

## Counties Learn From Each Other as VACo Visits Fairfax County's Diversion Programs



Fairfax County Chairman Jeff McKay, Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid, and VACo President Meg Bohmke, as well as representatives from Arlington County, the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, and VACo visited with participants in the Striving to Achieve Recovery program. More details about Fairfax County's diversion programs are on the following page.

## ***“We see (Fairfax County’s Diversion First) program as an investment more than an expense.” - Chairman Jeff McKay***

Collaboration and partnerships – among county agencies and local governments – were the watchwords as Fairfax County hosted VACo President Meg Bohmke, representatives from Arlington County, the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board, and VACo for a tour of the County’s Diversion First programs on September 8. Fairfax County launched this effort, which seeks to offer alternatives to criminal justice system involvement for individuals with mental illness, substance use disorders, or developmental disabilities, in 2015. The County’s programs are offered through partnerships among County law enforcement agencies, the human services system, and the judiciary, and employ the [Sequential Intercept Model](#), which helps communities to identify resources and services to divert individuals away from the criminal justice system into treatment.

Throughout the day, County leaders emphasized that they used what they learned from other jurisdictions as they developed their programs and offered to share what they have learned along the way with counties that are interested in undertaking similar efforts. Fairfax County Chairman Jeff McKay explained that Diversion First has developed through an “evolution” over time, and suggested that counties could implement individual components based on community needs rather than the entire continuum of services at once. He underscored the value of the County’s efforts, explaining that in addition to the moral imperative of caring for vulnerable members of the community, diversion programs make economic sense. “We see this program as an investment more than an expense,” he said, citing the importance of helping people to remain in the community rather than in jails and reducing the stress on law enforcement resources that is often caused by individuals with behavioral health needs cycling in and out of criminal justice system involvement.

The day began with briefings and a tour of the Sharon Bulova Center for Community Health, which houses the Merrifield Crisis Response Center, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board’s emergency and crisis services (as well as outpatient services), and Neighborhood Health (a federally qualified health center), among other services. Explaining the history of the Diversion First effort and the collaboration among county agencies, former Fairfax County Supervisor John Cook, who worked extensively to launch Diversion First and continues to serve on an advisory group of community stakeholders, said, “Diversion is not a program – it’s more of a philosophy that goes across programs.”

Representatives from the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board shared information on the crisis services offered on-site, including a 24/7 crisis clinic that conducts assessments and referrals, as well as mobile crisis teams; additional capacity to stabilize individuals in crisis is being developed as the CSB navigates challenges in hiring nursing staff and is planned to be implemented later this year. Representatives from the Sheriff’s Office and the Fairfax County Police Department discussed their Crisis Intervention Team training and the partnership between the two departments, which enables specially trained deputies and police officers to assist their colleagues with de-escalation of individuals in crisis and navigation of the Emergency Custody Order and Temporary Detention Order processes. The County’s co-responder program enables a CSB clinician to respond to a call for service alongside a

**Sharon Bulova Center for Community Health**

County police officer, which has enabled the majority of such calls to be resolved without the need for hospitalization.

Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid hosted briefings for the group at the Adult Detention Center about programs offered within the jail as well as her office's work to support incarcerated individuals as they return to the community. CSB staff working within the jail provide behavioral health screening and treatment to incarcerated individuals, and the jail also offers an evidence-based program of medication for addiction treatment – a program cited in journalist Beth Macy's recent book, *Raising Lazarus*. A jail diversion team works with individuals in the community who have serious mental illness and have been involved with the criminal justice system to ensure their behavioral health needs are met. Sheriff Kincaid followed these briefings with a moving discussion with participants in the jail's Striving to Achieve Recovery (STAR) program, which is a voluntary, structured addiction recovery program led by peer recovery specialists; Sheriff Kincaid explained that the program is modeled on a similar program offered in Chesterfield County's jail. Participants testified to the transformative power of a community focused on recovery and the coping skills and self-knowledge they attained through their journey through the program.

The day concluded with a presentation from Chief Circuit Court Judge Penney S. Azcarate and General District Court Probation Supervisor Shawn Lherisse about the involvement of the judiciary in diversion efforts through the creation of a specialty behavioral health docket, in addition to drug court. Judge Azcarate previously led the effort to create the state's first Veterans Treatment Docket, which has evolved over time to offer programming for veterans with more significant clinical treatment needs as well as a shorter, less intensive program for veterans with a lower likelihood of recidivism. These specialized dockets connect participants to treatment and resources under the supervision of the court, with the goal of avoiding future involvement with the criminal justice system.

County leaders continue to look for ways to improve and enhance Diversion First based on discussions with the community and the experiences of other localities. As Sheriff Kincaid said, "We don't rest on our laurels – we continue to look for better ways of doing business." An overview of recent successes and future plans may be found in the [Diversion First 2021 Annual Report](#); additional materials may be found on the Diversion First [webpage](#). VACo extends its appreciation to Fairfax County's leadership and staff for arranging the tour and their willingness to share their experiences and support other counties.

**VACo Contact:** [Katie Boyle](#)

## Regions 12 and 13 Discuss Economic Development, School Funding, and More in Russell County



County representatives from VACo's Regions 12 and 13 gathered in Russell County on August 23 to discuss legislative and funding priorities and to share successes and challenges. Russell County Chairperson Lou Wallace extended a warm welcome to attendees, among whom were county representatives, members of VACo's Board of Directors, representatives of Planning District Commissions, and business partners. VACo was honored to be joined by Delegate Morefield and Delegate Wampler, as well as staff from the offices of Senator Pillion, Senator Hackworth, and House Majority Leader Kilgore.

During a roundtable discussion, attendees shared top issues in their respective counties. Several common themes emerged, including the importance of revenue diversification and preservation of existing local authority to raise necessary revenues; economic development (encompassing both the importance of recruiting industry as well as nurturing existing industries, such as enhancing local meat-processing capabilities to support agriculture); the vital importance of technological connectivity (both through building out broadband connectivity and improving cellular service); the need for effective substance use treatment and recovery programs; and the need for transportation improvements (such as paving of Rural Rustic Roads and construction of the Coalfields Expressway).

