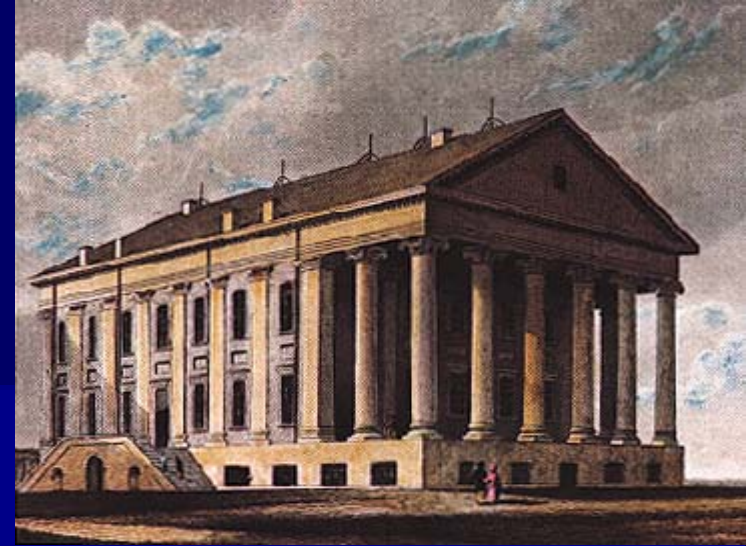


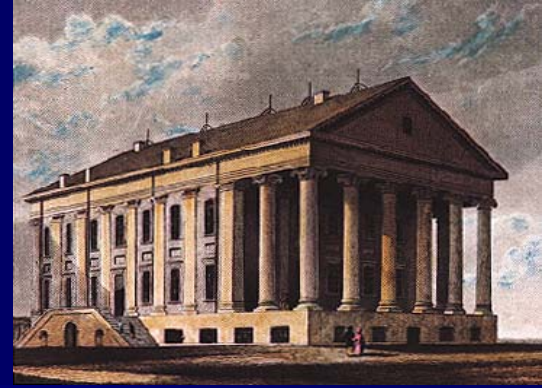
# Virginia State Crime Commission



Survey Results from Virginia's Sheriffs'  
Offices

May 15, 2007

# Overview



- The Crime Commission, in conjunction with the Virginia Sheriffs' Association, sent out a survey to all 123 Sheriffs' Offices in Virginia.
- The survey inquired:
  - Whether offices had a policy on determining the immigration status of individuals in custody; and,
  - As to contacts between the offices and U.S. Immigration Custom Enforcement (ICE).

# Overview (cont.)



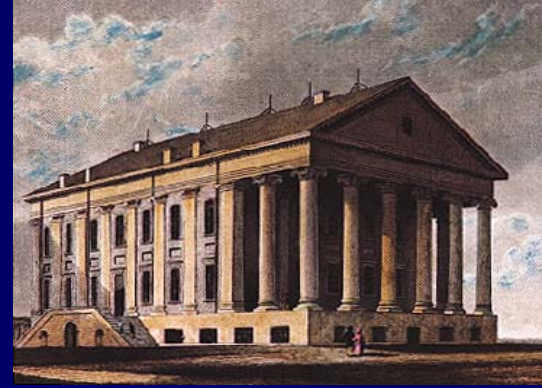
- 51% percent (63 of 123) of offices responded.
- All areas of the Commonwealth are represented in the survey responses. Regional distribution of results was fairly uniform:
  - 15 of 32 offices in the Central Region;
  - All offices in the Hampton Roads Region;
  - 13 of 20 offices in the Northern Virginia Region;
  - 15 of 33 offices in the Piedmont Region
  - 10 of 21 offices in the Western Region.

