



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Virginia Board of Corrections
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	6VAC 15-70
Regulation title	Standards for Community Residential Programs
Action title	Amend
Final agency action date	September 17, 2008
Document preparation date	September 24, 2008

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*, and Executive Orders 36 (06) and 58 (99).

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

The Standards for Community Residential Programs prescribe standards for the development, operation and evaluation of programs and services in group home halfway houses or other physically unrestricting facilities used for the housing, treatment or care of adult offenders established or operated with funds appropriated to the Department of Corrections from the state treasury, and maintains or operated by any political subdivision, combination of political subdivisions or privately operated agency within the Commonwealth. This regulation is exempt from the Administrative Process Act.

The Amendments include requirements for an annual review of the operations manual; requires procedures governing residents' money to be in compliance with current Community Corrections Operating Procedures; requires the agency administrator to distribute designated documents to the governing authority annually; includes fraternization procedures (per Prison Rape Elimination Act) in the list of written personnel policies approved by the governing authority; adds formal training in addition to orientation as a requirement prior to an employee assuming sole responsibility for any working shift; clarifies staffing schedules; amends a population count conducted by staff from every two hours to three times daily; allows random as well as monthly fire drills; adds sexual abuse history (per Prison Rape Elimination Act) to the list of initial intake information form on each resident.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

On September 17, 2008 the Virginia Board of Corrections voted to adopt final regulations for 6 VAC 15-70, Standards for Community Residential Programs. The amendments of 6 VAC 15-70 are exempt from the Administrative Process Act based on Code of Virginia §2.2-4002 b. 9-10.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

This regulatory action reflects amended internal procedures that will have no direct impact on families or family stability.