

2020 VSPA Election President

I, Roy Kyle, a Retired Senior Special Agent, am announcing my declaration to be re-elected to the position of President of the Virginia State Police Association. First and foremost, I would like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President. It has been an honor that I will forever cherish. I would also like to thank my Board of Directors, Office Staff, Sandra, Tammy, Phyllis and our Executive Director, Wayne Huggins. We have enjoyed several positive accomplishments during the past two years that I will address later in this letter but none of them were as a result of any one single person. It was as a result of a total team effort and the entire board and staff working together toward a common goal of “Being Mutually Helpful to One Another.”

I am proud to be numbered as a charter member of the VSPA. I feel I have the qualifications, experience and time required in continuing to lead the Association for the next two years. In addition to serving as your President for the past two years, I have also served terms as a 4th Division Representative, Treasurer, Secretary and 2nd Vice President. For those of you who do not know me, prior to my retirement in 2001, I served 8 years as a Trooper in Carroll, Grayson and Wise County. After being promoted to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, I served the remainder of my 30-year career as a Special Agent assigned to both Lynchburg in 3rd Division and Washington County in 4th Division. In addition to my duties as a Special Agent, my specialized duties included serving as a Bomb Technician, Hostage Negotiator, Polygraph Examiner and Certified Instructor. After retirement, I was also employed by the Department for 10 years as an Applicant Investigator. I am now totally retired and have the time to dedicate to my duties as your President.

My platform two years ago was to improve the communications between the VSPA Board and its membership, which includes all sworn, civilian and retired members. I also wanted to improve and develop our VSPA website to become more interactive with our membership and to ascertain this board was completely transparent in any action we might take. As most of you are aware, we have provided the minutes of every VSPA board meeting via an “all members” bulletin to those who have provided us with their e-mail address. These board minutes are also posted on the new VSPA website. Also, if you haven’t done so, all you have to do is visit our website to see the improvements that have taken place. Your present board has also approved new by-laws last year that now include all VSPA election procedures. The change allows for the membership to be made aware of any election procedure changes being proposed. This prevents any sitting board from making election procedure changes without any input from the membership.

Legislatively and thanks to our lobbying efforts, the 2019 General Assembly approved a 2.75% across the board salary increase for all state employees. Additionally, they approved a 2.25% merit increase for all state employees with at least 3 years of continuous service. These enhancements will result in a 5% salary increase for most. Unfortunately, there were no enhancement to the health care credits for retirees, but Wayne and I have been receiving positive feedback from the Governor’s office assuring us that one of his priorities is to improve this benefit for our retirees. Just remember, it is a future benefit for all because hopefully we are all looking to retire eventually.

As you know for many years the VSPA has conducted a telephone solicitation program. In recent years, the funds generated from this program have decreased significantly. Telephone solicitations have become increasingly unpopular with the general public and there is actually

legislation pending before Congress that would significantly curtail this type of fundraising. After a thorough review of this program and the pros and cons of continuing with it, your Board has unanimously decided to immediately discontinue our telephone solicitation program. The contract we currently have with our telephone solicitation company has been terminated, effective immediately. Your Board is actively pursuing other avenues to replace the approximately \$50,000.00 per year we will no longer realize thru telephone solicitations.

In closing, I will be dedicated to performing my duties as your President with integrity, be fully committed, and caring for the membership of the Virginia State Police Association. I will also be devoted to welcoming your concerns and suggestions and representing your desire to maintaining the great professionalism the VSPA has enjoyed since its inception in 1974. Within the next couple weeks, you should receive your ballot for the VSPA statewide election. Feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns. I thank you in advance for the consideration of your vote. May God bless and be with you.

Sincerely,

Roy Kyle
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