

VCDL Lobby Day (1/18/21)
Frequently Asked Questions
<http://tiny.cc/lobbydayfaq>

VCDL president, Philip Van Cleave VCDL VA-ALERT:

(Released November 24, 2021)

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The Virginia anti-gun Democrat leadership is trying desperately to suppress VCDL's Lobby Day in 2021 - but they won't succeed. Lobby Day this year will be more eye-popping than last year and you will be warmer to boot!

The Governor and the Democrats that control the General Assembly really, really don't want another massive VCDL Lobby Day and rally on January 18, 2021, so games are being played to silence us.

VCDL was told years ago that an application to use the Bell Tower for an event more than six months out would not even be accepted. We have followed that rule, booked six months out, and gotten the 11 am slot for 17 years. This year, when we applied exactly six months out, we were told that the 11 am slot was already booked! In fact, every slot was filled except the 6 am and 6 pm slots.

How was that even possible? We had booked right at the six month mark.

We got a copy of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document containing the applications that had been accepted by the Department of General Services (DGS) for Lobby Day on January 18, 2021. Lo and behold - the 11am slot had been requested by Andrew Goddard and Lori Haas with the Virginia Center For Public Safety (a gun-control group with ties to Michael Bloomberg). Here's the kicker - DGS accepted the application, which had been filed OVER A YEAR IN ADVANCE (January 14, 2020)! That was even before the VCDL's 2020 Lobby Day event!

If Lori Haas's name sounds familiar, she's the paid gun-control lobbyist who the Democrats put on the supposedly non-partisan Crime Commission a few months ago, destroying the Commission's credibility on any gun-related items.

The other slots were taken by the following organizations (note the dates the applications were submitted - all self-proclaimed progressive organizations, all

magically within a few days of Goddard's application, and all before VCDL's Lobby Day 2020!):

9 am: Care in Action. Applied on January 17, 2020.

1 pm: Progress Virginia (another gun-control rally). Applied on January 17, 2020.

3 pm: New Virginia Majority. Applied on January 19, 2020.

DGS's own rules say they will grant the venues to the first applicant with a valid application. That would have made VCDL the first valid applicant for the 11 am slot (or any of the slots for that matter). But that's not what is being done.

And that's not all: notification of who has actually gotten the slots won't be known until mid-December, making planning for such an event very difficult.

A new set of rules is in the process of being passed, which will allow DGS to postpone the event if the Governor or the General Assembly decides they want to use the grounds at that time. So, the day before Lobby Day, DGS could decide that some Senator needs to use the Bell Tower for one of his events and VCDL's event will be cancelled and moved to some other date. Also, If more than the maximum number of people show up for an event, it can be cancelled. I kid you not. Proposed changes can be seen [here](#).

And then there are all the COVID-19 games that can be played by the Governor, as well as the House holding their session virtually in 2021.

If the Governor and the Democrats in the General Assembly want to play games in order to suppress our right to free speech, then we'll play a game of our own: it's called #Rolling4the2A, and this they can't stop.

You may have heard of the annual "Rolling Thunder" event in DC and the massive "Trump Trains" recently. Both involve hundreds of vehicles with flags and signs traveling together to express support for a cause.

VCDL is going to do that on January 18, but on steroids!

VCDL's lobbying effort on January 18 is going to consist of thousands of vehicles in four major caravans coming from the corners of the state and all of them headed to Richmond! We will post the times the various caravans should be passing key locations so those along the routes can join the caravans as it passes by their area.

The four major caravans will all flood into the Richmond area over a 4 hour period in the afternoon and will pass through the center of Richmond, near wherever the Senate is meeting.

We will have flags and magnetic signs for all the vehicles which are taking part in this event, so everyone watching the seemingly never-ending flow of vehicles will have no doubt about the mission of those vehicles.

We are already planning on how to cover and coordinate this event over social media, including having guest speakers live-streaming and allowing everyone to know where the various caravans are located as they move across the state.

Obviously we want as many vehicles as possible in each caravan, but we are looking at having some "decked-out" buses ("wrapped" with pro-gun messages) for those who simply cannot drive, but still want to be part of this incredible event.

As a bonus, you can stay armed, you can stay warm and/or dry in your vehicle, and no worries about finding a place to park!

This is going to be SOOOO cool. Yes, there will be a lot of driving from some of you, but it will be worth it. The message we will be sending will be heard not only in Richmond, but in the whole state, and across the country!

