



Virginia ABC Special Agents Return to Active Duty, August 10, 2015

On March 19, 2015, certain special agents of the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) were removed from active duty pending an administrative review of an incident in Charlottesville. Concerned by reports of the incident, the Governor ordered the Virginia State Police to conduct a serious and thorough review of the events leading to this personnel action.

The administrative investigation was conducted by the Virginia State Police, an agency independent from Virginia ABC, which submitted its report to Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Brian Moran. After thoroughly reviewing the incident and the report, Virginia ABC concluded that the agents did not violate agency policy and returned these special agents to active duty today.

Because Virginia law prohibits disclosure of personnel files, the administrative review will not be released, and Virginia ABC cannot comment on the specifics of the matter.

At the same time, Virginia ABC is moving forward with directives from the Governor's Executive Order 40. The agency is organizing meetings to go over Memoranda of Understanding agreements with administrators of law enforcement agencies serving communities with colleges or universities.

Mandated training has been completed ahead of schedule. The Virginia ABC Bureau of Law Enforcement worked with the Department of Criminal Justice, splitting training into two sessions lasting two weeks each that were completed in June and July. Training included hands-on and classroom instruction in areas of use of force, cultural diversity, effective interaction with youth and community policing.

Virginia ABC is actively participating in the Enforcement Expert Review Panel. The next panel meeting is scheduled for August 26.