

Operation Vaporize

Mayor Danny Avula, City of Richmond

Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

December 19, 2025



Operation Vaporize



Mayor Danny Avula, City of Richmond

Operation Vaporize



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shop Inspections

Number of Vape Shop Businesses Visited: **30**



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shop Inspections

Number of Vape Shop Businesses Placarded: **18**



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shop Inspections

No Certificate of Occupancy: 8



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shop Inspections

Has CO – but Safety Violations cited: **10**



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shop Inspections

Total Violations: **274**



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shop Inspections

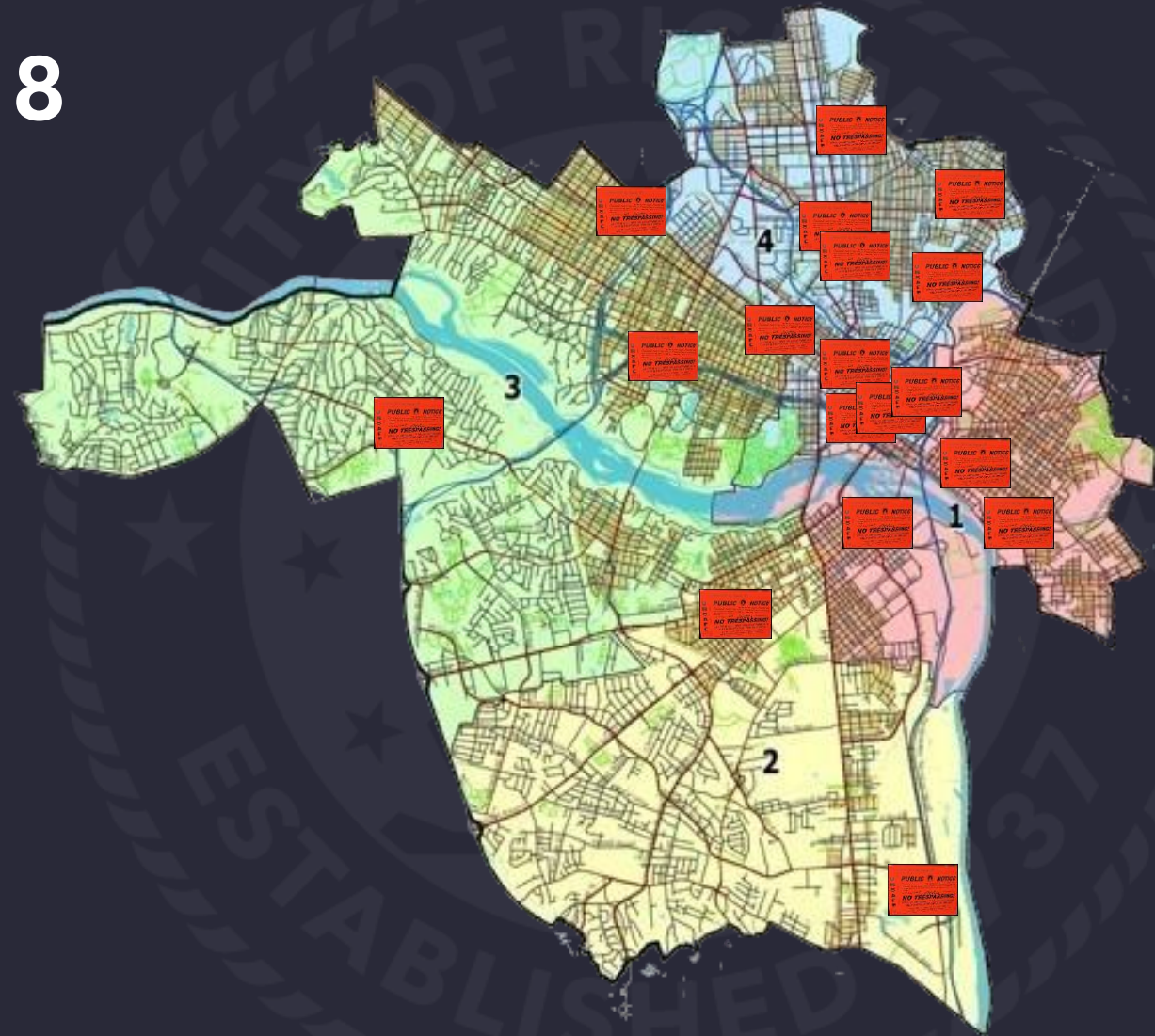
Total Violations PDR: **175**
Total Violations RFD: **88**
Total Violations Finance: **11**