VACo staff provided updates on issues that were discussed at steering committee meetings the previous week. Steering committees met in Roanoke as part of the County Officials' Summit and addressed topics ranging from the grocery tax and jail funding to school capital investments, cybersecurity, and foster care.

Delegate Morefield provided an update on discussions at the General Assembly, noting that there are opportunities in the upcoming legislative session to coalesce around, and advocate for, projects of regional significance. He also discussed local efforts to develop placements for children in foster care who have high-acuity needs, and expressed an interest in using some of the state's opioid settlement funding to help children affected by the crisis, in addition to providing treatment for individuals struggling with substance use disorder. Delegate Wampler provided some updates on investments in the biennium budget that provide particular assistance to rural areas, including agricultural best management practices and state Standards of Quality funding, funding for the regional planning district commissions to pursue federal grant opportunities, investments in business-ready sites, funding for parks as a means of encouraging tourism, and support for addiction and recovery and mental health programs.

VACo is grateful to the county representatives, legislators, and business partners who participated in the meeting, and extends its special appreciation to Russell County for hosting the discussion.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



# Visit Buckingham County and the Buckingham County Courthouse

**Location:** 13061 W James Anderson Highway / Courthouse Road

**Built:** 1873

**Style:** Greek Revival

**Architect:** Thomas Jefferson

**Contractor:** Buckingham Courthouse Committee

## Description

The building faces south and is a two story red colored brick and wood structure. The building is located on landscaped grounds in the center of Buckingham with a one story Clerk's Office on the east side and the new courthouse on the north side. The south front of the rectangular building has a large portico with four white colored columns rising to a pediment. The recessed entrance has white colored wood trim. The building has green colored shutters and a hipped roof.

**SOURCE:** [American Courthouses](http://AmericanCourthouses.com) | [Courthouses.co](http://Courthouses.co)

# VACo 88th Annual Conference

**November 13-15, 2022**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center**



As VACo's biggest event of the year, the Annual Conference is a must for every Virginia County Supervisor and county staff member. Drawing in hundreds of officials, dozens of speakers, and a host of vendors and exhibitors, VACo's Annual Conference provides opportunities to learn from others, grow in knowledge, and improve skills.

The Annual Conference includes:

- General Sessions featuring elected officials, local leaders and policy/government experts discussing and analyzing issues
- Breakout Sessions designed to educate and enlighten
- Exhibit Hall featuring companies and organizations showcasing products and services unique to the needs of county government
- Hands-on workshops
- VACo's Annual Business Meeting where the Legislative Program is adopted and the Board of Directors is elected for the upcoming year
- Steering Committee Meetings
- Multiple team-building and networking opportunities
- And Much More

**[Annual Conference Registration Form](#) | [Online Conference Registration](#)**



*A Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business*

## ThunderCat Technology

ThunderCat Technology is a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business that delivers technology services and solutions to government organizations, educational institutions, and commercial companies. ThunderCat brings an innovative approach to solving customer problems in and around the datacenter.

ThunderCat, an SDVOSB with multiple contract vehicles, holds industry specific certifications and provides industry leading resources to help federal and commercial customers achieve their mission.

Our results-oriented consultative approach and a creative ideology provide immediate value to customers. We are active with various veterans' charities and are founded and owned by a combat wounded veteran who truly believes in giving back to the community.

### SLED Practice

State and local governments are under pressure to streamline and modernize their infrastructures to reduce costs, improve security, and accommodate modern capabilities. However, they confront a critical challenge in doing this while simultaneously leveraging their existing information technology investments and staffing efficiently. To meet clients' needs, ThunderCat evaluates the unique requirements of a customer agency, then recommends the most appropriate technology strategy. Our relationships with numerous industry-leading vendors enables us to consider many possible solutions and options for a particular client's situation and ensure the best fit possible when designing and

implementing a solution.

ThunderCat Technology is a Virginia certified SWAM business that delivers technology products and services to public agencies throughout the Commonwealth. Specifically, ThunderCat is a systems integrator that brings an objective and innovative approach to solving customer problems in and around the data center including cloud transformations. We do this by providing strategies for data management, cloud computing, cyber security, networking, and governance. A proven leader, ThunderCat Technology provides and optimizes technologies from the best breed of manufacturers. We recognize that procuring requirement for your institution is a critical component regarding delivery of solutions, which is why we offer various contract vehicles to help streamline the process. ThunderCat currently holds VITA, OMNIA Partners, VHEPC, and VASCUPP along with others.

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#### VITA (SWAM Vendor)

Network Product and Services (eRate)  
Contract# VA-211201-TCTL

COTS Software  
Contract# VA-180917-TCTL

#### VHEPC (VASCUPP)

Technology Value-Added Resellers (VARs)  
Contract# UVA-AGR-IT-00171

#### OMNIA Partners

Technology Solutions, Products & Services: Contract# R210406

Cyber Security Solutions and Associated Products & Services: Contract# R200804

#### VASCUPP

Authorized reseller:  
Contract# UVA1482501

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# FY2023 Virginia Local Government INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

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## **“FROM UNCERTAINTY TO OPPORTUNITY”**

**Friday, Sept. 23, 2022 from 10 am – 3:30 pm**  
Richmond Marriott Short Pump | James River Room  
4240 Dominion Boulevard | Glen Allen, VA 23060

The Virginia Local Government Investment Conference brings together top administrators, treasurers, investment officers, and other local government leaders to hear the latest on fixed income and long-term investing strategies for Virginia localities and governmental entities. The one-day event is sponsored by the Virginia Investment Pool (VIP), the Virginia Pooled OPEB Trust, and VML/VACo Finance.