What if I want to park my vehicle and walk around Richmond armed?

While VCDL is not holding an event in Richmond, you are certainly allowed to park your car and walk around the City armed if you wish. Carry signs if you wish, too. The Richmond ordinance banning guns at a permitted event only applies if:

- 1. It is a permitted event or should have been a permitted event - you walking around Richmond is neither. Regardless of how many people decide to do so at the same**

time, it is irrelevant as long as they are not doing it as some kind of a coordinated effort

2. There must be "no guns" signs posted by the City and they can only post those signs temporarily for permitted events.

NOTES IF YOU ARE CARRYING A RIFLE OR A HANDGUN:

If you are planning to travel with a rifle or a handgun, either as a resident or a non-resident, please ensure you are aware of the applicable gun-laws. The Virginia State Police website has some good information on transporting firearms (https://www.vsp.virginia.gov/Firearms_Transporting.shtm).

For those with 'scary' black rifles or with certain handguns, please maintain awareness of Virginia code 18.2-287.4 "Carrying loaded firearms in public areas prohibited" found at

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title18.2/chapter7/section18.2-287.4/>. Basically, if you are planning to carry a loaded, center-fire rifle or handgun with a threaded barrel, a folding stock (rifle only), or with a magazine in the gun that holds MORE than 20 rounds in Richmond, you must have a valid concealed handgun permit (all non-resident concealed carry permits are honored by Virginia).

Except as specified in the previous paragraph, open carry of a long gun or a handgun does not require a permit in Virginia. If you have a permit, only handguns can be carried concealed, NOT long guns.

Watch for updates over the next few weeks

You will be told the following things over VA-ALERT and they will also be posted on the VCDL.org website:

- * How to get the flags and magnet signs with pro-gun messages for your vehicle
- * The exact routes and approximate times that each caravan will pass through key locations
- * Links to where you can hear VCDL's invited speakers, as well as follow the progress of the caravans

I'll see you at #Rolling4the2A on January 18, 2021! And for those of you from other states, come join us! Richmond, here we come!

**Please use these tags on social media when referring to Lobby Day 2021:
#Rolling4the2a #VCDL**

Isn't Martin Luther King Day a Holiday?

Yes, it is a Federal Holiday, however, the Virginia General Assembly is in session and working.

Isn't the 18th of January too late?

No, not at all. It's perfect. Bills are filed and are getting assigned to committee and go thru changes or killed, etc. Crossover day is February 11. That's when they make it to the Senate. Bills that advance and get signed into law "usually" become law on July 1st. VCDL is there every day during session. We need people like you to write to committees every day too and support VCDL initiatives! [Here is how bills become laws](#).

I can't come to VCDL Lobby Day, how else can I help?

- **Subscribe to the free [VA-ALERT](#) email and take action expeditiously any time we ask.**
- **Donate and encourage others to donate and join us.**
- **Take off work NOW for MLK day in 2022 so you don't have any excuse not to attend**
- **Make sure you vote on local and national election**
- **Buy a "Virginia-15" stripped lower from [Palmetto State Armory](#) as they give VCDL \$10 per each one sold.**

Do you have to be a VCDL member to come to VCDL Lobby Day?

No! We invite everyone to join us that believes in the fight for our Second Amendment rights! Family and friends are welcome too!

Can we carry?

We don't tell you to carry or not, If you do, please do so legally and responsibly. You can't have a magazine in a centerfire rifle or pistol that holds more than 20 rounds unless you have a Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP). You must also have a CHP if the centerfire rifle or pistol has a threaded barrel or a folding stock. Click [here](#) to see the code section, which also covers similar restrictions on shotguns: 18.2-287.4

Open carry without a CHP is legal in Virginia, but watch the restrictions in the previous paragraph.

(Effective January 10, 2020) New rules forbid carry in the buildings.

https://publications.viriniageneralassembly.gov/display_publication/236

Jan 15th, 2020 - no carry on Capitol Square

What should I wear? Some wear suits and dress for a business meeting (that's what it is) some wear business casual. Check the weather. The lobbying is INSIDE. The rally is outside. With large crowds expected, there is a chance that you might not even be able to get into the building to lobby your lawmakers, so you should be prepared to spend the duration of your visit outside in the elements. Please check the weather before coming and plan accordingly.

