



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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To: Virginia EMS Agencies
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From: Michael D. Berg, BS, NREMT-P
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Subject: Mandated Reporting of Hunting Accidents

During the 2005 General Assembly, SB 1150 (Stolle) was passed and amended § 29.1-530.4 of the *Code of Virginia*, effective March 23, 2005 (<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+29.1-530.4>), and states in part:

“Any law-enforcement agency or emergency medical service provider that receives a report that a person engaged in hunting as defined in § [29.1-100](#) has suffered serious bodily injury or death, shall immediately give notice of the incident to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.”

In reviewing the actual bill, it requires that the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to be contacted within five days of the incident (<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?051+sum+SB1150S>). It is a Class 4 misdemeanor for failing to report this information.

The following is additional information from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries regarding the reporting process, “The best way to report these incidents is to call the Department's 24-hour law enforcement dispatch center at 804-367-1258 or 804-367-2251. An officer will be dispatched to investigate, much like a state trooper to a vehicle collision. Whatever information you collect would be appreciated, but the officer should find what is needed during the investigation.”