

VIRGINIA REGISTER NEWS

NEWS YOU CAN USE

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CODE COMMISSION RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR REGULATION INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Virginia Code Commission was awarded the [2009 Robert J. Colborn Jr. Innovation Award](#) by the Administrative Codes and Registers (ACR) Section of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) for Virginia's Regulation Information System (RIS). ACR created the Robert J. Colborn Jr. Innovation Award (Colborn Award) in July 2001 in honor of ACR's founder.

The Colborn Award annually recognizes a program that demonstrates creativity and innovation in providing public access to or management of administrative rules, including substantial contributions to the flow of information to the public.

The Code Commission now joins the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) as a Colborn Award recipient. DPB was awarded the first Colborn Award in July 2002 for the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall. In addition to Virginia, past award recipients include Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Federal Register, and Missouri. For more information, go to the ACR website's [Colborn Award](#) page.

Jane Chaffin, Registrar of Regulations, accepted the award on behalf of the Virginia Code Commission at the NASS summer conference held July 16-19 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. As part of the conference program, Ms. Chaffin demonstrated the Regulation Information System to her colleagues in other states.



Jon Davidson (AK), Colborn Award Committee chair, presents the Robert J. Colborn Jr. Innovation Award to Jane Chaffin, Virginia Registrar of Regulations, on Saturday, July 18, 2009, in Minneapolis, Minnesota

2009 marks the 25th anniversary of the *Virginia Register of Regulations*.

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The Virginia Register staff extends its thanks to those agencies that submit regulations before the Virginia Register cutoff date. The extra time is especially appreciated

for large regulations over 100 pages in length! Whenever possible, please let Jane Chaffin (jchaffin@dls.virginia.gov) or June Chandler (jchandler@dls.virginia.gov) know in advance that a large regulation is on its way.

REGULATION BREAKDOWN

Totals by stage published in:

JULY

NOIRA	10
Proposed	11
Final	18
Fast-Track	4
Emergency	2
TOTAL	45

The Virginia Register of Regulations is published biweekly under the authority of the Virginia Code Commission.

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For comments and questions contact Terri Edwards at tedwards@dls.virginia.gov.

Getting to Know You

This month we look at **Roy Seward** from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS).

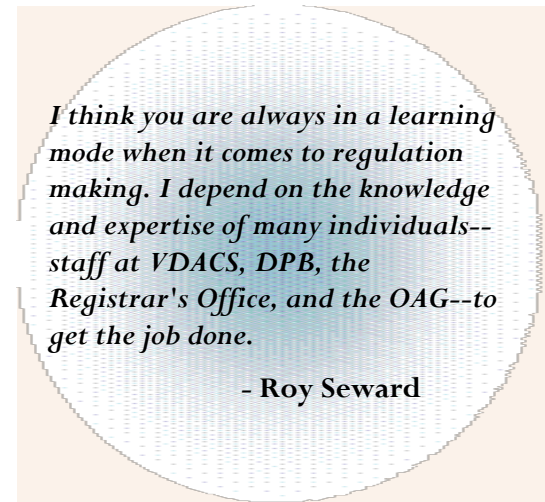
Roy, who grew up on a hog and peanut farm in Tidewater Virginia, graduated from the University of Virginia and came to VDACS in 1968 as a public information technician.

Roy left state government in 1970 to work for environmental agencies and returned to VDACS in 1977.

Over the years, Roy worked in environmental education and publications, served on the team that helped the Governor's Council on the Environment write its first annual report on the state of Virginia's environment, supported Virginia's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (now a Board), and served as a policy analyst.

Roy has spent the past 21 years as Secretary to the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services and 17 years in VDACS's Office of Policy, Planning and Research (OPPR). For four years, he was OPPR's manager for regulations and legislation, and for the past 13 years he has served as OPPR's director.

Roy served in the Virginia Air National Guard as a jet engine mechanic and is a member of the Richmond Audubon Society and Virginia Native Plant Society. He and his family love to hike, bike, camp, and travel to wilderness areas.



DRAFTING: ARRANGING A REGULATION

Concise drafting of a regulation, as well as the general design and logical arrangement of its sections, subsections and subdivisions, better communicates the meaning of the regulation. The major objective in arranging text within a regulation is to make the document as clear and understandable as possible.

Use the following sequence of elements as a guideline when preparing new regulations or amending current regulations:

- Place general provisions before special provisions;
- Place more important provisions before less important provisions;
- Place frequently used provisions before less frequently used provisions; and
- Place permanent provisions before temporary provisions.

A regulation may be divided into parts and articles for the purpose of grouping like portions of a regulation. See [§ 3.14 of the Style Manual](#) for examples of citations of parts and articles in VAC.

VIRGINIA REGISTER PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Documents Filed by Noon on	Will be Published on
August 12	August 31
August 26	September 14
September 9	September 28
September 23	October 12

DID YOU KNOW?



President Barack Obama, in a [memorandum](#) dated May 20, 2009, encouraged federal executive departments and agencies to adhere to [Executive Order 13132](#) (August 4, 1999-Federalism). The memorandum discourages federal executive departments and agencies from preempting state law when promulgating federal regulations except in certain circumstances.