From navigating current turbulent economic conditions to positioning to take advantage of new technologies such as blockchain and artificial intelligence, you will hear from leading investment professionals at this event exclusively for Virginia local government officials.

[Click here](#) to request more information or to register today!

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## Now more than ever, people want protection from volatility.

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Have questions? Your Nationwide Retirement Specialist is here to help.

### Webinar: Growth or Protection – now you don't have to choose.

Join us to learn about a new investment option available in your Nationwide 457b Deferred Compensation Plan. This option provides principal protection with the opportunity for growth. Find out if it's right for you!

**Monday, September 19**  
**12 Noon - 1 PM**

Register online at  
<https://bit.ly/VAIPP0919>



To register, scan this code or visit  
<https://bit.ly/VAIPP0919>.

NRM-19418AO.3 (03/22)



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## Michael Feinmel named Henrico's Deputy County Manager for Public Safety



Michael Y. Feinmel has been appointed as Henrico County's deputy county manager for Public Safety, effective September 10.

Feinmel has served as a deputy commonwealth's attorney for Henrico since 2005. He joined the county's Commonwealth's Attorney's Office in 2001 as an assistant commonwealth's attorney and previously was the assistant and senior assistant public defender for the City of Richmond.

As deputy county manager for Public Safety, Feinmel will succeed Anthony E. McDowell, who had served in the position since 2018 and was recently named executive director of the new Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority.

Feinmel joins an executive staff of County Manager John A. Vithoukas that includes Chief of Staff Cari Tretina, Deputy County Manager for Administration W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Community Affairs Monica Smith-Callahan and Deputy County Manager for Operations Steven J. Yob.

Feinmel has represented the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office on various county committees and task forces, including the Addiction Task Force and Recovery Roundtable.

He holds a Juris Doctor degree from T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond and a Bachelor of Science in political science from James Madison University. He and his wife, Allison, are lifelong residents of Henrico. They have two sons: Zachary, a senior at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, and Andrew, a soccer coach and a student at Brightpoint Community College.

**Public Information Office**

5204 Bernard Drive  
Roanoke, Virginia 24018  
(540) 772-2010



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Amy Whittaker  
Public Information Officer  
Cell: (540) 589-3089  
[Awhittaker@roanokecountyva.gov](mailto:Awhittaker@roanokecountyva.gov)

### Roanoke County Names New Public Information Specialist

**September 7, 2022** – Roanoke County recently welcomed Kaelyn Spickler as the Public Information Specialist in the Public Information Office.

In her role, Spickler will work to expand the County's footprint through new and current social media platforms as well as experiment with video blogs. She will bring a fresh perspective to the marketing of the County and also be a force behind special projects.

Spickler holds a bachelor's of Communication Studies from Roanoke College where she graduated in May of 2021. Upon graduation, she worked for the City of Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority as the Manager of Public Relations, Marketing, and Social Media.



###

# Navigating the New Cyber Incident Reporting Requirements

[Download Materials](#)



## Williams Mullen Webinar

**08.31.2022 11:30am — 08.31.2022 12:00pm**

### Video Summary:

In this webinar, **Jeremy Bennett**, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs with Virginia Association of Counties, **Eddie McAndrew**, COO/CIO of AIS Network, and **Kevin Pomfret**, Co-Chair, Data Protection & Cybersecurity Practice with Williams Mullen discuss the new legislation enacted during the 2022 session of the Virginia General Assembly which requires public bodies to report cybersecurity incidents to the Virginia Fusion Center within 24 hours from when an incident is discovered. This program provides actionable information and insights into the new legislation, and how to respond to cybersecurity incidents. The webinar is moderated by **Chris McDonald**, Director of Government Relations with Williams Mullen and **Patrick Cushing**, Vice Chair of Government Relations with Williams Mullen.

Legislation enacted during the 2022 session of the General Assembly requires public bodies to report cybersecurity incidents to the Virginia Fusion Center within 24 hours from when an incident is discovered. This Administration-supported legislation was filed and enacted in order to improve the Commonwealth's ability to catalog and analyze various cybersecurity threats and incidents that impact public bodies at both the state and local level. This webinar will provide insight on the new legislation, how to respond to cybersecurity incidents, and other issues relevant to local governments, public bodies, and businesses as they navigate this new environment.

**Speakers:** Jeremy R. Bennett, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Virginia Association of Counties; Eddie McAndrew, COO/CIO, AIS Network; Kevin D. Pomfret, Co-Chair, Data Protection & Cybersecurity Practice, Williams Mullen.

# Rail Safety Education

## Virginia Rail Safety Month - September 2022

### 2022 Rail Safety Month Proclamation

#### Rail Safety Month Toolkits

- [General Public](#)
- [Commercial Drivers/Truckers](#)
- [Cyclists](#)
- [Photographers](#)
- [Farmers](#)

#### DRIVE FOR CHANGE

VPRA has partnered with, Youth of Virginia Speak Out (YOVASO) YOVASO and their

Drive for Change campaign, to educate teens and new drivers on the importance of buckling up, slowing down, and staying safe when walking or driving around rail tracks. Participating schools will promote rail safety in September through social media, school-wide announcements, and peer advocacy. Students are encouraged to submit a Rail Safety tagline to VPRA. The winning tagline will be the theme for 2023 Rail Safety Month and be featured in Amtrak Virginia advertising.

#### SAFETY TIPS

Rail safety is a team effort and everyone needs to do their part in sharing knowledge and facts that will help deter unsafe behavior and reduce incidents along tracks and trains. Here are our top 5 rail safety tips:

1. Never walk on or around train tracks.
2. Never go around lowered crossing gates.
3. Obey all warning signals and devices.
4. Look and listen for trains in both directions.
5. Never run to catch the train

### Virginia Operation Lifesaver



**TOGETHER, WE CAN SAVE LIVES AT RAILROAD CROSSINGS AND ON TRAIN TRACKS.**



# FEMA

It is with great pleasure FEMA Region 3 announces the release of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY22 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program and the FY 22 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program. The funding level for the BRIC annual grant program will more than double to nearly \$2.3 billion while the FMA funding level will see a five-fold increase to \$800 million. For your convenience we have included additional information below and have attached the NOFO's to this email.

