



**BPRO VSSLE Board Report  
Radford, VA  
07/07/09**

The Spring Conference which was in Williamsburg on May 11-13 was very successful. Participation and the feedback on the workshops held were outstanding. We had a total of 168 registrations with 12 of those being from POSSESS. We felt that the conference workshops focusing on getting back to the basics for policy trainings was a strong motivation for participation. We will continue to focus our workshops on policy trainings for future conferences as well. We want to thank the League and all the directors for their full support in this effort. We know this is a difficult time for all and to have this many members attending our conference was a thrill. We offered the one day registration and will continue to do so for the Fall Conference. There were a few takers; however the numbers were not as large as we had hoped. If this will help in any way for the membership to participate we will continue to offer this option and monitor its progress.

The Fall Conference is a work in progress at this time. We have two venues we are strongly looking at; first in Glen Allen and the other in Charlottesville. We should have some definitive plans by no later than first of August.

Another focus we have now is the Certification Project which we have been working on for the last couple of years. We met in 06/09 with some of our State partners (DSS and the Community College). From this meeting we are trying to form a meeting with state DSS, League representation and BPRO so we can all come together in a united effort to get this project moving in the right direction. We feel very strongly that all participants must buy into this effort for it to be a success. There is a lunch meeting planned for 07/07/09 but to this date our State partners have either declined due to prior commitments or have not responded.

The workload for benefit programs has not slowed down any and we do not anticipate any decreases in the near future. With this being the case, we strongly urge the League to continue to advocate with the State for guidance in how to maintain the quality, efficiency and high standards that we are required to achieve for the benefit of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

We sent out new/renewal membership applications to each agency in 05/09 via the pouch as well to the directors via email. Membership applications have started coming in and we hope for the same level of participation this year if not more. The application is currently on our website, [www.bpro.us](http://www.bpro.us), as well. There are a few agencies from which we still have no participation. We will be touching bases with these agencies in the near future to see how we can help increase interest in BPRO.

Please take a look at our website. We have reformatted it and it is much more user friendly and accessible. There is much information there for members and the public on what we do and who we are.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Faye Owhin  
BPRO President**