



Martese Johnson Case Decision Statement

Virginia ABC respects today's decision of the Charlottesville Commonwealth's Attorney to not pursue the charges of Public Swearing/Intoxication and Obstruction of Justice without Force against University of Virginia student Martese Johnson, and to not charge the ABC special agents involved in his arrest.

While the Virginia State Police delivered its findings in the criminal investigation of the incident to the Charlottesville Commonwealth's Attorney in May, ABC has not reviewed the report produced as part of the investigation. We look forward to the Commonwealth's Attorney's June 17th public presentation concerning the evidence in this case and the conclusions that have been reached.

The ABC special agents involved in the March 18 arrest of Mr. Johnson remain on restricted administrative duty as the agency awaits the findings of the separate Virginia State Police administrative investigation of the incident, as requested by Governor Terry McAuliffe. The findings of the administrative review, as well as any information shared from the criminal report, will be used to determine any further course of action.

Virginia ABC continues to be an active participant in the Enforcement Expert Review Panel established by Governor McAuliffe's Executive Order 40 and looks forward to working with members of the panel as they craft recommendations for the Governor's consideration.

June 11, 2015