

Mark R. Herring Attorney General

January 4, 2016

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Angela Coleman Executive Director Commission on VASAP 701 E. Franklin Street Suite 1110 Richmond, VA 23219

Re:

Proposed Final Ignition Interlock Regulations

Dear Ms. Coleman:

The Commission on VASAP (VASAP) has submitted proposed final ignition interlock regulations (24 VAC35-60-10 through 24 VAC35-60-130) for revision and amendment and this Office is responsible for ensuring that VASAP has statutory authority to revise and amend those existing regulations. VASAP's experience gained over the years administering the ignition interlock program has led to various changes that will strengthen and clarify the regulations in several areas. Moreover, many of the proposed changes are necessary to enable the VASAP to stay current with technological advancements with the devices.

With regard to VASAP's proposal, it is my opinion that VASAP has both the statutory authority and implied authority to amend and/or revise the existing regulations governing ignition interlock devices, service facilities, and manufacturers pursuant to the provisions of Va. Code §18.2-270.1(general authority to promulgate regulations necessary to implement procedures for ignition interlock) and 18.2-270.2 (specific authority and requirements to adopt regulations for installation, maintenance and certification of ignition interlock systems). Because the authority to promulgate regulations pursuant to each of those Code sections is mandatory, such authority, by implication, includes the authority to modify or amend such regulations as have been promulgated thereunder as is necessary to carry out VASAP's duties. Therefore, I believe that VASAP can amend or revise the existing regulations as necessary.

This letter confirms that I have reviewed the proposed final regulations and that I believe that the Commission on VASAP has statutory authority pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4017, 18.2-270.1 and 18.2-270.2 to revise and amend the regulations as proposed.

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Sincerely,

Janet W. Baugh

Senior Assistant Attorney General