From: Farrell, Robert
To: DOF-ALL EMPLOYEES
Subject: The Branch
Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:43:52 AM
Attachments: 2021-02-15Branch.pdf

Good morning everyone;

This year has already provided a good example of why we emphasize being prepared every day for whatever that day may bring. We just started spring fire season with an ice storm. Thanks to everyone that responded to help clear roads over the holiday weekend. VDOF teams responded to requests for assistance in Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Pittsylvania, the Northern Neck, and south of Roanoke. In Dinwiddie, VDOF helped to open up about a 20 mile section of Route 460. The forecast is calling for another potentially significant storm this week. Get your stuff ready at work and at home. I haven't heard of any injuries or accidents from our responders over the weekend, and that is the most important thing. Let's make sure everybody gets home at the end of the day by working safely, watching out for each other, and speaking up when you see unsafe practices.

There was more good budget news for Virginia this week, the revenue projection for the next biennium was revised upward. There is a very good chance for state employee raises in the coming year. Almost all of our agency budget amendments were included in both the House and Senate budget versions so things look good there as well.

Please read through the Branch this morning, there are a number of announcements and updates that are relevant for everyone.

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