be filed in the Supreme Court within six months after the appeal has been dismissed or denied, the  
1395 conviction has been affirmed, or the Court of Appeals judgment sought to be appealed has become final,  
1396 whichever is later. Such motion shall identify by the style, date, and Court of Appeals record number of  
1397 the judgment sought to be appealed, and, if one was assigned in a prior attempt to appeal the judgment to  
1398 the Supreme Court, shall give the record number assigned in the Supreme Court in that proceeding, and  
1399 shall set forth the specific facts establishing the said error, neglect, or fault. If the error, neglect, or fault  
1400 is alleged to be that of an attorney representing the appellant, the motion shall be accompanied by the  
1401 affidavit of the attorney whose error, neglect, or fault is alleged, verifying the specific facts alleged in the  
1402 motion, and certifying that the appellant is not personally responsible, in whole or in part, for the error,  
1403 neglect, or fault causing loss of the original opportunity for appeal.

1404           B. Service, response, and disposition. Such motion shall be served on the attorney for the  
1405 Commonwealth or, if a petition for appeal was granted in the Court of Appeals or in the Supreme Court  
1406 in the original attempt to appeal, upon the Attorney General, in accordance with Rule 5:4 of the Supreme  
1407 Court. If the Commonwealth disputes the facts alleged in the motion, or contends that those facts do not  
1408 entitle the appellant to a delayed appeal under this section, the motion shall be denied without prejudice  
1409 to the appellant's right to seek a delayed appeal by means of petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Otherwise,  
1410 the Supreme Court shall, if the motion meets the requirements of this section, grant appellant leave to  
1411 initiate or re-initiate pursuit of the appeal from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court.

1412 C. Time limits when motion granted. If the motion is granted, all computations of time under the  
1413 Rules of Supreme Court shall run from the date of the order of the Supreme Court granting the motion, or  
1414 if the appellant has been determined to be indigent, from the date of the order by the circuit court  
1415 appointing counsel to represent the appellant in the delayed appeal, whichever is later.

1416 D. Applicability. The provisions of this section shall not apply to cases in which the appellant is  
1417 responsible, in whole or in part, for the error, neglect, or fault causing loss of the original opportunity for  
1418 appeal, nor shall it apply in cases where the claim of error, neglect, or fault has already been alleged and  
1419 rejected in a prior judicial proceeding, ~~nor shall it apply in cases in which a sentence of death has been~~  
1420 ~~imposed.~~

1421 **§ 19.2-327.1. Motion by a convicted felon or person adjudicated delinquent for scientific**  
1422 **analysis of newly discovered or previously untested scientific evidence; procedure.**

1423 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule of court, any person convicted of a felony  
1424 or any person who was adjudicated delinquent by a circuit court of an offense that would be a felony if  
1425 committed by an adult may, by motion to the circuit court that entered the original conviction or the  
1426 adjudication of delinquency, apply for a new scientific investigation of any human biological evidence  
1427 related to the case that resulted in the felony conviction or adjudication of delinquency if (i) the evidence  
1428 was not known or available at the time the conviction or adjudication of delinquency became final in the  
1429 circuit court or the evidence was not previously subjected to testing; (ii) the evidence is subject to a chain  
1430 of custody sufficient to establish that the evidence has not been altered, tampered with, or substituted in  
1431 any way; (iii) the testing is materially relevant, noncumulative, and necessary and may prove the actual  
1432 innocence of the convicted person or the person adjudicated delinquent; (iv) the testing requested involves  
1433 a scientific method generally accepted within the relevant scientific community; and (v) the person  
1434 convicted or adjudicated delinquent has not unreasonably delayed the filing of the petition after the  
1435 evidence or the test for the evidence became available.

1436 B. The petitioner shall assert categorically and with specificity, under oath, the facts to support the  
1437 items enumerated in subsection A and (i) the crime for which the person was convicted or adjudicated  
1438 delinquent, (ii) the reason or reasons the evidence was not known or tested by the time the conviction or

1439 adjudication of delinquency became final in the circuit court, and (iii) the reason or reasons that the newly  
1440 discovered or untested evidence may prove the actual innocence of the person convicted or adjudicated  
1441 delinquent. Such motion shall contain all relevant allegations and facts that are known to the petitioner at  
1442 the time of filing and shall enumerate and include all previous records, applications, petitions, and appeals  
1443 and their dispositions.