Are there carpools? Yes! Check out <http://tiny.cc/vcdlrde>

How do I know which lawmakers represent me?

Check this website: <https://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.gov/>

Where is the General Assembly Building? The Pocahontas Building at 900 East Main Street, Richmond, VA, 23219, is the temporary home for legislative members and staff while the former General Assembly Building is being remodeled. Constituents meet with their Delegate or Senator in the Pocahontas Building at these members' offices.

I have never been to Lobby Day. What do I do? Show up at 8 AM (bring family & friends) and gather outside of the building where lobbying teams will be formed and

enter the building with a team leader to guide you. It will be helpful for you to know who your lawmakers are. Watch for the sea of orange Guns Save Lives stickers. Here is a video from a Lobby Day years ago - <https://vimeo.com/34618841>

I have been to Lobby Day and would like to be a team leader this year. Who do I contact? Contact Ken at ken@vanwyk.org

Who are the Lobby Day team leaders and which lawmakers are they planning on visiting?

<http://tiny.cc/lobbydayteams>

What legislation are we looking at? Take a look at the VCDL legislation Tracker to see what we support, what we are neutral on and what we oppose. THIS tracker is the 2020 tracker: <http://tiny.cc/vcdltracker>

When do any new laws take effect?

Generally, the new laws take effect on July 1, 2020.

Is there food? There are a number of delis and restaurants within walking distance and sometimes food trucks show up

Parking - Drivers to Richmond may park at The Diamond ([3001 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd, Richmond](#)) and take one of four free shuttle buses to within a block or two. Shuttles will run from 7AM - 3PM. (If you'd like to donate to cover the cost of these shuttles, consider [VCDL.org/Donate](https://vcdl.org/donate) with an annotation that it's for shuttle buses.)

**2020 Lobby Day
Richmond, Virginia**

Bus Parking Location Instructions

Buses traveling from outside Richmond are encouraged to utilize the following exits to access the designated parking areas. Buses will enter the parking area hub (8th & Leigh streets) from E. Leigh Street onto N. 8th Street, and will be directed to park by Police Officers along various corridors between N. 7th Street, N. 8th Street, N. 9th Street, and E. Leigh Street. It is important that all bus operators follow the directions of Police to their designated parking spot precisely. **Passenger vans and passenger vehicles ARE PROHIBITED from parking in the designated bus parking areas.**

➤ **Traveling northbound on I-95:**

- Use Exit 76A (Chamberlayne Parkway). Stay in the left travel lane, and turn left at the traffic light onto Chamberlayne Parkway, then turn left onto W. Leigh Street at the next traffic light. Turn right on N. 8th Street into the parking area for specific directions from the Police.

➤ **Traveling southbound on I-95 or eastbound on I-64:**

- Use exit 75 (3rd Street Exit). Turn left onto E. Leigh Street. Turn right on N. 8th Street into the parking area for specific directions from the Police.

➤ **Traveling westbound on I-64 use Exit 190:**

- Stay straight onto N. 5th Street. Turn left onto E. Jackson Street. Turn right onto N. 8th Street and cross over the traffic light into the designated parking area for specific directions from the Police.

A satellite parking area (Green Lot) for overflow bus parking has been designated behind the "Diamond", (3100 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard), with the entrance to the Green Lot located on Robin Hood Road.

Shuttle bus services are being provided by the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL) utilizing 4 Passenger Buses that will transport attendees to and from the Diamond. The shuttles will make roundtrip rotations every 15 minutes until the conclusion of the event. **This service is available to anyone or group parking at the Diamond.**

Shuttle services will begin at 7:00 a.m., and end at 3:00 p.m.

**2020 Lobby Day
Richmond, Virginia**

ADA & Handicap drop-off Location Instructions

Attendees traveling from outside Richmond are encouraged to utilize the following exits to access the parking area hub (8th & Leigh streets) from E. Leigh Street onto N. 8th Street, and will be directed to **N. 9th and Marshall Streets** to off-load their passengers and proceed from the area. It is important that everyone follow the directions of Police. **Passenger vans and passenger vehicles ARE PROHIBITED from parking in the designated bus parking areas.**

➤ **Traveling northbound on I-95:**

- Use Exit 76A (Chamberlayne Parkway). Stay in the left travel lane, and turn left at the traffic light onto Chamberlayne Parkway, then turn left onto W. Leigh Street at the next traffic light. Turn right on N. 8th Street into the parking area for specific directions from the Police.

