

STAYING *in Touch*

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This publication is intended to educate the general public about various issues. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is different.

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Criminal

Virginia applies a Zero Tolerance Law when it comes to underage drinking and driving. Any alcohol found in your system will require a \$500 minimum fine and a one-year license suspension if you are under the age of 21. In some situations, the court will allow the defendant to complete community service instead of paying the \$500 fine; however, that is up to each judge.



Brandon's Soapbox: August brings Summer to a close; fortunately life has somewhat returned to some normalcy compared to this time last year. Our optimism is tempered by the CDC's recent announcements regarding the Delta variant. For the time being, most school districts across the state, including Virginia Public Schools, are planning to open five days a week this Fall. Virtual classes will be available to many students across the state with options being decided by each school district.

As discussed last month, even though the courts have reopened and jury trials are resuming, the tremendous backlog of cases (over 4 million at last count) has hindered our ability to move our cases along as fast as we'd like. If the Delta variant becomes a larger issue, this may become worse, not better. As we have done since the COVID pandemic began, we will continue to monitor the situation and push our cases forward as quickly as possible.

Brandon

Did You Know?

During the hot Summer months watermelon is a favorite treat to many. Did you know that watermelons are not a fruit? Since they are planted from seeds, harvested, and then cleared from the field like other vegetables, they are considered a vegetable, and belong to the cucumber family.





"If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough."

— Oprah Winfrey

PRIMARY VS. SECONDARY TRAFFIC OFFENSES IN VIRGINIA

A special session of the Virginia legislature resulted in the passage of laws impacting when the police can pull over drivers in the Commonwealth. The new laws, which downgraded some infractions from primary to secondary offenses, went into effect on March 1, 2021.

Primary Offenses – These allow a police officer to pull you over solely because you are committing that offense. For example, speeding is a primary offense. In addition, as of January 1, 2021, Virginia made holding a cell phone while driving a primary offense.

Secondary Offenses – These cannot by themselves result in law enforcement pulling you over. While these offenses are still illegal, you can't be pulled over for the offenses alone.

New Laws for 2021

The laws enacted or amended by House Bill 5058 downgraded the following offenses from primary to secondary offenses:

- Smoking in a vehicle with a minor present. It is unlawful to smoke in a vehicle while a minor under the age of 15 is also present in the vehicle.
- Failing to have a light illuminating the license plate, brake lights, taillights, or a high mount stop light. Police can no longer pull you over if any of these lights are burned out or otherwise not functioning. However, it is still a primary offense to drive at night without headlights and you may be pulled over by police for failing to use your headlights at night.

- Operating a vehicle with defective and unsafe equipment, such as a defective and unsafe lighting device, warning device, signal device, or safety glass.
- Failing to have an exhaust system that prevents excessive or unusual levels of noise. This applies not only to cars but also to mopeds, motorcycles, motorized scooters, and motorized skateboards.
- Window tinting past a certain threshold.
- Objects suspended in the vehicle that obstruct the driver's view (such as hanging from the rear-view mirror).
- Having expired tags and stickers that are less than four months out of date. Having tags that are expired for four months or more is still a primary offense.
- For pedestrians, jaywalking or otherwise crossing highways in a dangerous manner such as by stepping into a highway where his or her presence would be obscured from drivers.
- Regarding marijuana, police are prohibited from stopping, searching, or seizing a person, place, or thing on the basis of the smell of marijuana. However, this does not apply in an airport.
- Learner's Permit Violations. Violations of restrictions such as that a person with a learner's permit can have only one passenger in the vehicle who is under the age of 21 or not drive between the hours of midnight and 4:00 a.m. can no longer be the basis of a traffic stop.

We welcome your referrals!

We value our clients and want you to come to us for any legal need you may have, no matter the type of case. If it is in an area we do not practice, we will refer you to a trusted colleague to take care of you as we would. If you refer someone to us, we promise to answer his or her questions and provide first-rate, attentive service. Thank you for your referrals and for continuing to come back to Parks Zeigler.