1444 C. The petitioner shall serve a copy of such motion upon the attorney for the Commonwealth. The  
1445 Commonwealth shall file its response to the motion within 30 days of the receipt of service. The court  
1446 shall, no sooner than 30 and no later than 90 days after such motion is filed, hear the motion. ~~Motions~~  
1447 ~~made by a petitioner under a sentence of death shall be given priority on the docket.~~

1448 D. The court shall, after a hearing on the motion, set forth its findings specifically as to each of the  
1449 items enumerated in subsections A and B and either (i) dismiss the motion for failure to comply with the  
1450 requirements of this section or (ii) dismiss the motion for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be  
1451 granted or (iii) order that the testing be done.

1452 E. The court shall order the tests to be performed by:

- 1453 1. A laboratory mutually selected by the Commonwealth and the applicant; or
- 1454 2. A laboratory selected by the court that ordered the testing if the Commonwealth and the  
1455 applicant are unable to agree on a laboratory.

1456 If the testing is conducted by the Department of Forensic Science, the court shall prescribe in its  
1457 order, pursuant to standards and guidelines established by the Department, the method of custody, transfer,  
1458 and return of evidence submitted for scientific investigation sufficient to insure and protect the  
1459 Commonwealth's interest in the integrity of the evidence. The results of any such testing shall be furnished  
1460 simultaneously to the court, the petitioner and his attorney of record and the attorney for the  
1461 Commonwealth. ~~The Department of Forensic Science shall give testing priority to cases in which a~~  
1462 ~~sentence of death has been imposed.~~ The results of any tests performed and any hearings held pursuant to  
1463 this section shall become a part of the record.

1464 If the testing is not conducted by the Department of Forensic Science, it shall be conducted by a  
1465 laboratory that is accredited by an accrediting body that requires conformance to forensic-specific

1466 requirements and that is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)  
1467 Mutual Recognition Arrangement with a scope of accreditation that covers the testing being performed  
1468 and follows the appropriate Quality Assurance Standards issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

1469 ~~F. Nothing in this section shall constitute grounds to delay setting an execution date pursuant to §~~  
1470 ~~53.1-232.1 or to grant a stay of execution that has been set pursuant to clause (iii) or (iv) of § 53.1-232.1.~~

1471 ~~G.~~ An action under this section or the performance of any attorney representing the petitioner under  
1472 this section shall not form the basis for relief in any habeas corpus proceeding or any other appeal. Nothing  
1473 in this section shall create any cause of action for damages against the Commonwealth or any of its  
1474 political subdivisions or any officers, employees or agents of the Commonwealth or its political  
1475 subdivisions.

1476 ~~H.~~G. In any petition filed pursuant to this chapter, the petitioner is entitled to representation by  
1477 counsel subject to the provisions of Article 3 (§ 19.2-157 et seq.) of Chapter 10.

1478 **§ 19.2-327.3. Contents and form of the petition based on previously unknown or untested**  
1479 **human biological evidence of actual innocence.**

1480 A. The petitioner shall allege categorically and with specificity, under oath, the following: (i) the  
1481 crime for which the petitioner was convicted or the offense for which the petitioner was adjudicated  
1482 delinquent; (ii) that the petitioner is actually innocent of the crime for which he was convicted or  
1483 adjudicated delinquent; (iii) an exact description of the human biological evidence and the scientific  
1484 testing supporting the allegation of innocence; (iv) that the evidence was not previously known or  
1485 available to the petitioner or his trial attorney of record at the time the conviction or adjudication of  
1486 delinquency became final in the circuit court, or if known, the reason that the evidence was not subject to  
1487 the scientific testing set forth in the petition; (v) the date the test results under § 19.2-327.1 became known  
1488 to the petitioner or any attorney of record; (vi) that the petitioner or his attorney of record has filed the  
1489 petition within 60 days of obtaining the test results under § 19.2-327.1; (vii) the reason or reasons the  
1490 evidence will prove that no rational trier of fact would have found proof of guilt or delinquency beyond a  
1491 reasonable doubt; and (viii) for any conviction or adjudication of delinquency that became final in the  
1492 circuit court after June 30, 1996, that the evidence was not available for testing under § 9.1-1104. The



