

# Courthouse Referendum

---

**Vote:** November 8, 2016

**Location:** Your Polling Location

## Ballot Question

Shall the Courthouse of Augusta County be removed to the Augusta County Government Center complex in Verona, Virginia, and shall the Board of Supervisors be permitted to spend \$45,000,000 therefore?

Yes

No

---

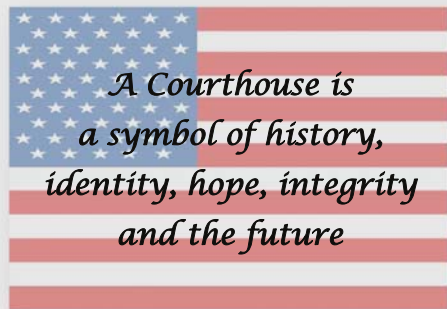
Virginia State Code  
states a Courthouse should be  
"Secure, in repair or otherwise sufficient"

## Circuit Courthouse History

---

Since Augusta County's creation in 1745, there have been five courthouses, all historical in their own right. The current Courthouse has been renovated four times and replacement now needs to be considered.

- Five Courthouses since 1745
- Four renovations since 1901
- Nine Boards considering its future over the last 30+ years
- Relocation included in three County Master Plans
- Several studies and analysis completed since 2001



# Augusta County Courts Complex

---

Referendum November 8, 2016





## Augusta County Courthouse



Vote November 8, 2016

## Considerations

History indicates the Board of Supervisors struggled with the same issues at hand now. In the last 271 years, Augusta County has grown in population, court case loads and court functions. There is no longer ample room to expand to accommodate needs in the Circuit Courthouse or District Courts Building. Now is the time to consider relocating the County Seat to Verona, Virginia. **So, why should a new Courthouse Complex be considered?**

### Consider Functionality

- Space to meet current and future needs, including future expansions
- Close proximity to other County government functions, especially public safety, jail and Sheriff's Office
- Efficiency and current code compliance for electrical, mechanical, plumbing and structural systems
- Technology needs for now and for the future
- All three courts and court functions located in one building

### Consider Security and Safety

- Separation of victims, witnesses, incarcerated, staff and the public
- Secure transport between courthouse and jail
- Adequate meeting space and safe circulation
- Secure parking
- Adequate fire protection and emergency exits
- Proximity of the Sheriff's Office to the courts and regional jail.

### Consider Accessibility

- Close proximity to Routes 11, 262, 612, I-81 and I-64
- Ample handicapped parking
- Ample free on-site parking
- Accessibility inside of the buildings

### Consider Financial

- Building maintenance costs of a new building compared to an old building
- Operational savings
- Energy savings
- Staff efficiency savings
- Opportunities for increased tax base in Verona
- Utilization of existing land
- No permit fees or flood studies



### Other Considerations

- Ambiance of historical 1901 Circuit Courthouse
- Moving centuries hold County Seat from Staunton
- Separation of joint Juvenile Domestic Relations Courts

**Estimated construction costs to meet the needs for years to come with the ability to expand**

Verona Location		\$45,000,000
	vs	
Staunton Location		\$59,429,000

### Looking for more information?

- [www.co.augusta.va.us](http://www.co.augusta.va.us)
- Contact County Administration at (540) 245-5610
- Contact local Board of Supervisor's representative
- To set up a group presentation contact County Administration at (540) 245-5610