Deb Dishes:

I found a recipe to make an egg roll flavor bowl meal without greasy, fried wontons. You will need 2 Tbsp. olive oil, 1 lb. ground meat, 1 ½ c sweet onion finely diced, 1c shredded carrots, ½ tsp. ginger paste, 3 cloves garlic crushed, ¼ c chicken broth, 5 c shredded cabbage, 2 Tbsp. soy sauce, 2 tsp. rice wine vinegar, ½ tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. pepper, 1 tsp. toasted sesame oil, and optional toasted sesame seeds and green onions. In a large sauté pan over medium heat drizzle 1 Tbsp. olive oil and add meat. Cook for 5-6 minutes. Push meat to the side of the pan and add onion and 1 Tbsp. of oil. Sauté for 3-4 minutes. Add carrots, garlic, and ginger and sauté for 2 minutes. Stir the carrots and meat together. Pour broth in the pan and scrape the bottom to deglaze it. Add cabbage, soy sauce, vinegar, salt, and pepper. Stir well and cover with a lid. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook for 12-15 minutes, or until cabbage is tender. Just before serving add toasted sesame oil and top with green onions and toasted sesame seeds. Serve over rice, cauliflower rice, or eat it in a bowl by itself. See the full recipe in our Parks Zeigler Family Cookbook 2021 Edition on our website at www.pzlaw.com/library/pz-family-cookbooks.cfm.

VIRGINIA MUSIC VENUES REOPENING

Even though Summer is coming to an end, many outdoor live music venues are opening for the first time in over a year. While live music is returning, individual events and venues continue to face obstacles as they try to reopen the gates.

In Virginia Beach, [Veterans United Home Loans Amphitheater](#) has 12 concerts scheduled including Alanis Morissette w/ special guest Garbage, Pitbull: I Fell Good Tour, Dave Matthews Band, Dierks Bentley – Beers On Me Tour 2021, Chris Stapleton’s All-American Roadshow, and finishing out the season with Jonas Brothers: The Remember This Tour.

In Portsmouth, [Atlantic Union Bank Pavilion](#) has 6 concerts scheduled including Earth, Wind & Fire and Harry Connick Jr. and his band, Time to Play!

In Roanoke, [Dr Pepper Park at the Bridges](#) is located at the base of Mill Mountain and enjoys a view of the Roanoke Star. Their schedule includes 13 concerts headlining The Marshall Tucker Band, Tom Petty Tribute: The Wildflowers, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Pink Floyd Tribute: Us and Floyd, and finishing out the season with 38 Special on October 15th.

Venues are facing the same staffing issue as other industries. If you are going to attend one of the many concerts, we recommend you pack a bit of patience and enjoy yourself.

Family Corner



Lia and her son enjoyed a beautiful day picking heather at a local farm.



Shelly soaking up the sun at the lake.



Olympic Gold

Today’s Olympic gold medal may look like solid gold, but it is mostly composed of silver (at least 92.5%), with a real gold exterior of at least six grams. They must measure at least 60mm in diameter and 3mm thick. The 1912 Olympic games were the last time a medal was made of pure gold.

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2021 Olympics

As the 2021 Olympics come to an end, we thought it would be interesting to share some statistics on the United States participation in the Games. The United States sent 613 athletes to the Tokyo Olympics, its second-largest Olympic delegation, behind the 648 who competed in the 1996 Atlanta Games. The U.S. roster included 329 women (53.7 percent), with athletes such as gymnast Simone Biles, swimmer Katie Ledecky, and sprinter Allyson Felix headlining the field. This marked the third consecutive Olympics where Team USA sent more women than men to the Games.

This year's official 2021 Olympic program included 33 sports, up from 28 in 2016. The new sports added were baseball/softball, karate, skateboarding, sports climbing, and surfing.

Virginia was represented by 10 athletes in 6 sports:

Basketball:	Keldon Johnson (Sterling)
Boxing:	Troy Isley (Alexandria)
Cycling BMX:	Justin Dowell (Virginia Beach)
Rowing:	Claire Collins (McLean)
Swimming:	Townley Haas (Henrico) Torri Huske (Arlington) Andrew Seliskar (McLean)
Track and Field:	Michael Cherry (Chesapeake) Grant Holloway (Chesapeake) Trevor Stewart (Lorton)

New address? New phone number? New Email? Help us stay current by letting us know. Call Deb at 757.453.7579 or email her at dmontagna@pzlaw.com. If you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please call Deb. Thanks!