1493 Supreme Court may issue a stay of execution pending proceedings under the petition. ~~Nothing in this~~  
1494 ~~chapter shall constitute grounds to delay setting an execution date pursuant to § 53.1-232.1 or to grant a~~  
1495 ~~stay of execution that has been set pursuant to clause (iii) or (iv) of § 53.1-232.1.~~

1496 B. Such petition shall contain all relevant allegations of facts that are known to the petitioner at  
1497 the time of filing and shall enumerate and include all previous records, applications, petitions, and appeals  
1498 and their dispositions. A copy of any test results shall be filed with the petition. The petition shall be filed  
1499 on a form provided by the Supreme Court. If the petitioner fails to submit a completed form, the Court  
1500 may dismiss the petition or return the petition to the prisoner pending the completion of such form. The  
1501 petitioner shall be responsible for all statements contained in the petition. Any false statement in the  
1502 petition, if such statement is knowingly or willfully made, shall be a ground for prosecution and conviction  
1503 of perjury as provided for in § 18.2-434.

1504 C. The Supreme Court shall not accept the petition unless it is accompanied by a duly executed  
1505 return of service in the form of a verification that a copy of the petition and all attachments has been served  
1506 on the attorney for the Commonwealth of the jurisdiction where the conviction or adjudication of  
1507 delinquency occurred and the Attorney General or an acceptance of service signed by these officials, or  
1508 any combination thereof. The Attorney General shall have 30 days after receipt of the record by the clerk  
1509 of the Supreme Court in which to file a response to the petition. The response may contain a proffer of  
1510 any evidence pertaining to the guilt or delinquency or innocence of the petitioner that is not included in  
1511 the record of the case, including evidence that was suppressed at trial.

1512 D. The Supreme Court may, when the case has been before a trial or appellate court, inspect the  
1513 record of any trial or appellate court action, and the Court may, in any case, award a writ of certiorari to  
1514 the clerk of the respective court below, and have brought before the Court the whole record or any part of  
1515 any record.

1516 E. In any petition filed pursuant to this chapter, the petitioner is entitled to representation by  
1517 counsel subject to the provisions of Article 3 (§ 19.2-157 et seq.) of Chapter 10.

1518 **§ 19.2-327.11. Contents and form of the petition based on previously unknown or unavailable**  
1519 **evidence of actual innocence.**

1520 A. The petitioner shall allege categorically and with specificity, under oath, all of the following:  
1521 (i) the crime for which the petitioner was convicted or the offense for which the petitioner was adjudicated  
1522 delinquent; (ii) that the petitioner is actually innocent of the crime for which he was convicted or the  
1523 offense for which he was adjudicated delinquent; (iii) an exact description of (a) the previously unknown  
1524 or unavailable evidence supporting the allegation of innocence or (b) the previously untested evidence  
1525 and the scientific testing supporting the allegation of innocence; (iv)(a) that such evidence was previously  
1526 unknown or unavailable to the petitioner or his trial attorney of record at the time the conviction or  
1527 adjudication of delinquency became final in the circuit court or (b) if known, the reason that the evidence  
1528 was not subject to scientific testing set forth in the petition; (v) the date (a) the previously unknown or  
1529 unavailable evidence became known or available to the petitioner and the circumstances under which it  
1530 was discovered or (b) the results of the scientific testing of previously untested evidence became known  
1531 to the petitioner or any attorney of record; (vi)(a) that the previously unknown or unavailable evidence is  
1532 such as could not, by the exercise of diligence, have been discovered or obtained before the expiration of  
1533 21 days following entry of the final order of conviction or adjudication of delinquency by the circuit court  
1534 or (b) that the testing procedure was not available at the time the conviction or adjudication of delinquency  
1535 became final in the circuit court; (vii) that the previously unknown, unavailable, or untested evidence is  
1536 material and, when considered with all of the other evidence in the current record, will prove that no  
1537 rational trier of fact would have found proof of guilt or delinquency beyond a reasonable doubt; and (viii)  
1538 that the previously unknown, unavailable, or untested evidence is not merely cumulative, corroborative,  
1539 or collateral. Nothing in this chapter shall constitute grounds to ~~delay setting an execution date pursuant~~  
1540 ~~to § 53.1-232.1 or to grant a stay of execution that has been set pursuant to clause (iii) or (iv) of § 53.1-~~  
1541 ~~232.1 or to~~ delay or stay any other appeals following conviction or adjudication of delinquency, or  
1542 petitions to any court. Human biological evidence may not be used as the sole basis for seeking relief  
1543 under this writ but may be used in conjunction with other evidence.