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Vape Shops Placarded - 18

2318 4th Avenue
2 ½ North 18th Street
308 North Adams Street
2 East Brookland Park Boulevard
4 West Broad Street
217 West Broad Street
1383 West Broad Street
4001 West Broad Street
415 East Broad Rock Road
3103 West Cary Street
2005 Chamberlayne Avenue
2425 Chamberlayne Avenue
7032 Forest Hill Avenue
5013 Government Road
1420 Hull Street Road
250 East Ladies Mile Road
15 West Main Street
2606 Walmsley Boulevard



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review



Operation Vaporize



Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Operation Vaporize



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

Strategic Response

Property owner responsibility, drug blight ordinance
Code of Virginia 15.2-907 and Richmond City Code 11-155

Criminal Enforcement

Executed by: Narcotics Detectives and Street Crimes Units (SCU).
Focus: High-level distribution, weapons seizures, and dismantling criminal networks.



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

Criminal Enforcement Results

Search Warrant Executions (2025 YTD)

SCOPE

17 RPD LED SEARCH
WARRANTS

WEAPONS RECOVERED

30 ILLEGAL FIREARMS

NARCOTICS SEIZED

OVER 100LBS OF BULK
MARIJUANA AND ILLEGAL THC
PRODUCTS

CASH SEIZED

OVER \$45,000 IN ILLICIT
CURRENCY

Cross-Jurisdictional Support: 9 additional warrants executed for
Hanover, Chesterfield, and Henrico partners.



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

Significant Criminal Cases



102 W BROAD ST

- Targeted shop + 5 private residences.
- Seizure: 19 firearms & 4.5 lbs marijuana.
- Outcome: 5 individuals charged with conspiracy.

MAJOR CASE HIGHLIGHTS



CHAMBERLAYNE AND BROOK RD

- Seizure: 20 lbs of marijuana, \$10k cash.
- Weapon: 4 firearms seized, including one equipped with an "auto-sear" (machine gun conversion).



3923 HULL STREET

- Seizure: 30 lbs of marijuana.
- Charge: Maintaining a Fortified Drug House.



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

102 West Broad Street – Let's Smoke Vape Shop



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

2501 Chamberlayne Avenue - Pop's Smoke Shop



A multi-jurisdictional search warrant operation was conducted, involving members of RPD, FBI, VSP, DEA, and ATF. A portion of that operation involved the execution of a search warrant of the vape shop located at Chamberlayne Ave. and Overbook Road, Pop's Vape Shop.

The owner's home residence was also raided in another jurisdiction. Total seizure involving that vape shop and home residence yielded four firearms, one of which was equipped with an auto sear, over \$10K in currency and over 20 pounds of marijuana.



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

3111 Norfolk Street – Kali's CBD Store



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

2905 Chamberlayne Avenue - Metro Vape Shop



Officers from three precincts and SOD executed a search warrant on the Metro Vape Shop, located at 2905 Chamberlayne Ave. Four individuals were detained, one of whom was the intended target of the investigation.

Over five pounds of marijuana, two firearms, and nearly \$10,000 in US currency were seized from the business. The offender was charged with possession with intent to distribute marijuana, possession of a firearm while possessing over one pound of marijuana, and possession of a firearm by a non-resident of the United States.