➤ **Traveling southbound on I-95 or eastbound on I-64:**

- Use exit 75 (3rd Street Exit). Turn left onto E. Leigh Street. Turn right on N. 8th Street into the parking area for specific directions from the Police.

➤ **Traveling westbound on I-64 use Exit 190:**

- Stay straight onto N. 5th Street. Turn left onto E. Jackson Street. Turn right onto N. 8th Street and cross over the traffic light into the designated parking area for specific directions from the Police.

A satellite parking area (Green Lot) for overflow parking has been designated behind the "Diamond", (3100 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard), with the entrance to the Green Lot located on Robin Hood Road.

Shuttle bus services are being provided by the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL) utilizing 4 Passenger Buses that will transport attendees to and from the Diamond. The shuttles will make roundtrip rotations every 15 minutes until the conclusion of the event. **This service is available to anyone or group parking at the Diamond.**

Shuttles will only drop-off and pick-up passengers at 9th & Marshall Streets.

Shuttle services will begin at 7:00 a.m., and end at 3:00 p.m.

**2020 Lobby Day
Richmond, Virginia**

Shuttle Service Drop-off Instructions

A satellite parking area for overflow bus and off-street parking has been designated behind the "Diamond" (3100 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard), with the entrance to the Green Lot located on Robin Hood Road between N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard and Hermitage Road.

Shuttle bus services are being provided by the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL) utilizing 4 Passenger Buses that will transport attendees to and from the Diamond. The shuttles will make roundtrip rotations every 15 minutes until the conclusion of the event. **This service is available to anyone or group parking at the Diamond.**

Shuttle services will begin at 7:00 a.m., and end at 3:00 p.m.

Shuttle drivers will be directed to off-load their passengers at the designated drop-off location, located on **Clay Street between 8th & 9th streets**, and to leave the area immediately.

It is important that all shuttle operators follow the directions of Police. **Passenger vans, Passenger vehicles, and vehicles dropping of Handicapped attendees ARE PROHIBITED from parking in the designated bus parking areas.**

➤ **Shuttle route from the Diamond to 8th & Leigh streets:**

- Exit the Diamond from the back entrance of the Green Lot onto Sherwood Avenue. Turn right onto Hermitage Road. Go south onto Hermitage Road to W. Leigh Street (2 traffic lights), and turn left onto W. Leigh Street. Take W. Leigh Street to N. 8th Street (approximately 2.2 miles), and turn right into the parking hub for specific directions from the Police.

➤ **Shuttle return route to the Diamond:**

- Turn left onto N. 9th Street to W. Leigh Street. Take Leigh Street to Hermitage Road. Take Hermitage Road to Robin Hood Road. Turn left onto Sherwood Avenue and right into the Diamond Parking Lot.

Once all designated parking spaces have been filled, all remaining buses will be directed to the overflow site at the Diamond.

I'm from the press, who can I speak to that represents VCDL and their position? Only the VCDL President, Philip Van Cleave speaks for the organization President@vcdl.org (Mr. Van Cleave can designate speakers at his discretion).

Who will be speaking at Lobby Day in front of the steps during the 11AM rally? We will present the list as the day approaches. So far we have:

Stephen Willeford stopped a massacre at a church in Texas

Antonia Oakafor trains women college students to be able to protect themselves with a firearm

Dick Heller from the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case of DC v. Heller

Dr. Veronica Sloatzsky, a psychiatrist in Northern Virginia

Cam Edwards, Bearing Arms and host of the Cam & Co Youtube channel

Jeff Katz, talkshow host on Richmond's powerhouse radio station WRVA

Erich Pratt, Executive Director of Gun Owners of America

Sheriff Scott Jenkins of Culpeper County, willing to deputize thousands if necessary to save their gun rights

Sheriff Danny Diggs of York County, pledging to stand strong against infringements on the right to keep and bear arms

Anthony Myers, gun-rights activist from Suffolk

Senator Amanda Chase

Delegate Nick Freitas

Delegate John McGuire

Where can I Buy some VCDL gear?

<https://vcdl-gear.myshopify.com/>

How do I get on the free VCDL VA-ALERT email list?

<https://vcdl.org/VA-ALERT>

I have extra money and would like to donate to the VCDL and the [VCDL-PAC](#) (Political Action Committee) Can I? Sure!