1544 B. Such petition shall contain all relevant allegations of facts that are known to the petitioner at  
1545 the time of filing; shall be accompanied by all relevant documents, affidavits, and test results; and shall  
1546 enumerate and include all relevant previous records, applications, petitions, and appeals and their

1547 dispositions. The petition shall be filed on a form provided by the Supreme Court. If the petitioner fails to  
1548 submit a completed form, the Court of Appeals may dismiss the petition or return the petition to the  
1549 petitioner pending the completion of such form. Any false statement in the petition, if such statement is  
1550 knowingly or willfully made, shall be a ground for prosecution of perjury as provided for in § 18.2-434.

1551 C. In cases brought by counsel for the petitioner, the Court of Appeals shall not accept the petition  
1552 unless it is accompanied by a duly executed return of service in the form of a verification that a copy of  
1553 the petition and all attachments have been served on the attorney for the Commonwealth of the jurisdiction  
1554 where the conviction or adjudication of delinquency occurred and the Attorney General, or an acceptance  
1555 of service signed by these officials, or any combination thereof. In cases brought by petitioners pro se, the  
1556 Court of Appeals shall not accept the petition unless it is accompanied by a certificate that a copy of the  
1557 petition and all attachments have been sent, by certified mail, to the attorney for the Commonwealth of  
1558 the jurisdiction where the conviction or adjudication of delinquency occurred and the Attorney General.  
1559 If the Court of Appeals does not summarily dismiss the petition, it shall so notify in writing the Attorney  
1560 General, the attorney for the Commonwealth, and the petitioner. The Attorney General shall have 60 days  
1561 after receipt of such notice in which to file a response to the petition that may be extended for good cause  
1562 shown; however, nothing shall prevent the Attorney General from filing an earlier response. The response  
1563 may contain a proffer of any evidence pertaining to the guilt or delinquency or innocence of the petitioner  
1564 that is not included in the record of the case, including evidence that was suppressed at trial.

1565 D. The Court of Appeals may inspect the record of any trial or appellate court action, and the Court  
1566 may, in any case, award a writ of certiorari to the clerk of the respective court below, and have brought  
1567 before the Court the whole record or any part of any record. If, in the judgment of the Court, the petition  
1568 fails to state a claim, or if the assertions of previously unknown, unavailable, or untested evidence, even  
1569 if true, would fail to qualify for the granting of relief under this chapter, the Court may dismiss the petition  
1570 summarily, without any hearing or a response from the Attorney General.

1571 E. In any petition filed pursuant to this chapter that is not summarily dismissed, the petitioner is  
1572 entitled to representation by counsel subject to the provisions of Article 3 (§ 19.2-157 et seq.) and Article

1573 4 (§ 19.2-163.3 et seq.) of Chapter 10. The Court of Appeals may, in its discretion, appoint counsel prior  
1574 to deciding whether a petition should be summarily dismissed.

1575 **§ 19.2-389.1. Dissemination of juvenile record information.**

1576 Record information maintained in the Central Criminal Records Exchange pursuant to the  
1577 provisions of § 16.1-299 shall be disseminated only (i) to make the determination as provided in §§ 18.2-  
1578 308.2 and 18.2-308.2:2 of eligibility to possess or purchase a firearm; (ii) to aid in the preparation of a  
1579 pretrial investigation report prepared by a local pretrial services agency established pursuant to Article 5  
1580 (§ 19.2-152.2 et seq.) of Chapter 9, a presentence or post-sentence investigation report pursuant to ~~§ 19.2-~~  
1581 ~~264.5 or~~ 19.2-299 or in the preparation of the discretionary sentencing guidelines worksheets pursuant to  
1582 subsection C of § 19.2-298.01; (iii) to aid local community-based probation services agencies established  
1583 pursuant to the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act for Local-Responsible Offenders (§ 9.1-173  
1584 et seq.) with investigating or serving adult local-responsible offenders and all court service units serving  
1585 juvenile delinquent offenders; (iv) for fingerprint comparison utilizing the fingerprints maintained in the  
1586 Automated Fingerprint Information System (AFIS) computer; (v) to attorneys for the Commonwealth to  
1587 secure information incidental to sentencing and to attorneys for the Commonwealth and probation officers  
1588 to prepare the discretionary sentencing guidelines worksheets pursuant to subsection C of § 19.2-298.01;  
1589 (vi) to any full-time or part-time employee of the State Police, a police department or sheriff's office that  
1590 is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof, and who is  
1591 responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway  
1592 laws of the Commonwealth, for purposes of the administration of criminal justice as defined in § 9.1-101;  
1593 (vii) to the Department of Forensic Science to verify its authority to maintain the juvenile's sample in the  
1594 DNA data bank pursuant to § 16.1-299.1; (viii) to the Office of the Attorney General, for all criminal  
1595 justice activities otherwise permitted and for purposes of performing duties required by the Civil  
1596 Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators Act (§ 37.2-900 et seq.); (ix) to the Virginia Criminal  
1597 Sentencing Commission for research purposes; (x) to members of a threat assessment team established by  
1598 a school board pursuant to § 22.1-79.4, by a public institution of higher education pursuant to § 23.1-805,  
1599 or by a private nonprofit institution of higher education, to aid in the assessment or intervention with

