



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Attorney General

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May 17, 2026

By Electronic Mail
Virginia Regulatory Town Hall

Re: 6 VAC 20-105 Rules Relating to the Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Detector Canine Handlers Employed by the Department of Corrections; Standards for the Training and Retention of Detector Canines used by the Department of Corrections

Dear All:

I have reviewed the Department of Criminal Justice Services proposed regulation as identified above. In my view, as counsel to the Department, I concur that the Department has legal authority to promulgate this regulation pursuant to Chapter 535 of Acts of Assembly of 2020 (SB1024) and § 9.1-102(56) of the Code of Virginia.

The regulations do not appear to conflict with the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, nor do they appear to conflict with any federal or state law currently in effect. This approval addresses legal matters only and is not intended to serve, nor should it be construed, as a comment for or against the merits of the action.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cathie F. Hutchins
Senior Assistant Attorney General