Fact sheet for the BRIC program can be found here: [Notice of Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2022 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grants | FEMA.gov](#)

Fact sheet for the FMA Program can be found here: [Notice of Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2022 Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants | FEMA.gov](#)

## [Register for FMA and BRIC NOFO Webinar Series](#)

To prepare stakeholders for the opening of the FMA and BRIC application period, FEMA will offer a series of Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) webinars as part of the [2022 Hazard Mitigation Assistance \(HMA\) Summer Engagement Series](#). This multi-part webinar series will bring FEMA subject-matter experts and partners together to provide technical information, best practices, tools, and resources regarding the HMA grant programs. **Registration to participate is required.** The webinars are designed for leaders in states, local communities, tribes, and territories, as well as private sector entities, non-profit organizations, and individuals interested in learning more about the HMA grant programs and strategies for how to apply for them. The application period for the FY22 BRIC and FMA grants will open Sept. 30.

[Flood Mitigation Assistant Grant NOFO](#)

[Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant NOFO](#)

## CONTACT

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## Virginia Department of Emergency Management

**VACo's Jeremy Bennett** was recently appointed to the Legislative Committee of the 9-1-1 Services Board. The Legislative Committee consists of eleven members. Terry Ellis will serve as chair. Below is a complete list of committee members:

- Terry Ellis (chair)
- Gary Critzer
- Scott Garber
- Pete Hatcher
- Michelle Painter Lama
- Judson Smith
- Board Member Vacancy (Law Enforcement Representative)
- Terry Hall (VML Representative)
- **Jeremy Bennett (VACo Representative)**
- Jeff Dodson (VA APCO Representative)
- Roy Davis, Jr. (VA NENA Representative)

Congratulations to all those appointed!

# Shine a light of hope and support for veterans



#OperationGreenLight for Veterans | [NACo.org/OperationGreenLight](https://NACo.org/OperationGreenLight)

## OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS: COUNTY TOOLKIT

America's counties have a long and proud history of serving our nation's veterans, a legacy that continues to this day as we work with our federal, state and local partners to ensure that the former service members in our communities have access to the resources they need to thrive.

This coming Veterans Day, the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO) invite the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes, and boroughs to join Operation Green Light and show support for veterans by lighting our buildings green from November 7 to November 13. By shining a green light, county governments and our residents will let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated and supported.

**To show support, counties can use this template to pass a resolution declaring your county's participation in Operation Green Light.**

**[Click here for the Operation Green Light for Veterans County Toolkit](#)**



## Shreveport Police Department partnering with Blue Line Solutions to crack down on drivers who speed in school zones

By Stacey Cameron | KSLA

Published: Aug. 18, 2022 at 12:44 PM EDT|Updated: Aug. 18, 2022 at 4:56 PM EDT

**SHREVEPORT, La. (KSLA)** - With 27 schools housed inside the city limits of Shreveport, there's a good chance that on your way to work each morning, you pass through a school zone, and notice the blinking yellow lights warning you to slow down.

At the end of summer, as each new school year approaches, police across the ArkLaTex warn drivers to slow down, but as the chief of the Shreveport Police Department recently told KSLA News 12, year in and year out, too many drivers fail to heed that warning.

"I see people quite often, for one reason or another, just totally disregard schools and speed," said Chief Wayne Smith.

This year, to crack down on folks who don't slow down in school zones, SPD is adopting a technological approach to capture speeders.

[READ AND WATCH MORE](#)

# Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards  
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



**Congratulations Surry County!**



**Congratulations Richmond County!**

# Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards  
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



**Congratulations Chesterfield County!**

# Virginia Counties Recognized for Model Programs



**RICHMOND (August 5, 2022)**—The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) is pleased to announce the 29 recipients of the 2022 Achievement Awards, which recognize excellence in local government programs. VACo received 100 submissions.

Winning entries focused on addressing issues of the pandemic, connecting citizens, and other challenges that counties face daily.

[Winning Achievement Award Submissions](#)

[Winning Program Descriptions](#)

[20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Achievement Awards Video](#)

“I want to thank all who participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Achievement Awards,” VACo Executive Director **Dean Lynch** said. “This is an anniversary year, and I was encouraged to see that we had 100 submissions, our third-highest total ever. This tells me that the VACo Achievement Awards program’s mission of identifying and celebrating the innovative work by local government officials continues to resonate with our counties. We thank all who participated and recognize those who won an award.”

**Tedd Povar**, retired Associate Director of the Virginia Institute of Government; **Dr. Sheryl Bailey**, Visiting Professor of Practice at Virginia Tech and former Chesterfield County

[More on Next Page](#)

Deputy County Administrator; and **Larry Land**, retired VACo Director of Policy Development, served as judges for this year's statewide competitive awards program.

**Chesterfield County** and its **Connecting All Community Residents to Public Schools** program won this year's **Best Achievement Award**.

"Connecting All Community Residents to Public Schools is a program we need now," Dr. Bailey said. "Chesterfield County believes its schools can be a foundation for a successful community but with 65 percent of households without children 18 or younger, the county knew it had to expand its outreach to the greater community. The results have been very positive and has proven correct the adage 'it takes a village to raise a child.' I speak for the judges when I say we are honored to give this program the Best Achievement Award."

The judges also selected a Best Small County Achievement Award (50,000 or less population) and a Best Large County Achievement Award. **Orange County** and its **Whole Blood Project** program captured the **Best Small County Achievement Award** while **Prince William County** and its **Early Diversion Program in Domestic Violence Cases** program earned the **Best Large County Achievement Award**.

