

County of Dinwiddie Firearms Safety Advisory Committee (Backstops/Shooting at Night)

MINUTES

Meeting – February 24, 2026, 6:00 PM

Training Room, Dinwiddie Government Center
14010 Boydton Plank Road, Dinwiddie, Virginia

Members Present:

Daniel D. Lee, *Chair*
Casey M. Dooley
Steve Schmidt
Ryan Smith
Faith Driggers

Other Staff Present:

William Knott, Major, DCSO
Steve Kennedy, Captain, DCSO
Rodney Lee, Lieutenant, DCSO (late arrival)
Tyler Southall, County Attorney
Matt Culbreath, Zoning Administrator

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6 p.m. Roll was called, and the above-listed members and staff were present. Several citizens were also present.

2. INTRODUCTION

Mr. Lee opened the meeting, discussed the history of the 2014–2015 committee, and allowed those present an opportunity to introduce themselves.

3. DISCUSSION

Major Knott began with a description of how many calls for shots fired there had been in calendar year 2025. There had been 152 calls in County: 90 in north end of County, 48 in the central area of the County, and 14 calls in the south end of the County. It was also reported that there had been people shooting with improper backstops and that this had resulted in bullets entering houses. Major Knott noted that the Sheriff supported the Second Amendment.

Mr. Dooley noted that there were already laws on the books governing the misuse of a firearm. The Committee Members discussed the issue, with remarks that common sense and education about firearms were important. Ms. Driggers noted that she was a firm supporter of Second Amendment rights, and that she would like to look at a backstop with containment and distance requirement, noting that homes in close proximity and rapid fire can be problematic.

Mr. Lee noted that there was an issue of where to draw the line. People can't shoot off the balcony of an apartment complex. He asked what the Sheriff's view was.

Major Knott noted that the Sheriff would like rules governing a 200 yard distance from any residence, no shooting between 10 PM and 7 AM, and having no repetitive shooting or target shooting on a Sunday.

Mr. Dooley noted that 200 yards is a lot. We accept a lot of risks in life, like travelling in an automobile. Mr. Schmidt noted that in a subdivision it is "right scary". Mr. Dooley noted that reckless discharge was prohibited. Ms. Driggers said that what the Sheriff had proposed was fairly reasonable. There was some discussion about the benefits of firearms education. There was some discussion about how to define what makes a good backstop and whether the County might have liability if it made a rule and did not enforce the rule.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Daniel D. Lee
Chair
