

**VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WISE COUNTY/CITY OF NORTON**

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
PLAINTIFF,**

**DOC INVESTIGATION NO: 250395**

**v.**

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS INVESTIGATION.**

**MOTION AND ORDER FOR APPOINTMENT PURSUANT TO CODE § 19.2-155**

COMES NOW the Virginia Office of the Attorney General and requests the Court to appoint Senior Assistant Attorney General/Section Chief Jeremy Key, Senior Assistant Attorney General Andrew Parker, and Senior Assistant Attorney General Molly Newton as Special Prosecutors in the above-styled matter. In support of said motion, undersigned counsel states the following:

1. On February 17, 2026, Governor Spanberger directed the Office of the Attorney General to investigate and conduct any appropriate criminal proceedings relating to the circumstances surrounding the events associated with the above-styled matter pursuant to Code § 2.2-511(A).

2. Given the nature of the case, the disclosure to the Court by the Commonwealth's Attorney's Offices for Smyth County and Wise County/City of Norton that they are unable to represent the Commonwealth in this matter, and to promote judicial economy, undersigned counsel therefore moves this Court for appointment as Special Prosecutor in the above-styled case pursuant to Code § 19.2-155.

3. APPEARING that the Special Prosecutor has further advised the Court that he believes that it would be improper for his office to investigate and prosecute said cases; and

4. The Court, being of the opinion that it would be improper for the Special Prosecutor, Phillip Blevins, to investigate and prosecute said cases, for good cause show, therefore, it is hereby

5. ORDERED that Senior Assistant Attorney General/Section Chief Jeremy Key, Senior Assistant Attorney General Andrew Parker, and Senior Assistant Attorney General Molly Newton are appointed pursuant to §19.2-155, Va. Code Ann. to investigate and prosecute said case(s) in place of, and otherwise perform the duties and exercise the powers of, the Commonwealth's Attorney in any and all charges growing out of the above-styled cases.

6. It is further ORDERED that Senior Assistant Attorney General/Section Chief Jeremy Key, Senior Assistant Attorney General Andrew Parker, and Senior Assistant Attorney General Molly Newton are specifically authorized to prosecute said cases and to prepare and file any necessary briefs or documents in said case(s).

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeremy J. Key

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Counsel

Jeremy J. Key  
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Enter this 2nd day of May, 2026

  
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JUDGE