1600 individuals whose behavior may present a threat to safety; however, no member of a threat assessment  
1601 team shall redisclose any juvenile record information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise use  
1602 any record of an individual beyond the purpose that such disclosure was made to the threat assessment  
1603 team; (xi) to any full-time or part-time employee of the State Police or a police department or sheriff's  
1604 office that is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof for the  
1605 purpose of screening any person for full-time or part-time employment with the State Police or a police  
1606 department or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political  
1607 subdivision thereof; (xii) to the State Health Commissioner or his designee for the purpose of screening  
1608 any person who applies to be a volunteer with or an employee of an emergency medical services agency  
1609 as provided in § 32.1-111.5; and (xiii) to the chief law-enforcement officer of a locality, or his designee  
1610 who shall be an individual employed as a public safety official of the locality, that has adopted an  
1611 ordinance in accordance with §§ 15.2-1503.1 and 19.2-389 for the purpose of screening any person who  
1612 applies to be a volunteer with or an employee of an emergency medical services agency as provided in §  
1613 32.1-111.5.

1614           **§ 19.2-389.3. Marijuana possession; limits on dissemination of criminal history record**  
1615 **information; prohibited practices by employers, educational institutions, and state and local**  
1616 **governments; penalty.**

1617           A. Records relating to the arrest, criminal charge, or conviction of a person for a violation of §  
1618 18.2-250.1, including any violation charged under § 18.2-250.1 that was deferred and dismissed pursuant  
1619 to § 18.2-251, maintained in the Central Criminal Records Exchange shall not be open for public  
1620 inspection or otherwise disclosed, provided that such records may be disseminated (i) to make the  
1621 determination as provided in § 18.2-308.2:2 of eligibility to possess or purchase a firearm; (ii) to aid in  
1622 the preparation of a pretrial investigation report prepared by a local pretrial services agency established  
1623 pursuant to Article 5 (§ 19.2-152.2 et seq.) of Chapter 9, a pre-sentence or post-sentence investigation  
1624 report pursuant to ~~§ 19.2-264.5~~ or 19.2-299 or in the preparation of the discretionary sentencing guidelines  
1625 worksheets pursuant to subsection C of § 19.2-298.01; (iii) to aid local community-based probation  
1626 services agencies established pursuant to the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act for Local-

