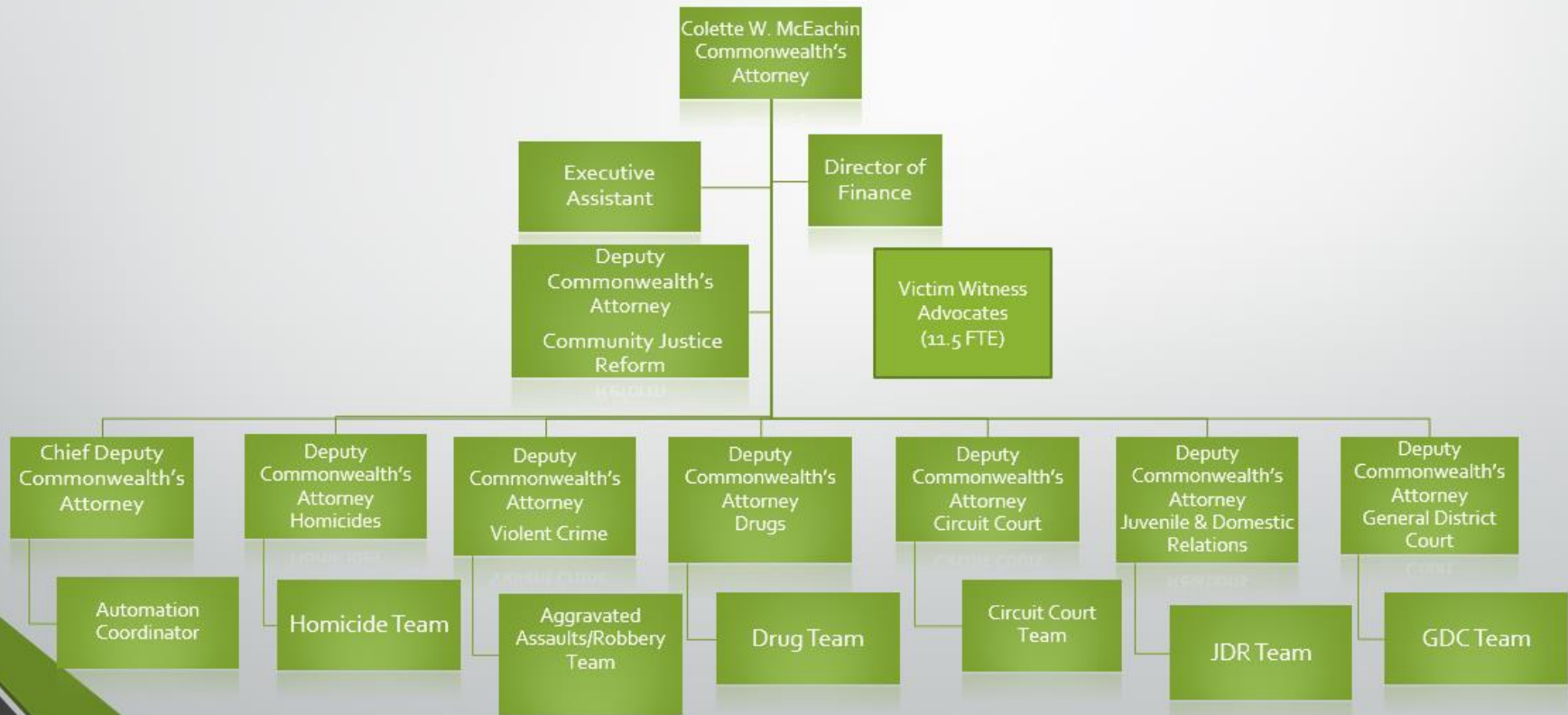




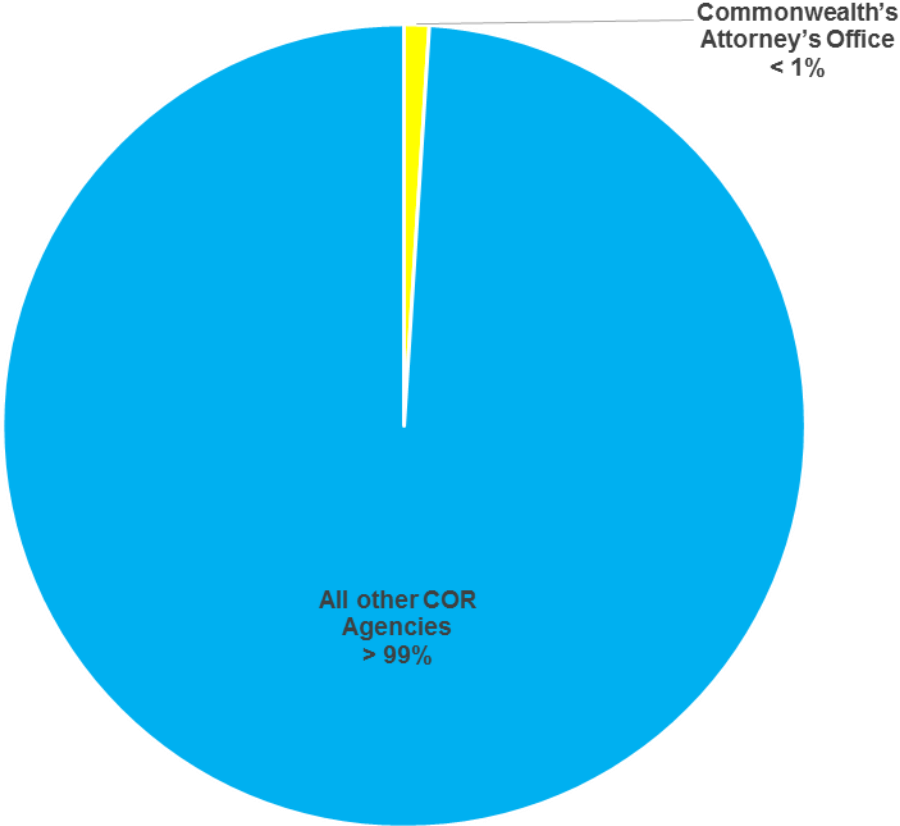
REPORT TO RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
APRIL 15, 2021

COLETTE WALLACE MCEACHIN  
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

# Office of Commonwealth's Attorney Organizational Chart



# CITY OF RICHMOND BUDGET



Commonwealth's Attorney All Other COR Agencies

# Commonwealth's Attorney's Office

## Commonwealth of Virginia 2021 Budget (Item 72k)

K. Any locality in the Commonwealth that employs the use of body worn cameras for its law enforcement officers shall be required to establish and fund one full-time equivalent entry-level Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, at a salary no less than that established by the Compensation Board for an entry-level Commonwealth's Attorney, at a rate of one Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for up to 75 body worn cameras employed for use by local law enforcement officers, and one Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for every 75 body worn cameras employed for use by local law enforcement officers, thereafter. **However, with the consent of the Commonwealth's Attorney, a locality may provide their Commonwealth's Attorney's office with additional funding, using a different formula than stated above, as needed to accommodate the additional workload resulting from the requirement to review, redact and present footage from body worn cameras.** If, as of July 1, 2019, a locality is providing additional funding to the Commonwealth's Attorney's office specifically to address the staffing and workload impact of the implementation of body worn cameras on that office, that additional funding shall be credited to the formula used in that locality. Any agreed upon funding formula between the impacted Commonwealth's Attorney and the locality employing body worn cameras shall be filed with the Compensation Board by July 1, 2019 and shall remain in effect unless modified by the agreement of both parties until June 30th of the following year. The term "locality" means every county or independent city with an Attorney for the Commonwealth. The term "employed for use" includes all body worn cameras maintained by the law enforcement agency or agencies of that locality, regardless of any temporary inoperability.

As of July 2020, the City of Richmond Police Department had 479 Body Worn Cameras (BWC). Using the formula mandated by the State budget, 6 additional Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney positions should be funded by the City ( $479/75 = 6.4$ ) for the workload associated with BWC footage. Pursuant to the budget language, the Commonwealth's Attorney has consented to a different agreement, asking the City to fund only 1 of the 6 attorney positions and 1 additional staff position.

# Commonwealth Attorney's Office

## MISDEMEANOR AND FELONY CASELOAD DATA

Filings by case type.