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

4924 Chamberlayne Avenue – Pop's 1-Stop Shop



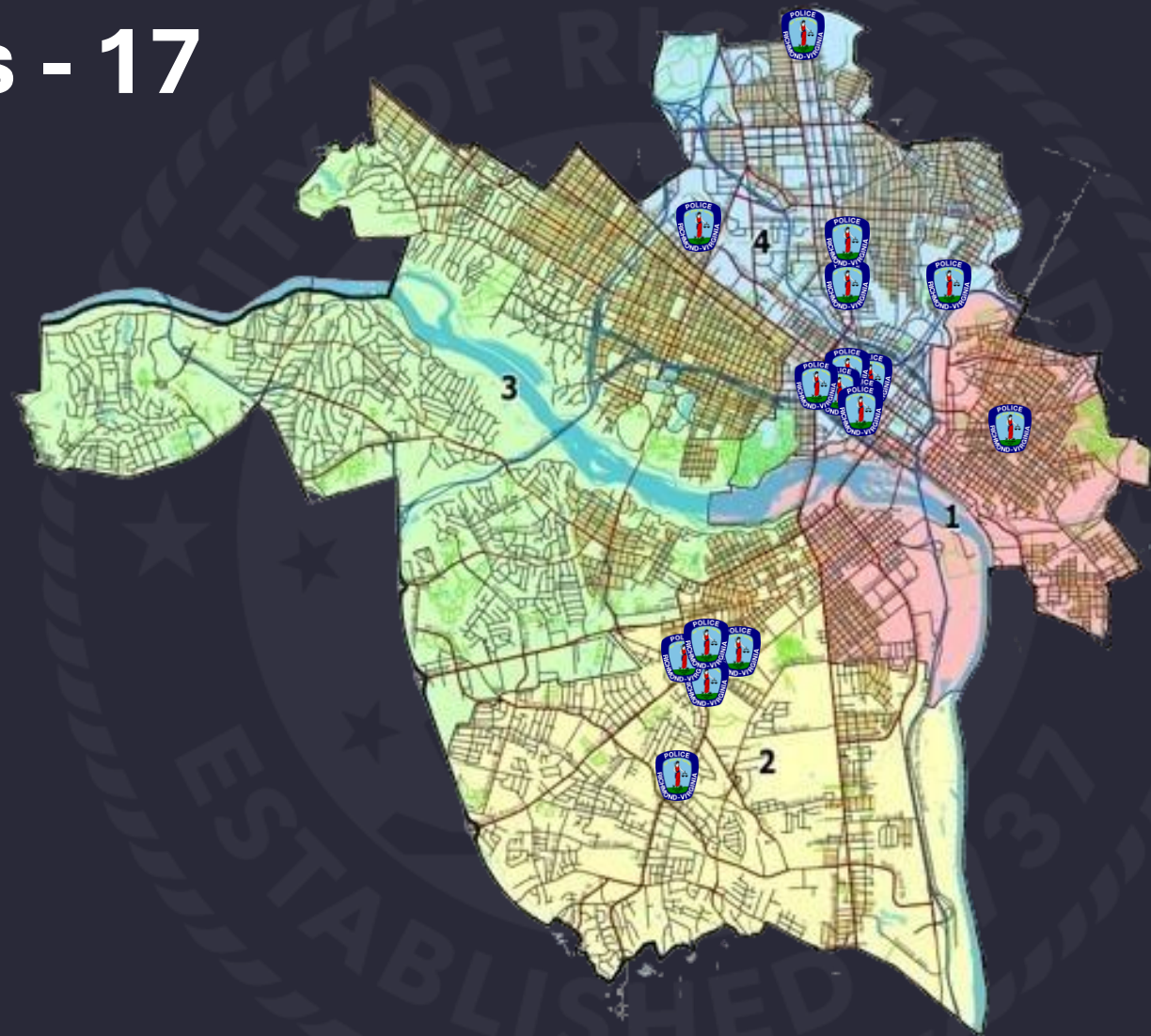
A search warrant was executed at the vape shop at 4924 Chamberlayne Avenue, Pop's 1-Stop Shop, after receiving numerous complaints about the business. Approximately a pound of marijuana and nearly \$2,000 was recovered from the business. Two subjects were arrested for a narcotics-related offense and for an outstanding warrant. FMT was assisted by RPD SWAT.



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

Executed Search Warrants - 17

402 North 2nd Street
2318 4th Avenue
308 North Adams Street
4 West Broad Street
102 West Broad Street
217 West Broad Street
2220 Broad Rock Boulevard
415 East Broad Rock Road
3723 East Broad Rock Road
Chamberlayne Avenue/Brook Road
2905 Chamberlayne Avenue
4924 Chamberlayne Avenue
3927 Hull Street
3923 Hull Street
15 West Main Street
3111 Norfolk Street
2438 Venable Street