1627 Responsible Offenders (§ 9.1-173 et seq.) with investigating or serving adult local-responsible offenders  
1628 and all court service units serving juvenile delinquent offenders; (iv) for fingerprint comparison utilizing  
1629 the fingerprints maintained in the Automated Fingerprint Information System computer; (v) to attorneys  
1630 for the Commonwealth to secure information incidental to sentencing and to attorneys for the  
1631 Commonwealth and probation officers to prepare the discretionary sentencing guidelines worksheets  
1632 pursuant to subsection C of § 19.2-298.01; (vi) to any full-time or part-time employee of the State Police,  
1633 a police department, or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any  
1634 political subdivision thereof, and who is responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the  
1635 enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of the Commonwealth, for purposes of the  
1636 administration of criminal justice as defined in § 9.1-101; (vii) to the Virginia Criminal Sentencing  
1637 Commission for research purposes; (viii) to any full-time or part-time employee of the State Police or a  
1638 police department or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political  
1639 subdivision thereof for the purpose of screening any person for full-time or part-time employment with  
1640 the State Police or a police department or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the  
1641 Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof; (ix) to the State Health Commissioner or his designee  
1642 for the purpose of screening any person who applies to be a volunteer with or an employee of an emergency  
1643 medical services agency as provided in § 32.1-111.5; (x) to any full-time or part-time employee of the  
1644 Department of Forensic Science for the purpose of screening any person for full-time or part-time  
1645 employment with the Department of Forensic Science; (xi) to the chief law-enforcement officer of a  
1646 locality, or his designee who shall be an individual employed as a public safety official of the locality, that  
1647 has adopted an ordinance in accordance with §§ 15.2-1503.1 and 19.2-389 for the purpose of screening  
1648 any person who applies to be a volunteer with or an employee of an emergency medical services agency  
1649 as provided in § 32.1-111.5; and (xii) to any full-time or part-time employee of the Department of Motor  
1650 Vehicles, any employer as defined in § 46.2-341.4, or any medical examiner as defined in 49 C.F.R. §  
1651 390.5 for the purpose of complying with the regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety  
1652 Administration.

1653 B. An employer or educational institution shall not, in any application, interview, or otherwise,  
1654 require an applicant for employment or admission to disclose information concerning any arrest, criminal  
1655 charge, or conviction against him when the record relating to such arrest, criminal charge, or conviction  
1656 is not open for public inspection pursuant to subsection A. An applicant need not, in answer to any question  
1657 concerning any arrest, criminal charge, or conviction, include a reference to or information concerning  
1658 any arrest, criminal charge, or conviction when the record relating to such arrest, criminal charge, or  
1659 conviction is not open for public inspection pursuant to subsection A.

1660 C. Agencies, officials, and employees of the state and local governments shall not, in any  
1661 application, interview, or otherwise, require an applicant for a license, permit, registration, or  
1662 governmental service to disclose information concerning any arrest, criminal charge, or conviction against  
1663 him when the record relating to such arrest, criminal charge, or conviction is not open for public inspection  
1664 pursuant to subsection A. An applicant need not, in answer to any question concerning any arrest, criminal  
1665 charge, or conviction, include a reference to or information concerning any arrest, criminal charge, or  
1666 conviction when the record relating to such arrest, criminal charge, or conviction is not open for public  
1667 inspection pursuant to subsection A. Such an application may not be denied solely because of the  
1668 applicant's refusal to disclose information concerning any such arrest, criminal charge, or conviction.

1669 D. A person who willfully violates subsection B or C is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor for each  
1670 violation.

1671 **§ 19.2-400. Appeal lies to the Court of Appeals; time for filing notice.**

1672 An appeal taken pursuant to § 19.2-398, including such an appeal in a ~~capital~~ an aggravated murder  
1673 case, shall lie to the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

1674 No appeal shall be allowed the Commonwealth pursuant to subsection A of § 19.2-398 unless  
1675 within seven days after entry of the order of the circuit court from which the appeal is taken, and before a  
1676 jury is impaneled and sworn if there is to be trial by jury or, in cases to be tried without a jury, before the  
1677 court begins to hear or receive evidence or the first witness is sworn, whichever occurs first, the  
1678 Commonwealth files a notice of appeal with the clerk of the trial court. If the appeal relates to suppressed  
1679 evidence, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall certify in the notice of appeal that the appeal is not

1680 taken for the purpose of delay and that the evidence is substantial proof of a fact material to the proceeding.  
1681 All other requirements related to the notice of appeal shall be governed by Part Five A of the Rules of the  
1682 Supreme Court. Upon the filing of a timely notice of appeal, the order from which the pretrial appeal is  
1683 taken and further trial proceedings in the circuit court, except for a bail hearing, shall thereby be suspended  
1684 pending disposition of the appeal.

1685 An appeal by the Commonwealth pursuant to subsection C of § 19.2-398 shall be governed by Part  
1686 Five A of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

1687 **§ 53.1-204. If prisoner commits any other felony, how punished.**

1688 If a prisoner in a state, local or community correctional facility or in the custody of an employee  
1689 thereof commits any felony other than those specified in §§ 18.2-31, 18.2-55 and 53.1-203, which is  
1690 punishable by confinement in a state correctional facility ~~or by death~~, such prisoner shall be subject to the  
1691 same punishment therefor as if he were not a prisoner.