"Congratulations to Orange County for winning its third-ever Achievement Award, and for such an excellent program," Land said. "To deliver the best possible outcomes for patients, the Orange County Fire & EMS Department carried lifesaving 'whole blood' units aboard on-duty response vehicles. This project required extensive training as well as other new protocols and procedures. But now Orange County can provide treatment quickly to help prevent a leading cause of patient mortality – blood loss."

Povar, who has served as judge since the Achievement Awards inception in 2003, said Prince William County's winning program reflects an important criteria for the VACo Achievement Awards. "As judges, we look for how a county uses innovation or ideas to solve a problem," Povar said. "Prince William County's program has an excellent success score, including a zero percent recidivism rate and 98 percent of those charged accept the diversion opportunity instead of going to court or possibly trial. Congratulations to Prince William County for a tremendous program and for continuing to be a leader in the VACo Achievement Awards program."

**Chesterfield County** tops the all-time Achievement Awards list with 44. Chesterfield County has won an award in each year of the 20-year history of the program. **Henrico County** is second on the list with 38 Achievement Awards while **Loudoun County** is third with 27.

The VACo Achievement Awards is a competitive program open to local government members of the association.

[Winning Achievement Award Submissions](#) | [Winning Program Descriptions](#)  
[Achievement Awards Website](#) | [2022 Achievement Awards Entries](#) | [Past Winners](#) | [Past Judges](#)  
[20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Achievement Awards Video](#)



# Happy 20th Anniversary VACo Achievement Awards!

Great to see so many friends in this video. The VACo Achievement Awards truly does bring us together in pursuit of improving our communities.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the VACo Achievement Awards during the past 20 years.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



**Dates:** Tuesday-Thursday, October 25-27, 2022

**Times:** 9 a.m.-noon each day via Zoom

## **2022 VTC Orientation offers new information, resources and best practices**

- Get a brief overview and update from each VTC Division
- Receive timely 'Action Items' to help strategize and plan leveraging VTC resources
- Benefit from industry partners' *Success Stories* to hear best practices and ROIs

VTC Orientation sessions have received highly favorable reviews from surveys for past sessions!

**Who will Benefit from Participating:** Virginia DMOs, tourism-related business owners, tourism marketers and representatives from Virginia attractions, restaurants, events, retail, and lodging establishments.

**Registration:** We invite you to visit to register [here](#)

**Cost:** FREE!

**Questions?** Contact Judy Watkins, [jwatkins@virginia.org](mailto:jwatkins@virginia.org) or 804-754-5921

## National Association of Counties Leadership Development: Learn from the best!

### Scholarships still available for you and your team.

Join the 1,710 county leaders already benefiting from the effectiveness of the [NACo Leadership Academy](#), the **12-week, online leadership program** led by General Colin Powell.

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the April Virginia graduates:

Jeremy Bennett, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, VA Association of Counties County

Charmagne Cook, Family Services Supervisor, Campbell County

Amnie Dingus, HR Director, Culpeper County

Michael Goodrich, Assistant Director -- Administration, Prince William County

Jeff Harvey, Director of Planning & Zoning, Stafford County

Christopher Hoover, Assistant Landfill Superintendent, Stafford County

Tina Kavarligos, Program Manager, Prince William County

Andrea Light, Budget & Management Director, Stafford County

LeNelle Mozell, CS Therapist IV, Prince William County

Jenifer Schier, Administrative Office Manager, Campbell County

Karen Thurman, EMS Captain, Northampton County

### Last chance to enroll for 2022!

Our September Cohort is right around the corner. Join us in investing in the workforce – empowering them to become better leaders today and into the future.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND ENROLL](#)

*Developed by General Colin Powell, the Professional Development Academy and NACo, the High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that helps your workforce develop fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and our residents.*



Thank you for your commitment to making leaders better through the [NACo High Performance Leadership Academy](#) program! In partnership with the Professional Development Academy, we are proud to have enrolled 6,100 county leaders representing 1,700 counties across the country.

After analyzing increased overhead costs and investments to develop additional leadership programs, we are writing to inform you of a necessary price increase across all programs effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. This will include the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy and the NACo Cybersecurity Leadership Academy.

The retail price will be increased to \$2,995, however, NACo & PDA will offer a **\$1,000 scholarship** for every person enrolled in the Academy so no county will pay more than \$1,995 through 2023. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Luke Afeman ([lukea@pdaleadership.com](mailto:lukea@pdaleadership.com)), PDA's Senior Director of Enrollment, if you have any questions.

Best respects,

**Brandon Natsuhara**, NACo

Director of Technology Partnerships

## Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management Information Sessions - Fall 2022



Dr. Stephanie Davis will be holding three zoom information sessions for employees of Virginia local government this fall. The sessions will discuss the overall program for the graduate certificate in local government management, schedules, costs, the VLGMA Scholarship and how to apply. Participants are requested to register in advance.

### **When**

October 18, 2022 | 12 PM

November 15, 2022 | 12 PM

December 13, 2022 | 12 PM

Register in advance for this meeting: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/join/register/tZUlcO6rqjovEtR5FHxDwJi26z3iH-Ujd8MM>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For interested employees, if the times are not convenient, please use this calendly link to schedule an individual meeting with Dr. Davis - <https://calendly.com/sddavis/15min>

*Stephanie Davis, Ph.D., Collegiate Assistant Professor and Program  
Director, Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management at Virginia Tech*

## ARPA Child Care Stabilization Grants: Fourth Round Payments & Updates - WEBINAR RECORDING & SLIDES



Thank you to everyone who participated in the webinar “ARPA Child Care Stabilization Grants: Fourth Round Payments & Updates.” You can access the webinar recording [here](#) and the PowerPoint slides [here](#).

### Don't Miss Out on the Resources Highlighted Today!

#### Virginia Department of Education Information

Learn more about the Child Care Stabilization Grants [here](#).

Please send your grant questions to [childcaregrants@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:childcaregrants@doe.virginia.gov).

