



August 1, 2009

## Statements on Animal Handling, Ride Safety and Security

---

### Animal Handling Guidelines

The State Fair of Virginia complies with the National Show Ring Code of Ethics that governs all livestock shows. The State Fair does not condone mistreatment of animals. It ensures the overall well-being of animals exhibited and use of commonly accepted practices in preparing and exhibiting animals for show. This maintains the integrity of animal competitions and enables future generations to better understand about the proper care and exhibit of animals.

For the complete Code of Ethics and General Rules, please visit the "Competitions" section at [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org).

### Ride Safety

Since 1981, all State Fair of Virginia rides have been inspected by a professional inspector certified by the Commonwealth of Virginia prior to the Fair's opening day. Each ride receives a thorough inspection daily before it is operated. A certified ride inspector is hired each year by the State Fair to oversee the Midway layout, set-up and operation. The State Fair's contracted Midway provider, Deggeller Attractions, Inc, receives high scores from the Outdoor Amusement Business Association, and is consistently ranked in OABA's "Circle of Excellence."

### Security

The SFVA Safety Committee meets regularly throughout the year to evaluate and recommend policies and practices for The State Fair of Virginia. Items adopted by the Fair which reflect the committee's recommendations include having the independent ride inspector's contract issued by the Fair, working with the Virginia Employment Commission to screen seasonal employees and using metal wands to screen customers, which augments current package inspection procedures.

The Virginia State Police is the agency contracted to provide law enforcement to The Meadow Event Park and The State Fair of Virginia. Security services are provided by RMC Events, Inc. In addition, the State Fair works closely with the Emergency Training Systems, Inc. to provide emergency fire and EMS services. Numerous healthcare professionals from throughout Central Virginia are used to staff Medical Aid centers during the State Fair.

**The State Fair Safety Committee includes:**

John Hager	Former Lt. Governor of Virginia
Carol Amato	COO, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Captain Chris Alberta	Henrico County Police
Reverend Marvin Fields	Second Mount Zion Baptist Church
Mark Garnett	Interim Dir. Emergency Management, Caroline County
Major Dave Hines	Hanover County Sheriff's Office
Robert Kipper	National Youth Violence Specialist
Sheriff Tony Lippa	Caroline County Sheriff's Office
Oscar Mabry	URS Corporation
Mary Mule	Henrico Doctors Hospital
Dr. Bill Pierson	Virginia Tech
Chief Edwin Smith	Henrico County Division of Fire
Lt. Col. Gene Stockton	Virginia State Police
James Willet	Pamunkey Regional Jail

**Consultant:**

Col. W. Gerald Massengill	Retired – Virginia State Police Superintendent
Captain Stan Langford	Henrico County Fire