



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

6 VAC 20-50 – Rules Relating to Compulsory Minimum Standards for Jailors or Custodial Officers, Courthouse and Courtroom Security Officers and Process Service Officers **Department of Criminal Justice Services**

January 12, 2006

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 2.2-4007.H of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 21 (02). Section 2.2-4007.H requires that such economic impact analyses include, but need not be limited to, the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the regulation would apply, the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected, the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected, the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and the impact on the use and value of private property. The analysis presented below represents DPB's best estimate of these economic impacts.

Summary of the Proposed Regulation

The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) proposes to amend the *Rules Relating to Compulsory Minimum Standards for Jailors or Custodial Officers, Courthouse and Courtroom Security Officers and Process Service Officers* so that individuals need not be trained in skills that have no bearing on their job performance. DCJS also proposes to set up a standing Curriculum Review Committee that will review and recommend changes to the training objectives, criteria for testing, and lesson plan guides (herein referred to as guidance documents). The proposed regulation specifies the process that will be used to change these guidance documents.

Estimated Economic Impact

Under current regulation, individuals seeking to be jailors, courtroom or courthouse officers or process servers must meet all of the same training standards irrespective of the

different, and sometimes mutually exclusive, jobs that they will be expected to eventually perform. DCJS proposes to separate training standards so that localities can, for example, train process servers to do their jobs only without also having to make sure they have the training needed to be jailers or court officers. Likewise, court officers and jailers will be trained in only the skills they need to perform their specific job. While some training will still be identical across all of these jobs categories, most training will be job specific.

This change in regulation will benefit localities as it will shorten the time needed to train new personnel and allow them to start doing their jobs more quickly. Localities will also have greater flexibility to recruit individuals who have an interest in, for example, being process servers but who do not want receive training for, or do the job of, court officers. This will, in turn, allow localities to be more responsive to the staffing needs of their courts and jails.

Currently, training academies decide individually how to best meet regulatory minimum compulsory training standards. The proposed regulation creates within DCJS a curriculum review committee that will annually review training objectives, criteria and lesson plan guides which provide training academies guidance in meeting regulatory standards. The proposed regulation also specifies a process that is much like that laid out in the Administrative Process Act (APA) whereby these guidance documents may be changed in the future. Although these guidance documents are not regulatory matter, and the authority and process to review them need not have been laid out in regulation, DCJS ought to be commended for soliciting public input and committing to a public process.

Businesses and Entities Affected

The community affected by this proposed regulation comprises all localities that hire and provide training for jailers, court officers and process servers. No private businesses will be affected by this regulatory change.

Localities Particularly Affected

All localities in the Commonwealth will be affected by this proposed regulation.

Projected Impact on Employment

To the extent that localities have not been able to hire for funded jailer, court officer or process server positions because of inflexible training requirements, this proposed regulatory change is likely to increase employment in these fields.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

This proposed regulation is likely to have no effect on the use or value of private property.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

This proposed regulation affects only public entities.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

This proposed regulation affects only public entities.