Stay updated by signing up for [Readiness Connections newsletters](#).

#### ARPA Resources

Check out VECF's [ARPA Resources page](#), which includes written guides, video tutorials, and one-on-one coaching opportunities – all available in both English and Spanish. And you can [Register for FREE coaching here](#) to speak with a **FREE** business coach! Providers who participate in the ARPA one-on-one coaching sessions are NOW eligible to receive a certificate for annual training hours required by licensing.

#### You can receive support with a variety of topics:

- Budgeting
- Marketing
- Improving payment and collections
- Reducing costs
- Strengthening systems
- Staffing strategies
- Business tax education
- and more!

#### Wonderschool

Text WONDER to 33777 for a free subscription to Wonderschool. Please note that certificates are not awarded for attendance at today's briefings. Thanks for all you do for Virginia's children!



IT'S TIME TO HIT THE  
ROAD FOR THE...  
**VACo 2022  
REGIONAL  
MEETINGS**

**IN-PERSON MEETING**

**REGIONS 2&3 - MAY 23 | HENRICO**

**REGIONS 6&9 - JUNE 9 | AUGUSTA**

**REGIONS 5&7 - JULY 12 | FLUVANNA**

**REGIONS 1&4 - JULY 21 | DINWIDDIE**

**REGIONS 12&13 - AUGUST 23 | RUSSELL**

**REGIONS 10&11 - SEPTEMBER 22 | FRANKLIN**

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**REGIONS 6&7&8 - SEPTEMBER 27**

# Upcoming FOIA Training



Dear Interested Parties:

The Virginia FOIA Advisory Council is hosting the following live webinar FOIA trainings starting this month. The webinars are free to attend and are approved for DCJS or CLE credit, as appropriate. Links to register can be found below and on our [website](#). If you are interested in receiving DCJS or CLE credit, you will need to individually register and attend the webinar so that we can confirm your attendance.

## [Law Enforcement Records](#)

- September 29, 2022 at 2 pm
- October 28, 2022 at 10 am

## [Access to Public Meetings](#)

- September 27, 2022 at 2 pm
- October 26, 2022 at 10 am

## [Local Elected Officials Training](#)

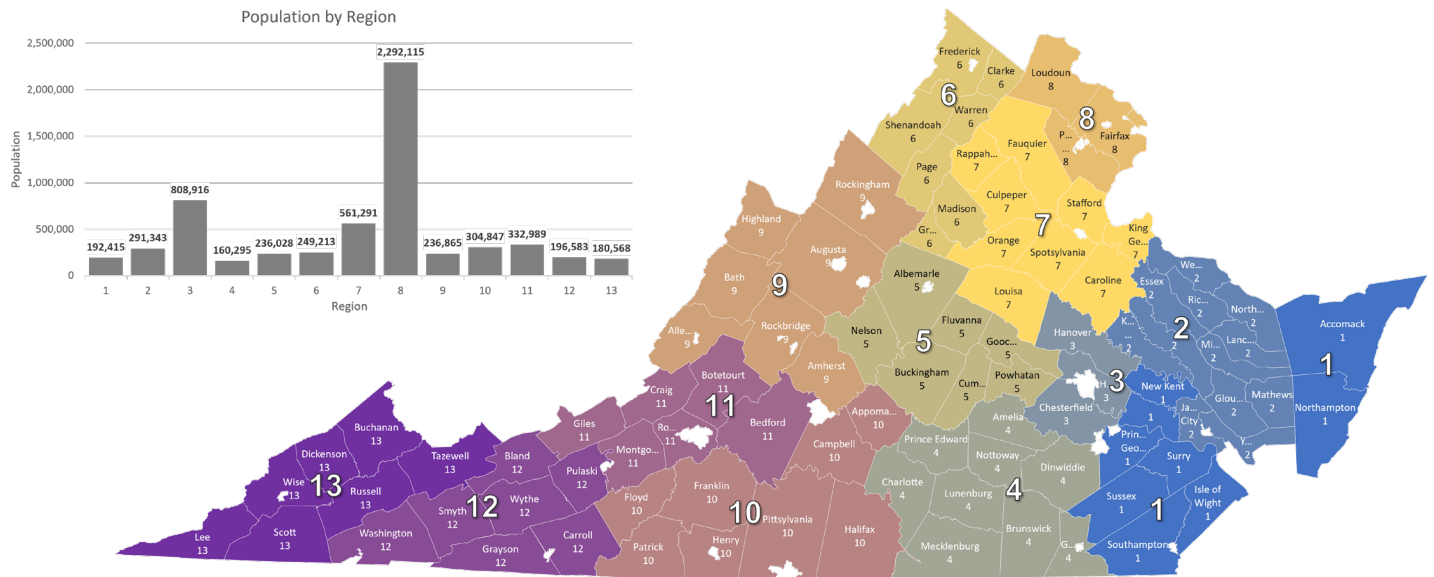
- September 13, 2022 at 2 pm
- October 12, 2022 at 10 am

## [Access to Public Records](#)

- September 15, 2022 at 2 pm
- October 14, 2022 at 9 am

**Please email us at [ric-foiatrainings@dls.virginia.gov](mailto:ric-foiatrainings@dls.virginia.gov) if you have any questions!**

## New VACo Regional Map



Powered by Bing  
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

## Proposed Reapportionment and Bylaw Amendment

The VACo Bylaws provide for reapportionment every ten years beginning in 1991. The VACo President named a reapportionment committee in 2021 and the committee began the process when the census data was available. The committee presented its recommendations to the VACo Board of Directors at its meeting on June 4, 2022. The Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the committee which would add three seats to the VACo Board of Directors consisting of one rural, one suburban and one urban area seat. The Board also endorsed a proposed Bylaw amendment which would allow the three seats to be added to the Board of Directors. The proposed reapportioned map of regions and the Bylaw proposal are as follows.

The Membership of the association will vote on the proposed Bylaw amendment at its Annual meeting on November 15, 2022.