<http://vcdl.org/PAC-donate>

Am I a VCDL member? If you follow us on Facebook or Twitter or even the [VA-ALERT](#) email, that is great! You need to actually [JOIN](#) (and pay your \$25 membership fee) to be a member. You can also give the gift of membership - <https://vcdl.org/join-VCDL>

After Lobby Day, Then what?

Stay engaged. Go to the committee meetings and speak to the committees and tell them no more gun control in your own words. Follow along on our free email list, the [VA-ALERT](#). As soon as you see an action item come out, immediately respond do whatever is asked. Register to vote and commit to voting in local and national elections.

Are there going to be buses? Yes.

Direct questions to bus@vcdl.org

VCDL is chartering buses to Lobby Day on January 20. All seats are \$35. All depart Richmond at 2 PM. Sign up through Eventbrite; all signups are live but some buses are full already.

A donation of \$35/person will *just* cover costs for the buses. If you want to donate more, please do. If you want to buy seats for others, please do. If you prefer to make a donation via PayPal (see vcdl.org/donate/pp) you may do so, but you will still need your Eventbrite ticket to ride the bus.

To donate a seat for another rider, use this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/donate-a-seat-on-a-bus-for-lobby-day-jan-20-2020-tickets-85874911171>

If you want to pay by check, mail it to VCDL Treasurer, 19390 Beaver Dam Rd, Beaverdam, VA 23015-1350 - but you'll still need your Eventbrite ticket to ride the bus.

Buses will run from

- ACCOMACK COUNTY

Four Corners Plaza, Onley Town Center, 25304 Lankford Hwy, Onley

One stop at Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel Rest Stop, 5AM. Contact bus@vcdl.org to inquire.

Departs Onley 4 AM Departs CBBT rest stop 5AM Leaves Richmond 2 PM

Signup:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lobby-day-bus-accomack-county-tickets-87822795345>

- ASHLAND (2 buses)

Green Top Sporting Goods, 10150 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland, VA 23005

PARK IN THE UPPER PARKING LOT

Departs Ashland 0615 Leaves Richmond 2 PM

Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/88023896845>

-FAIRFAX (5 buses)

- From Fairfax County Government Center Park & Ride
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax

Departs 5:30 AM Leaves Richmond at 2 PM

Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85363417279>

-FREDERICKSBURG

FIFTH bus added; tickets being released to waitlist; add your name to waitlist to get next available seats.

Leaves Route 17 Commuter Lot

Departs 6:30 AM Leaves Richmond at 2 PM

Signup:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85418917281>

-HAMPTON (2 buses)

- From Hampton Coliseum, 1000 Coliseum Drive

Departs 5:30 AM Leaves Richmond at 2 PM

Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85392538381>

- LEESBURG (2 buses)

- From old Walmart parking lot at 950 Edwards Ferry Rd, NE, Leesburg VA

Departs 5AM Leaves Richmond at 2PM

Signup <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/87806177641>

- MANASSAS --from Cushing Road Commuter Lot 2 buses

Sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lobby-day-bus-manassas-tickets-87158951771>

- NORFOLK

Leaves from WalMart 7530 Tidewater Drive

Departs 5:15 AM Leaves Richmond at 2 PM

Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85425462859>

-ROANOKE - 3 buses

- Roanoke Park and Ride -- Route 1150 (Edgebrook Road) & Route 1128 (Mountain Heights Drive)

Departs 4:30 AM Leaves Richmond at 2 PM
Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85445575015>

- ROCKY MOUNT

Leaves from Park and Ride at 395 Old Franklin Turnpike, Rocky Mount
Departs 4 AM Leaves Richmond at 2 PM
Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lobby-day-bus-rocky-mount-tickets-86752333565>

-SHENANDOAH VALLEY with pickups in New Market, Woodstock, and Harrisonburg (3 buses)

Departs Woodstock WalMart Supercenter 461 W. Reservoir Rd at 3:30 AM
New Market Community Park, Cadet Road, at 4:00 AM
Departs Harrisonburg WalMart 171 Burgess Rd at 4:30 AM
Leaves Richmond at 2 PM
Signup: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/85421476937>

- SOUTH CENTRAL VIRGINIA-- South Hill - Chester
South Hill - Dixie Tobacco Warehouse, 1428 Rocky Branch

Updated 11-24-20 @ 1100 by Ed vagunrights@gmail.com