



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

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Via Electronic Transmission and Overnight Mail

Sheriff Steven S. Smith
Greene County Sheriff's Office
10005 Spotswood Trail
Stanardsville, Virginia 22973
E-mail: ssmith@gcvasheriff.us

Re: Investigation of Traffic Stops in Greene County

Sheriff Smith:

I write to inform you that the Virginia Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") has opened an inquiry into the manner in which the Greene County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) is conducting traffic stops. OAG has reviewed allegations that GCSO may be conducting traffic stops in violation of state law and the Constitution. The OAG's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has the authority to inquire into and investigate incidents that may constitute an unlawful pattern or practice of conduct by law-enforcement officers that deprives persons of rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the laws of the United States and the Commonwealth. Accordingly, I request that you provide the following materials to OCR:

- (1) GCSO policies related to traffic stops;
- (2) GCSO policies related to immigration enforcement;
- (3) GCSO training programs and/or materials for the last 10 years related to any of the aforementioned policies;
- (4) any and all agreements that GCSO has entered into, or contemplated entering into, with the federal government, including any federal law enforcement agency, related to immigration enforcement;
- (5) any and all policies that GCSO has adopted related to any agreement it has entered into, or contemplated entering into, with the federal government, including any federal law enforcement agency, related to immigration enforcement;
- (6) any and all documents or communications that GCSO possesses related to any agreement it has entered into, or contemplated entering into, with the federal

- government, including any federal law enforcement agency, related to immigration enforcement and any policies adopted because of such an agreement;
- (7) any and all documents, communications, audio, or video footage related to any traffic stop conducted for the purpose, in whole or part, whether such purpose was known before, during, or after the commencement of the traffic stop, of engaging in immigration enforcement for the last 10 years;
 - (8) complaints received by the GCSO related to traffic stops for the last 10 years;
 - (9) complaints received by the GCSO for the last 10 years related to treatment on the basis of race, color, and/or national origin;
 - (10) any and all changes, whether written or unwritten, made to any policy or procedure subsequent to July 1, 2026;
 - (11) any and all documents or communications related to a change to a policy or procedure that occurred after July 1, 2026;
 - (12) any activities after July 1, 2026, where GCSO assisted, cooperated with, or used any law-enforcement resources to facilitate any operation that sought to identify, arrest, or otherwise impose a penalty upon an individual for any violation of federal civil immigration law.

We look forward to your cooperation in this matter. I am requesting that you send the above-requested records no later than September 4, 2026, to:

Palmer T. Heenan III
Senior Assistant Attorney General/Section Chief
Office of the Attorney General - Office of Civil Rights
202 North 9th Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: (804) 225-2019
E-mail: PHeenan@oag.state.va.us

Please produce any documents responsive to this request electronically using OAG's file share system. Please reach out to our office to obtain instructions for how to access and upload documents to that system. If you need more time to collect and submit more information, or if you need clarification of any particular request, please reach out to me directly using the above information.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this inquiry.

Respectfully,



Palmer T. Heenan III,
Senior Assistant Attorney General/Section Chief

PTH/jb

cc: Steve Catalano, Chair, Board of Supervisors, Greene County, Virginia (by electronic transmission to: scatalano@gcva.us)