Article IX entitled *Board of Directors*, shall be amended in Section 2 by adding the words **Regional Directors** and deleting the words **twenty four members** as indicated below.

### ARTICLE IX

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 1. Authority and Responsibility.** The governing body of this Association shall be the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the Association, its committees, and its publications; shall determine its policies or changes therein; and shall actively prosecute its objectives.

**Section 2. Composition and Election.** The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, The President-Elect, the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Immediate Past-President, the three next most recent Virginia

Association of Counties past-presidents who currently hold office as elected Virginia county supervisors who may serve only for 3 more years after their term as immediate past president, and **Regional Directors** ~~twenty-four members~~ elected on a “one person - one vote” basis from compact and contiguous Regions into which the State shall be divided for purposes of representation. Such regional directors shall be selected at the annual meeting by the member counties located within the region which the director will represent. The Board of Directors shall designate at least one member of the Board to represent the Association on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties. Any county supervisor who serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties shall also serve as an ex-officio member of the VACo Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Qualification.** Only elected county supervisors representing Virginia counties in good standing shall be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Term.** Regional Directors shall be elected for two-year staggered terms with approximately fifty percent of its members elected and installed at each Annual Business Meeting. No Regional Directors shall serve more than four full consecutive terms. Any tenure as an officer of the Association shall not be included as any part of the tenure of the aforementioned four consecutive terms. The Regional Directors elected and installed at the Annual Business Meeting shall assume office immediately after the close of such meeting. Such Directors shall hold office until their successors are elected and installed. No Director shall continue to hold office after formally leaving office as an elected Virginia county supervisor. Past presidents may serve in that capacity for only three more years after their service as Immediate Past President.

**Section 5. Reapportionment.** Beginning in 1991, and every ten years thereafter, regional representation on the Board of Directors shall be reapportioned.

**Section 6. Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall hold quarterly regular meetings at such time and such place as the Board may prescribe. Notice of all such meetings shall be given to the members not less than thirty days before the meeting is held. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or at the request of any three Directors elected from separate Regions of the Association. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be held by conference call or other electronic means and votes may be taken.

**Section 7. Quorum.** At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the members present, and voting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Association. Any such business thus transacted shall be valid providing it is affirmatively passed by upon by a majority of those members present and voting.

**Section 8. Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors between Annual Business Meetings shall be filled by the Board. A Director so elected to fill a vacancy shall serve the unexpired term of the predecessor.

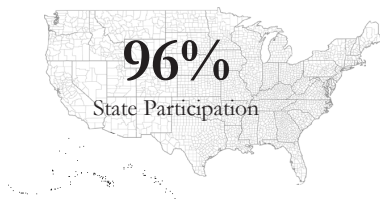


## Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

The [NACo High Performance Leadership Academy](#) is an online 12-week program that empowers frontline county government professionals with the most fundamental leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

NACo and the Professional Development Academy created the interactive program in collaboration with the late General Colin Powell, Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, private sector executives, and local government officials—all to enable your existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potentials.

More than 5,000 participants have enrolled from counties across the country since the launch of the program, with incredible feedback and results. In fact, the positive feedback and demand for this NACo program has been truly unprecedented: to the point that NACo now has four scheduled opportunities to attend each year.



5,000+ Participants to Date



1,600+ Counties & Associations



5.5 Million+ In Scholarship Savings

The Academy has proven relevant and non-disruptive for self-paced and collaborative learning. Participants have the opportunity to engage with peers from other counties and receive expert guidance from program facilitators throughout the 12 weeks of course materials, all with a flexible 4-5 hour per week time commitment.

The cost per enrollee begins at \$1,645. Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details for your state.

To enroll, visit the [NACo High Performance Leadership Academy](#) webpage at [NACo.org/Skills](http://NACo.org/Skills).

For questions and assistance in enrolling, please contact Treina Smith-Slatt at [treinas@pdaleadership.com](mailto:treinas@pdaleadership.com)



"This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better."

- General Colin Powell

### Top 10 Participating Counties & Associations:

Hennepin County, MN  
Fairfield County, OH  
Texas Association of Counties  
Montgomery County, MD  
Douglas County, NE  
Riverside County, CA  
Tulare County, CA  
Maricopa County, AZ  
Sutter County, CA  
Hamilton County, OH



# Premier Partner Spotlight

## Blue Line Solutions



### Blue Line Solutions

VACo Premier Partner Blue Line Solutions offers a TrueBlue Highway Safety Program that can be implemented in School Zones and Construction Zones, where data has shown that drivers are unaware that their driving behavior is not in alignment with public safety. A key element of this program - drivers are first educated through several media outlets, that their driving patterns through these zones need to change to keep their communities safe. The education has had a profound and positive effect on driving behavior.

Please contact Greg Hogston for more information: [ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org](mailto:ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org) or 276.759.8064 or visit <https://bluelinesolutions.org>.

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 1](#)

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 2](#)

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 3](#)

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 4](#)



# 11th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference

## *Connections Matter*

When: November 1 - 2, 2022

Where: The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center in Roanoke, VA

FREE Pre-Conference Events on the afternoon of October 31, 2022:

Adaptive Leadership - CSA Coordinators

Strategic Planning - CPMT Members

(Registration required for all pre-conference sessions.)

## *Register Today*

## 11th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference

We are excited to welcome everyone back to an in-person event of the 11th Commonwealth of Virginia's Annual Children's Services Act Conference, where "Connections Matter." Please join us for two days of impactful training, vendor visits, and activities focused on the resiliency of Virginia's CSA community, the changes in child welfare arising from various initiatives and national trends, and the evidence-based practices that inspire positive outcomes in engaging the youth and families in our work.

## Register Today!

When: November 1-2, 2022

Where: The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

# #InvestinChildCareVA

We are proud to be a member of the Virginia Promise Partnership, a coalition of 30+ leading organizations committed to quality, affordable child care for all Virginia families.

