



VIRGINIA CRIMINAL SENTENCING COMMISSION



September 4, 2024



Proposed Recommendation:

Request legislation to modify § 19.2-390.01 to specify that the Sentencing Commission generates and maintains the Virginia Crime Codes (VCCs)

Virginia Crime Codes (VCCs)

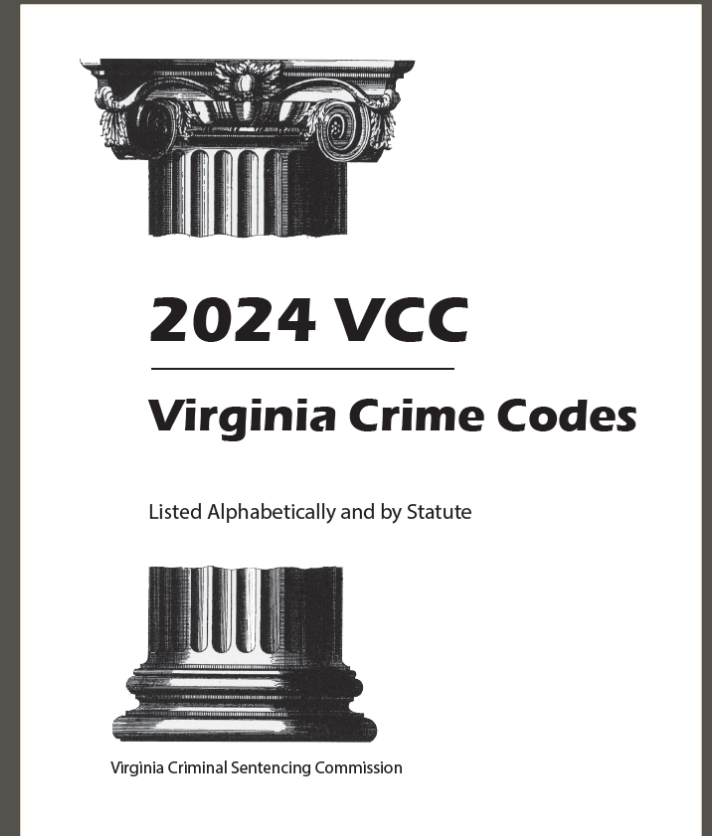


Since 2003, criminal justice agencies and courts have been required to use Virginia Crime Codes (VCCs) to identify offenses in their respective information systems (§ 19.2-390.01).

VCCs have been developed and assigned to each unique criminal offense defined in the *Code of Virginia*.

Example: NAR-3022-F5
Possession of Schedule I or II drug

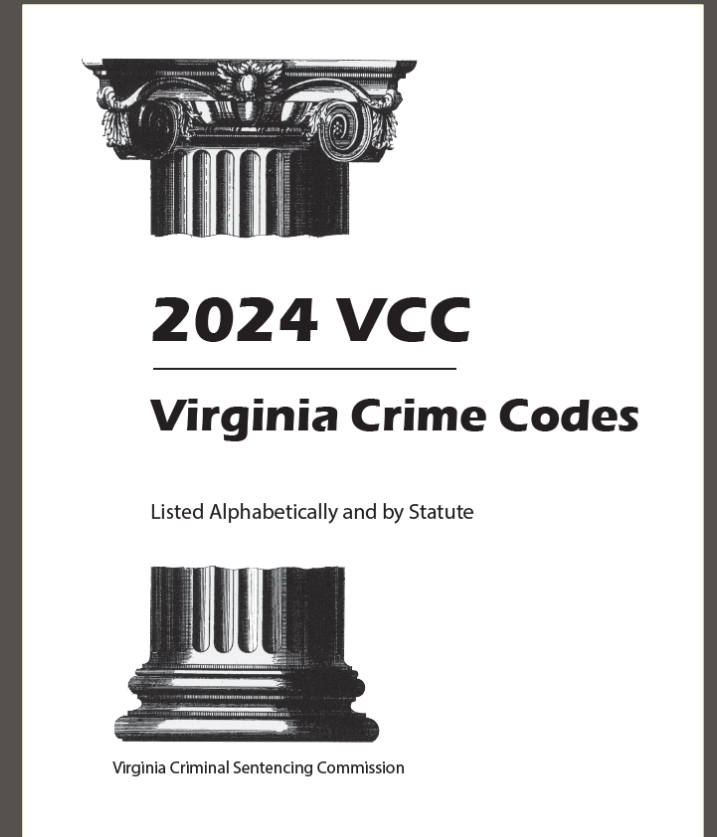
Since 1995, the Sentencing Commission has administered the VCC system, including the creation or modification of VCCs.



Virginia Crime Codes (VCCs)



Purpose:
**To Maintain the Integrity of VCCs for Administration
& Research Purposes**



Use of Virginia Crime Code References Required §19.2-390.01

If any criminal warrant, indictment, information, presentment, petition, summons, charging document issued by a magistrate, or dispositional document from a criminal trial, involves a jailable offense, it shall include the Virginia crime code references for the particular offense or offenses covered. When Virginia crime codes are provided on charging and dispositional documents, the Virginia crime codes shall be recorded and stored for adult offenders in: criminal history computer systems maintained by the State Police; court case management computer systems maintained by the Supreme Court of Virginia; probation and parole case management computer systems maintained by the Department of Corrections and the Virginia Parole Board; pretrial and community-based probation case management computer systems maintained by the Department of Criminal Justice Services; and jail management computer systems maintained by the State Compensation Board. The Department of Juvenile Justice shall record and store Virginia crime codes for particular offenses related to juveniles in case management computer systems.

[The Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission shall develop, maintain and modify the Virginia crime codes as may be deemed necessary.](#)

Virginia crime codes shall only be used to facilitate administration and research and shall not have any legal standing as they relate to a particular offense or offenses.

Proposed Recommendation

Request legislation to modify § 19.2-390.01 to specify that the Sentencing Commission generates and maintains the Virginia Crime Codes (VCCs)





Proposed Recommendation:

Request legislation to expand the membership of the Sentencing Commission and specify certain representatives be added

Current Sentencing Commission Membership (§ 17.1-802(A))



The Commission is currently composed of 17 members:

- 6 Judges or justices appointed by the Chief Justice,
- 1 Person not an active member of the judiciary appointed as Chairman by the Chief Justice (subject to confirmation by the General Assembly),
- 1 Member of the House Courts of Justice Committee,
- 2 Persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates,
- 1 Member of the Senate Courts of Justice Committee,
- 1 Person appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules,
- 4 Persons appointed by the Governor, at least one of whom shall be a representative of a crime victims' organization or a victim of crime, and
- Attorney General of Virginia or his designee

Possible Changes to Commission Membership



Are there other representatives/perspectives that members believe should be included on the Commission?

- **Defense attorney**
- **Prosecutor**
- **Academic**



VCSC does not make policy
North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission has 29 members

