

Each claim and related documents must be forwarded to the investigating agency. Based upon § 9.1-403 B. local police and sheriff's departments may investigate and report the circumstances surrounding the Line of Duty claim for their departments. The Virginia Department of State Police shall investigate and report all other Line of Duty claims.

When the investigation is complete, the claim, documents and investigative report are sent by the investigating agency to the Comptroller's Office with a letter signed by the Chief of Police, Sheriff, or Superintendent of State Police, or his designee, within 10 business days after completion of the investigation.

Based upon § 9.1-404 of the Code of Virginia, disability determination is the sole responsibility of the Comptroller's Office (Department of Accounts).

How long does it take to process a Line of Duty (LOD) claim?

It may take 6 to 9 months from the time the claim is submitted.

What health insurance coverage am I entitled to under LOD?

The same plan of benefits the deceased or disabled person had on the last day of active duty (§ 9.1-401 C).

How long is my spouse covered under LOD?

Continued health insurance terminates upon such spouse's death or coverage by alternate health insurance (§ 9.1-401 D).

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The Commonwealth of  
Virginia

Line of Duty Act



Virginia Department of Accounts

Financial Accountability. Reporting Excellence.



The Line of Duty Act provides state-funded death and disability benefits for state and local public safety officers or their beneficiaries due to death or disability resulting from the performance of duties.

#### **Death Benefits:**

One time death benefit payment to beneficiary:

- \$100,000 death due to unnatural cause
- \$25,000 death due to specified work related illnesses

#### **Disability Benefits:**

Health insurance coverage for permanently disabled officer, spouse and dependent children (disabilities occurring after July 1, 2000 for localities) and widows (for deaths occurring after April 8, 1972.)

#### **The Code of Virginia and forms to file a claim can be found at:**

[www.doa.virginia.gov](http://www.doa.virginia.gov)

#### **The Line of Duty Act Code:**

§ 9.1-400 through 9.1-407.

#### **Referenced Work Related Illnesses:**

§ 27-40.1 Firefighters—respiratory, hypertension, heart disease

§ 51.1-813 Police—hypertension, heart disease

§ 65.2-402 Firefighters, Police, etal.—adds certain cancers

#### **Forms:**

Claim for Death Benefits

Claim for Disability Benefits

#### **Documentation needed to file a claim:**

- Completed claim form
- Birth certificate of claimant
- Birth certificate of spouse and all children
- Copy of marriage certificate
- Copy of all divorce decrees
- Verification of employment dates
- Summary of Police/Incident Report
- Accident/Incident report (Worker's Compensation first report of accident)
- Worker's compensation award letter
- VRS "Physician's Report" of disability, Form VRS-6B (or similar report, if VRS is not the locality retirement system)

- Letter from the disabled employee's physician stating the reason for the disability and expected duration
- Physician reports and medical records to substantiate the claim
- Copy of pre-employment physical
- Insurance rate sheets covering the period from the date of the claimant's last day of active duty to present
- College status of all dependents over the age of 21
- Copy of certified list of Volunteer Firefighters, as recorded by the Clerk of the Court, if serving as a member of a Volunteer Fire Department (27-42)
- Contract of ordinance recognizing unit as part of a safety program (applies to Fire and Rescue Squad services—§ 15.1-136.2)

#### **Death Claims must also include:**

- Coroner's Report
- Autopsy Report
- Death certificate
- Copy of Will