Please watch and share this video to show your support for child care!

[#VaPromise](#)

[#ChildCareIsEssential](#)

[#MoreChildrenMoreChoices](#)

[#WeNeedChildCareVA](#)

[#InvestinChildCareVA](#)



[Virginia Promise in Action - Video Campaign Compilation - YouTube](#)

A graphic titled 'MEMBER SPOTLIGHT' in yellow, hand-drawn style letters. In the top left corner is the Virginia Promise Partnership logo. On the left side is a portrait of Jeremy Bennett, a man in a dark suit and patterned tie. To the right of the portrait is a quote in dark teal text: "Access to safe and affordable childcare is an essential component to allow local businesses and county economies to thrive." Below the quote, the name 'JEREMY BENNETT' is written in yellow, hand-drawn style letters, followed by his title 'DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS' and 'VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES' in the same yellow style. In the bottom right corner is the Virginia Association of Counties logo, which includes a map of Virginia and the text 'VACo Virginia Association of Counties'.

# VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

## EIGHTH EDITION



ORDER YOURS TODAY  
\$75 EACH

(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)



## Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition



The Eighth Edition of VACo's **Virginia County Supervisors' Manual** is in stock. The Supervisors' Manual is the number one resource on the framework of county government and the responsibilities of the county board.

**ORDER YOUR ALL-NEW VOLUME NOW**

### ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY (OR ORGANIZATION): \_\_\_\_\_

SHIPPING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Manuals are \$75 per copy. Number of Copies \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Check enclosed for \$\_\_\_\_\_ Make payable to **VACo Services, Inc.**

#### CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION:

Charge Options: \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email for credit card receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form to:**

Virginia Association of Counties  
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300  
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

**Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083**

Questions? Call 804.788.6652.



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. **The cost is \$100 per ad for non-VACo members.** VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie Russell](mailto:Valerie.Russell@vacounty.org).



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** | Spotsylvania County | Posted September 7



**ASSISTANT ENGINEER (EIT) OR CIVIL ENGINEER I** | Gloucester County | Posted September 7



**CITY OF DURHAM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - DEPARTMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT** | City of Durham | Posted September 7



**BUDGET ANALYST** | Henrico County | Posted September 6



**ENGINEER III** | Loudoun County | Posted September 6



**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**SENIOR CAPITAL PROJECTS FIELD COORDINATOR** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**PRINCIPAL LABOR CREW CHIEF** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**FABRICATION & PRODUCTION SPECIALIST/SIGN INSTALLER** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**MEDIUM HEAVY TRUCK TECHNICIAN** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**CDL-A DRIVER** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**CUSTODIAN (FT)** | Chesterfield County | Posted September 6



**WATER RESOURCE MANAGER** | Albemarle County | Posted September 2



**SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR II** | Westmoreland County | Posted September 2



**BENEFITS PROGRAM SPECIALIST III** | Prince George County | Posted September 2



**POLICE OFFICER** | Prince George County | Posted September 2



**CLINICIAN - ADULT OUTPATIENT MHSUD** | Hanover County | Posted September 2



**ANIMAL CARETAKER** | Culpeper County | Posted September 1



**PRINCIPAL PLANNER** | Isle of Wight County | Posted August 31



**ADVANCE LIFE SUPPORT (ALS) PROVIDER (INTERMEDIATE/PARAMEDIC)** | Grayson County | Posted August 31



**POOL OPERATOR** | City of Harrisonburg | Posted August 31



**BUILDING CODES COMBINATION INSPECTOR** | City of Harrisonburg | Posted August 31



**PLANS REVIEWER** | City of Harrisonburg | Posted August 31



**911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATOR** | City of Harrisonburg | Posted August 31



**TRANSPORTATION/ GIS PLANNER** | Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization | Posted August 31



**CUSTODIAN** | Chesterfield County | Posted August 31



**SENIOR AUDITOR** | Chesterfield County | Posted August 31



**LIBRARY HUMAN RESOURCE TECHNICIAN** | Chesterfield County | Posted August 31



**STORMWATER GIS ANALYST** | Chesterfield County | Posted August 31



**HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST** | Fauquier County | Posted August 30



**CONSERVATION EASEMENT STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANT** | Fauquier County | Posted August 30



**CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGER** | Fauquier County | Posted August 30



**SUPPORT COORDINATOR - DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES** | Hanover County | Posted August 30



**ACCOUNTANT** | Hanover County | Posted August 30



**WEEKEND OFFICE TECHNICIAN - PART TIME** | Montgomery County | Posted August 29



**SELTER OPERATIONS MANAGER** | Culpeper County | Posted August 29



**ACCOUNTANT** | Williamsburg-James City County Schools | Posted August 29



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** | Spotsylvania County | Posted August 29



**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** | Pittsylvania County | Posted August 26



**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** | Grayson County | Posted August 26



**CAPITAL PROJECTS SPECIALIST - TRAFFIC** | Hanover County | Posted August 26



**DEPUTY CHIEF - FIRE EMS** | Hanover County | Posted August 26



**PLANNER/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST** | Henry County | Posted August 26

## VALUE OF VACo



### ADVOCACY

VACo's lobbying efforts have helped stem the tide of unfunded mandates and have saved Counties millions of dollars every year.



### EDUCATION

Our educational programs offer County leaders and staff opportunities to become more effective in their communities.



### MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Some of VACo's best moments are when members convene and work to improve communities all over the Commonwealth.



### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Our business development opportunities offer savings and innovative approaches to delivering services at the County level.

## VACo LEADERSHIP



President  
**Meg Bohmke**  
Stafford County



President-Elect  
**Jason D. Bellows**  
Lancaster County



First Vice President  
**Ann H. Mallek**  
Albemarle County



Second Vice President  
**Ruth Larson**  
James City County



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**Donald L. Hart, Jr.**  
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**Jeffrey C. McKay**  
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VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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