



Virginia Impaired Driving Programs

Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)

Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)

Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)



Captain Julia Gunderson
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Impaired Driver Training Unit (IDTU)



Certified Instructors:

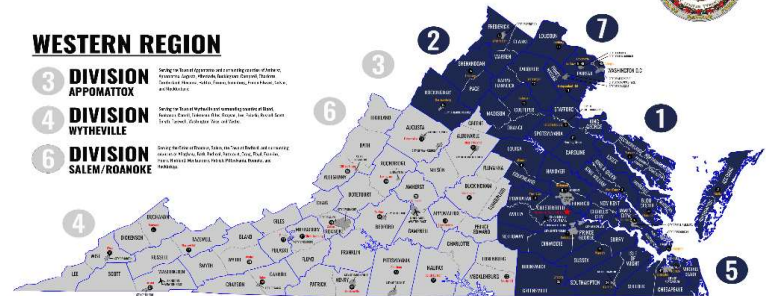
- DCJS General Instructor
- Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFST) Instructor
- Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Instructor

- The unit is comprised of a First Sergeant, four Sergeants, and a Professional Staff Member (Administrative Assistant).
- To provide education, encouragement, and support to LE officers across the Commonwealth.
- To reduce impaired driving fatalities, alcohol or drugs, through standardized practices of detection and deterrence.
- Teaching Basic NHTSA SFST, SFST Instructor School, SFST Refreshers, ARIDE, and DRE.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE IDTU-DRE UNIT REGIONS

WESTERN REGION

- 3 DIVISION
APPOMATTOX
- 4 DIVISION
WYTHEVILLE
- 6 DIVISION
SALEM/ROANOKE



EASTERN REGION

- 1 DIVISION
RICHMOND
- 2 DIVISION
CULPEPER
- 5 DIVISION
CHESAPEAKE
- 7 DIVISION
FAIRFAX



Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)

Drug Recognition Expert Certification (3 weeks)

- 2024 - 2 schools
 - Certified 19 DREs
- 2025 – 2 schools
 - Certified 16 DREs
- 2026 – 1 DRE School
 - Completing certification (10/20 – 10/27)
 - 9 Officers in training
 - DRE In-Service Training was provided regionally in Fairfax, Bristol, Yorktown, and the VSP Academy.
 - 1 DRE Instructor School also completed
- 2027 - DRE School scheduled
 - Classroom: 4/26/27 – 5/7/27
 - Certification Training: 5/25/27 – 6/1/27

67 Certified DREs

11 Certified DRE Instructors

2 DRE Instructor Apprentices

76 Certified DREs

upon completion of 2026-1

36 Agencies

Up from last years 24

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Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)

ARIDE Training (2 DAYS)

- 2024 - 14 classes conducted
 - Trained 320 officers
 - VSP, Fairfax, Roanoke, & Suffolk
- 2025 - 11 classes conducted
 - Trained 201 officers
 - VSP, Fairfax, & Bristol
- 2026 – 11 classes conducted
 - Trained 193 officers
 - VSP, Fairfax, Bristol, & Yorktown
 - Two classes remain in 2026
- 2027 - Currently Scheduled
 - Chesterfield – January
 - Roanoke – February
 - Fairfax - March
- Every VSP Basic Session since the 138th was provided ARIDE training

Open to all LE
agencies

Across the
Commonwealth

No Cost

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Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)

NHTSA Basic SFST (5-day course)

- 145th and 146th Basic Trooper Session
- Assisted Regional & Independent Academies

SFST Instructor Course (4-day course)

- January and February (39 officers trained)
- School scheduled for December

SFST Refresher Course (1 day course)

- Field Offices
- FTO Basic and Recertification Classes

SFST Basic Education

SFST Instructor
Schools

SFST Refresher

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Conclusion:

We have a continued need for funding and additional positions to fund training costs: (lodging, meals, instructor costs, equipment, etc.)

- To create more Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) to conduct evaluations to assist officers with observations and testimony. (loss of DREs to promotion, retirement, other)
- To provide Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement (ARIDE) Training to educate officers on drug impaired drivers and provide an SFST refresher.
- To increase and maintain SFST Instructors
- To combat a potential increase of impaired drivers. (Cannabis legalization)

DRE Evaluations

SFST Instructor
Schools

ARIDE



Thank you!

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