# Overview (cont.)



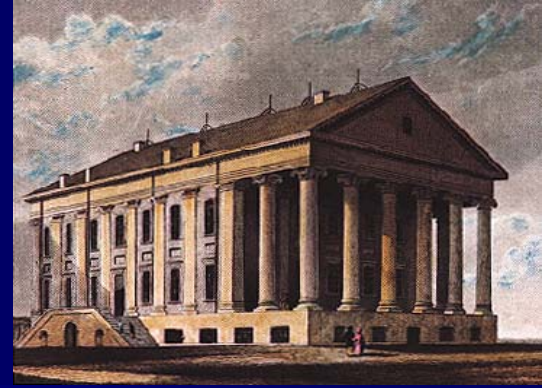
- Of the offices that responded, none had a policy that prohibited deputies from inquiring into an individual's immigration status when stopped or in custody.

# Determining Immigration Status



- When asked if their deputies inquire into the immigration status of persons in custody:
  - 68% (43 of 63) of responding offices responded affirmatively.
- The same number of offices (n=43) responded that they had contacted ICE to inform them of an immigrant in their custody.

# Contacts with ICE



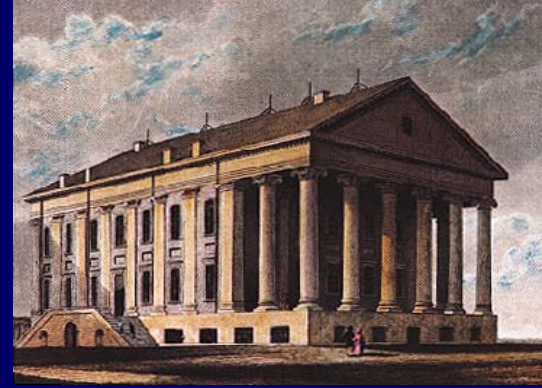
- Offices were asked how many times they contacted ICE in calendar years 2004, 2005, and 2006:
  - Results indicate that offices in Northern Virginia tend to contact ICE more frequently than offices in other parts of the state; and,
  - The general trend, based on the numbers provided, is that some offices are contacting ICE more frequently than they did in the past.
    - Example: Fairfax Sheriff's Office contacted ICE 150 times in 2004; 225 times in 2005; and, 300 times in 2006.

# Contacts with ICE



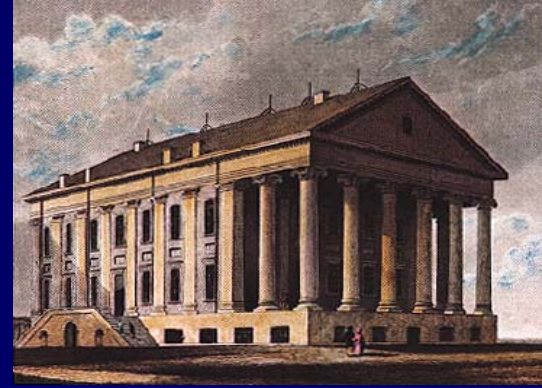
- Offices were asked to describe the responses they generally receive when they contact ICE.
- Written descriptions were completely varied. Examples:
  - 10 offices gave general reviews that were very favorable;
  - 14 offices gave general reviews that were very negative;
  - 6 offices complained ICE would only pick-up felons; and,
  - 4 offices complained ICE would only arrange pick-ups if there were a large number of illegal immigrants at one time.

# Contacts with ICE



- Examples of written comments describing the relationship between ICE and individual offices:
  - *“No problems.”*
  - *“They are always there for us.”*
  - *“Troops on the ground are A-ok.”*
  - *“After hours personnel gave us no help or suggestions at all.”*
  - *“I believe they are not interested in small numbers.”*
  - *“I have a great relationship with ICE. ICE is grossly understaffed to deal with immigration problem in this area.”*

# Contacts with ICE



- Examples (continued):
  - *“We wish to discuss ... our relationship with them. We remain committed to working with and fostering productive relationships.”*
  - *“Would like to have more information on how ICE could provide services to our jurisdiction.”*
- The last two comments in particular indicate that greater clarity from ICE would greatly help some localities know when and how to contact them.
- Guidance might also help clear up some confusion as to when ICE can/cannot come and take illegal immigrants into custody.