POLICE REFORM IN VIRGINIA

HERE’S WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO BRING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO POLICING IN VIRGINIA:

**HOLD POLICE OFFICERS ACCOUNTABLE**
- Require all police and sheriff’s departments to be accredited.
- Strengthen professional standards for officers and require decertification for misconduct.

**END POLICING OF LOW-LEVEL OFFENSES**
- Legalize simple marijuana possession for adults
- Identify alternatives to prosecuting offenses like disorderly conduct, panhandling and trespassing.

**IMPLEMENT STATEWIDE USE-OF-FORCE STANDARDS**
- Ensure that use of force policies recognize preservation of life is paramount and all body cam policies have certain identical provisions across jurisdictions.

**ESTABLISH CIVILIAN AUTHORITY ON POLICING**
- Require approval by governing body of acquisition of military equipment or surveillance technology.
- Empower a civilian review board to examine police misconduct.

**ADOPT INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION & PROSECUTION**
- Independent investigators and prosecutors must investigate and prosecute cases of police brutality or excessive use of force.

**REQUIRE TRANSPARENCY**
- Require collection and public release of data on critical policing activity such as stop and frisk, use of force and arrests with demographic breakdown.