

## **Immigration**

The Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office fully cooperates with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and complies with all local, state and federal laws, including immigration laws. It is our sworn duty to uphold and enforce the U.S. Constitution and the Virginia Constitution and to protect the constitutional rights of all people. In doing so, we follow [Virginia Code Section 53.1-218](#) and the attached [Jan. 5, 2015, Virginia Attorney General's opinion regarding identification and detention of non-resident aliens.](#)

As dictated by that statute, we notify ICE any time we have a non-citizen in custody. In addition, we provide regular updates to ICE regarding any non-resident prisoner's status and anticipated release date. In most cases, ICE officials pick up any prisoner who they intend to detain and/or deport prior to their release date. Otherwise, we require a detainer and a warrant providing us with legal authority to hold a prisoner beyond that date. This is consistent with the immigration policies and practices at sheriffs' offices throughout Hampton Roads and Virginia.

The current process works: No illegal immigrant who ICE has put a legal detainer on has been released from the Virginia Beach jail.

My first priority is upholding the constitution and ensuring the public's safety. Regardless of the political climate, the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office has always cooperated with ICE to the fullest extent of the law and will continue to do so.

*Sheriff Ken Stolle*