

VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Senator Mamie E. Locke, Chair Delegate Marcus B. Simon, Vice-Chair Alan Gernhardt, Esq., Executive Director Ashley Binns, Esq., Attorney

Pocahontas Building ~ 900 East Main Street, 10th Floor ~ Richmond, Virginia 23219 foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov ~ 804-698-1810 ~ (Toll Free) 1-866-448-4100 ~ (Fax) 804-698-1899 ~ http://foiacouncil.dls.virginia.gov

September 2, 2021 1:00 PM Senate Room A

Click here to view the live stream of the meeting.

*Note: There will be no oral public comment; however, you may email your written public comments to foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA (Annotated)
Records Issues Subcommittee
of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council

- 1. Call to Order, introduction of members.
- **2. Bills referred by the 2021 Session of the General Assembly.** *The following bills were referred to the subcommittee for study, as summarized below.*
 - House Bill 2000 (Roem) Virginia Freedom of Information Act; charges for production of public records. Prohibits a public body from charging a requester for any costs incurred during the first two hours spent accessing or searching for requested records when such requester has made four or fewer individual records requests to such public body within 31 consecutive days. The bill provides that for 2 any additional time spent accessing or searching for such records, or when such requester makes five or more individual records requests to such public body within any 31-consecutiveday period, the public body shall not charge an hourly rate for accessing or searching for the records exceeding the lesser of the hourly rate of pay of the lowest-paid individual capable of fulfilling the request or \$33 per hour. The bill also requires public bodies to post on their website or otherwise publish a written policy (a) explaining how the public body assesses charges for accessing or searching for requested records and (b) noting the current fee charged, if any, by the public body for accessing and searching for the requested records.
 - HB 2196 (Mullin) Virginia Freedom of Information Act; required release of law-enforcement disciplinary records; exceptions. Requires the release of law-enforcement disciplinary records related to completed disciplinary

investigations. The bill defines "law-enforcement disciplinary records" as any record created in furtherance of a law-enforcement disciplinary proceeding or any other administrative or judicial proceeding, whether such proceeding takes place in the Commonwealth or in another jurisdiction. The bill allows for the redaction of certain personal contact information of the law-enforcement officer, complainant, and witness or their families; social security numbers; and certain medical information of the law-enforcement officer and complainant.

- o *Staff Presentation:* Other laws governing the release of police disciplinary records (50 state review)
- 3. Discussion.
- 4. Recommendations.
- 5. Other Business.
- 6. Adjournment.

Subcommittee Members

Matthew Conrad Pamela O'Berry Lola Perkins Bruce Potter Cullen Seltzer Sandy Treadway Amigo Wade

Staff

Alan Gernhardt, Esq., Executive Director Ashley Binns, Esq., Attorney