1692 **§ 53.1-229. Powers vested in Governor.**

1693 In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 12 of the Constitution of Virginia, the  
1694 power to ~~commute capital punishment and to~~ grant pardons or reprieves is vested in the Governor.

1695 **§ 54.1-3307. Specific powers and duties of Board.**

1696 A. The Board shall regulate the practice of pharmacy and the manufacturing, dispensing, selling,  
1697 distributing, processing, compounding, or disposal of drugs and devices. The Board shall also control the  
1698 character and standard of all drugs, cosmetics, and devices within the Commonwealth, investigate all  
1699 complaints as to the quality and strength of all drugs, cosmetics, and devices, and take such action as may  
1700 be necessary to prevent the manufacturing, dispensing, selling, distributing, processing, compounding,  
1701 and disposal of such drugs, cosmetics, and devices that do not conform to the requirements of law.

1702 The Board's regulations shall include criteria for:

1703 1. Maintenance of the quality, quantity, integrity, safety, and efficacy of drugs or devices  
1704 distributed, dispensed, or administered.

1705 2. Compliance with the prescriber's instructions regarding the drug and its quantity, quality, and  
1706 directions for use.



- 1707 3. Controls and safeguards against diversion of drugs or devices.
- 1708 4. Maintenance of the integrity of, and public confidence in, the profession and improving the  
1709 delivery of quality pharmaceutical services to the citizens of Virginia.
- 1710 5. Maintenance of complete records of the nature, quantity, or quality of drugs or substances  
1711 distributed or dispensed and of all transactions involving controlled substances or drugs or devices so as  
1712 to provide adequate information to the patient, the practitioner, or the Board.
- 1713 6. Control of factors contributing to abuse of legitimately obtained drugs, devices, or controlled  
1714 substances.
- 1715 7. Promotion of scientific or technical advances in the practice of pharmacy and the manufacture  
1716 and distribution of controlled drugs, devices, or substances.
- 1717 8. Impact on costs to the public and within the health care industry through the modification of  
1718 mandatory practices and procedures not essential to meeting the criteria set out in subdivisions 1 through  
1719 7.
- 1720 9. Such other factors as may be relevant to, and consistent with, the public health and safety and  
1721 the cost of rendering pharmacy services.
- 1722 B. The Board may collect and examine specimens of drugs, devices, and cosmetics that are  
1723 manufactured, distributed, stored, or dispensed in the Commonwealth.
- 1724 ~~C. The Board shall report annually by December 1 to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on~~  
1725 ~~Education and Health and the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions on (i) the number of~~  
1726 ~~outsourcing facilities permitted or registered by the Board that have entered into a contract with the~~  
1727 ~~Department of Corrections for the compounding of drugs necessary to carry out an execution by lethal~~  
1728 ~~injection pursuant to § 53.1-234 and (ii) the name of any such outsourcing facilities that received~~  
1729 ~~disciplinary action for a violation of law or regulation related to compounding.~~
- 1730 2. That §§ 8.01-654.1, 8.01-654.2, 17.1-313, and 18.2-17, Article 4.1 (§§ 19.2-163.7 and 19.2-163.8) of  
1731 Chapter 10 of Title 19.2, Article 4.1 (§§ 19.2-264.2 through 19.2-264.5) of Chapter 15 of Title 19.2,  
1732 § 53.1-230, and Chapter 13 (§§ 53.1-232 through 53.1-236) of Title 53.1 of the Code of Virginia are  
1733 repealed.

1734 **3. That any person under a sentence of death imposed for an offense committed prior to July 1,**  
1735 **2021, but who has not been executed by July 1, 2021, shall have his sentence changed to life**  
1736 **imprisonment, and such person who was 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense shall not**  
1737 **be eligible for (i) parole, (ii) any good conduct allowance or any earned sentence credits under**  
1738 **Chapter 6 (§ 53.1-186 et seq.) of Title 53.1 of the Code of Virginia, or (iii) conditional release**  
1739 **pursuant to § 53.1-40.01 of the Code of Virginia.**

1740 **4. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**  
1741 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary**  
1742 **appropriation is \$77,376 for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities and \$0 for**  
1743 **periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

1744 **#**