



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

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Virginia Sheriffs Association
701 East Franklin Street, Suite 706
Richmond, VA 23219

Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council
P.O. Box 3549
Williamsburg, VA 23187

Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police
1606 Santa Rosa Road
Richmond, VA 23229-5014

Virginia Fraternal Order of Police
9407 Hull Street Road, Suite E
Richmond, Virginia 23236

Dear friends:

I am contacting you to draw your attention to a public safety concern that has recently been brought to my attention, and I seek your thoughts on a practical solution to the problem.


Several constituents and advocacy groups have communicated their concerns of a combination of herbs coated with a synthetic chemical that mimics a marijuana high when smoked, popularly known as K2 or Spice, being abused throughout Virginia. The concern is that the substances are uncontrolled and causing harm to the health of those who use them.

The drugs have not been tested in humans. Researchers do not know if there may be acute or long-term toxicity as a result of their use, but they do know the drugs are stored in the body for a long period of time.

A few states have already passed laws banning these substances. Recently, my office has been asked to support legislation in the upcoming General Assembly session that would include these substances in the list of prohibited substances in Virginia. Before making that decision, I would like your input and the benefit of your experience in dealing with this emerging issue. If you have thoughts on this matter, please send your comments to my director of legislative affairs, Audrey Jackson, at ajackson@oag.state.va.us.

I appreciate your expertise on this issue and encourage you to contact my office should you have any ideas related to this matter or any other matter that would improve the safety of Virginians. We are in the process of compiling a legislative agenda during the next few weeks, and as your attorney general, I would like to hear your practical ideas for solutions to public safety concerns. I appreciate your dedication and service to keeping Virginia safe, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,


Kenneth T. Cuccinelli, II
Attorney General of Virginia