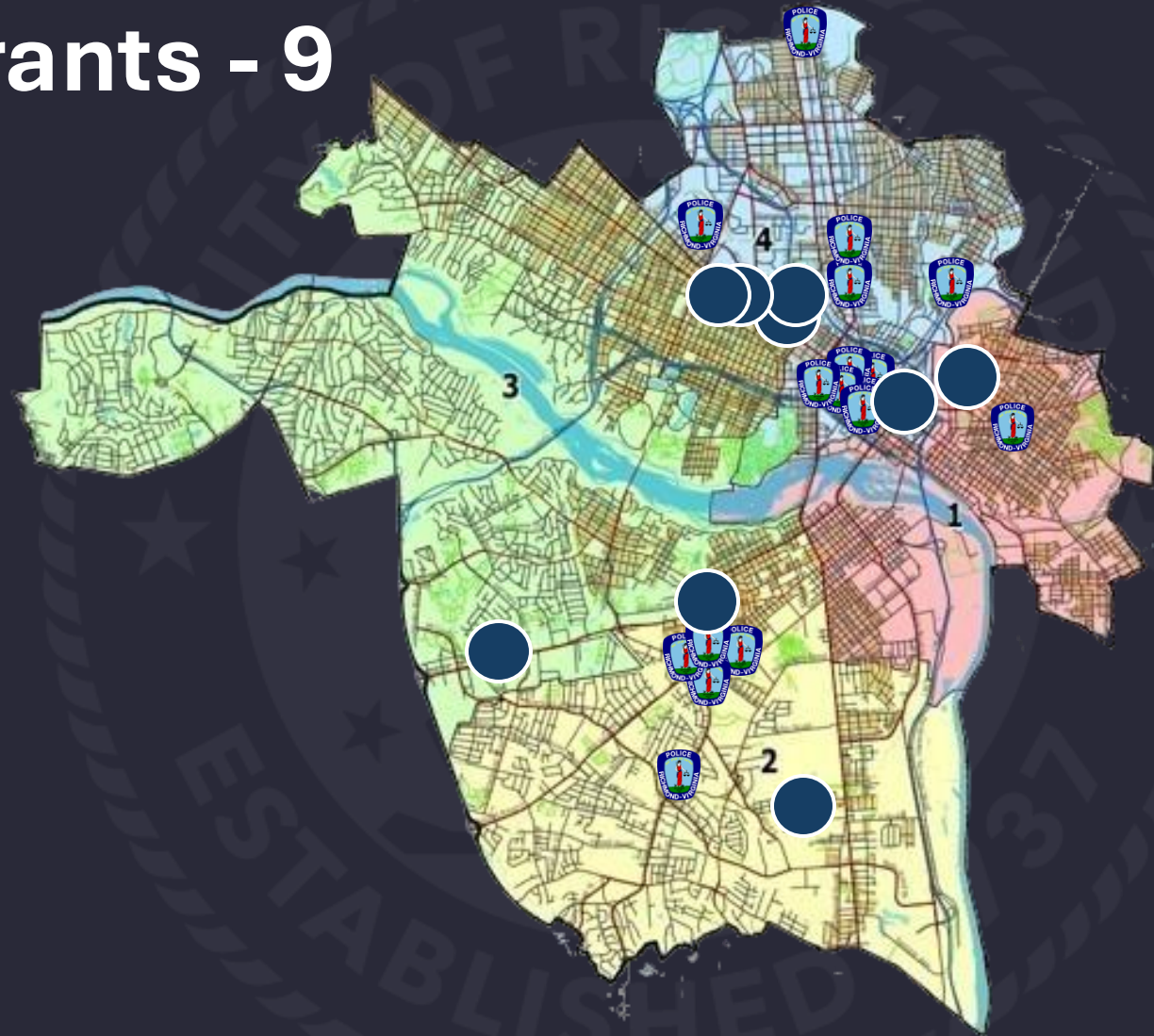
Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

RPD Assisted Search Warrants - 9

Chesterfield County Police Department:
1510 West Broad Street
3309 Delano Street
2530 West Main Street

Hanover County Sheriff's Office:
1211 West Broad Street
801 West Clay Street
1306/1308 West Main Street

Henrico County Police Department:
1806 Fairmount Avenue
3078 Hull Street Road
3927 Hull Street Road



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

Operation Vaporize



Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

Operation Vaporize

Mayor Danny Avula, City of Richmond

Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

December 19, 2025



Operation Vaporize

Mayor Danny Avula, City of Richmond

Director Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review

Chief Rick Edwards, Richmond Police Department

December 19, 2025