<b>CIRCUIT COURT</b>	<b>516 MISDEMEANORS (appeals)</b> <b>3,253 FELONIES</b>
<b>GDC/TRAFFIC</b>	<b>11,064 MISDEMEANORS</b> <b>3,405 FELONIES</b>
<b>JDR</b> (Juvenile and Adult defendants)	<b>2,609 MISDEMEANORS</b> <b>1,100 FELONIES</b>

SOURCE: OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE VIRGINIA SUPREME COURT - CASELOAD  
STATISTICAL INFORMATION

# Commonwealth Attorney's Office

## HOMICIDE

- During 2020, the Richmond Commonwealth's Attorney Office tried a total of 19 murder and manslaughter cases. There is a current backlog of over 45 cases due to the impact of the Covid pandemic and, pursuant to the orders of the Virginia Supreme Court, the inability to try cases for most of 2020. As of December 31, 2020, the Office also had 40 cases under investigation in conjunction with our Richmond Police Department and Multijurisdictional partners.
- Overall, the City of Richmond had 66 homicides in 2020, compared to 60 homicides in 2019.
  - Chesterfield County reported 15 homicides in 2020.
  - Henrico County also reported 15 homicides in 2020.

SOURCES: Richmond Police Department Crime in Richmond; 2020 Henrico Police Crime Statistics; Chesterfield County Police 2020 Annual Report

# Commonwealth Attorney's Office

## AGGRAVATED ASSAULT AND ROBBERY

- The Richmond Commonwealth's Attorney's Office closed 115 Aggravated Assault and Robbery cases in 2020 . This does not include the approximately 150 cases that were pending during 2020 that carried over into 2021.
- The Richmond Police Department reported 357 robberies occurred in the City in 2020.
  - Chesterfield County reported 130 robberies.
  - Henrico County reported 113 robberies.
- The Richmond Police Department reported 605 aggravated assaults in 2020.
  - Henrico County reported 211 aggravated assaults during this time period.
  - Chesterfield County does not appear to break down assaults into subcategories of assault severity.

SOURCES: Richmond Police Department Crime in Richmond; 2020 Henrico Police Crime Statistics; Chesterfield Count Police 2020 Annual Report

# Criminal Justice

## Reforms with Results

Office policies that protect public safety and promote criminal justice reforms:

- Oppose the use of cash bond
- Use of alternative dockets (Mental Health, Behavioral Health) and Drug Court
- Mandatory referral for evaluation for MH docket
- Commonwealth's General Continuance



# Criminal Justice

## Reforms with Results (cont'd)

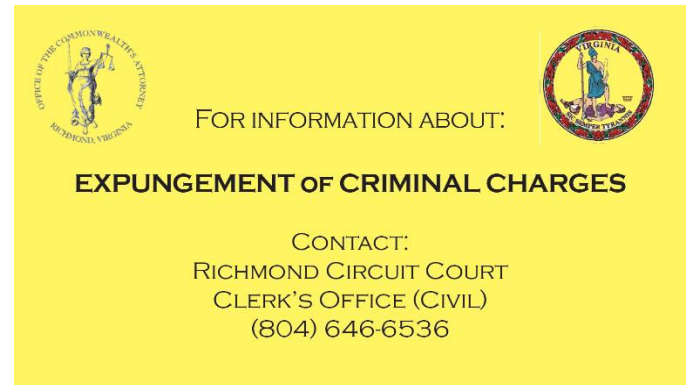
- Review of “first felony” charges
- Revised and limited transfer and certification of juvenile cases to Circuit Court
- Use collaborative assessment tool to inform and support victims of domestic violence
- Reorganize protocols to better protect victims of elder neglect or abuse

# Criminal Justice

## Reforms with Results (cont'd)

NEW in 2020:

- Increased transparency through improved COR website page
- Provide information about expungement and allow waiver of service



# Criminal Justice

## Reforms with Results (cont'd)

NEW in 2020:

- Created Community Justice Reform Unit
- Revamped use of Restorative Justice (“RJ”) principles to resolve cases in JDR Courthouse
- Expand RJ to General District and Circuit Courts
- Implicit bias training
- Begin targeted review of juveniles previously sentenced to DOC for decades
- Work with RPS to provide “Law School 101” to high school students