



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

### Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III  
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 482-5818  
Fax: (804) 786-2940

*Agenda item # 2*

### RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**December 4, 2023**

#### MOTION

**Made By:** Mr. Fowlkes **Seconded By:** Mr. Coleman

**Action:** Motion Carried, Unanimously

#### **Title: Bridge Naming: "Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge"**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution dated September 19, 2023, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the life, service and ultimate sacrifice of PFC Samuel Johnson, Jr., United States Army, name the bridge on State Route 352, St. Charles Road, over Straight Creek, Lee County as the "Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge"; and

**WHEREAS**, Lee County, by resolution dated September 19, 2023, letter dated October 31, 2023, and email dated November 2, 2023, has agreed to be responsible for payment of all sign costs billed by the Virginia Department of Transportation calling attention to this naming, which will include the costs to produce, place, and maintain the signs; and

**WHEREAS**, § 33.2-213 provides that VDOT shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located or by the private entity whose name is attached to the transportation facility so named.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on State Route 352, St. Charles Road, over Straight Creek, Lee County, as the "Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge".

Resolution of the Board  
Bridge Naming: "Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge"  
December 4, 2023  
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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming, and secure payment from Lee County for these costs as required by law.

####

## CTB Decision Brief

### Bridge Naming: “Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge”

**Issue:** Commemorative naming, at the request of Lee County, of the bridge on State Route 352, St. Charles Road, over Straight Creek, Lee County as the “Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge”.

**Facts:** The Lee County Board of Supervisors enacted a resolution on September 19, 2023 to honor PFC Samuel Johnson, Jr.’s life, brave service and ultimate sacrifice to his country and community.

According to that resolution, Samuel Johnson, Jr. was born on September 6, 1948 near St. Charles in Lee County, Virginia. He enlisted in the United States Army on May 9, 1968 and began his tour in Vietnam on October 3, 1968.

PFC Samuel Johnson, Jr. was killed on October 26, 1968 in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam. He is memorialized on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Panel 40W, Line 37, and was laid to rest at Lee Memorial Park near Pennington Gap, Virginia.

**Action Required by CTB:** The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming a highway or bridge, as appropriate. A resolution will be provided for the Board’s consideration.

**Result if Approved:** The bridge on State Route 352, St. Charles Road, over Straight Creek, Lee County, will be known as the “Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge”. In accordance with law, and by resolution dated September 19, 2023, letter dated October 31, 2023 and email dated November 2, 2023, Lee County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

**Options:** Approve, Deny, or Defer.

**Public Comments/Reactions:** VDOT has not received any public comments on this proposal.

**RESOLUTION  
23-012**

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Johnson, Jr. was born September 6, 1948 near St. Charles in Lee County, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, Samuel Johnson, Jr. enlisted in the United States Army on May 9, 1968 and began his tour in Vietnam on October 3, 1968; and

**WHEREAS**, PFC Johnson was killed on October 26, 1968 in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam; and

**WHEREAS**, PFC Samuel Johnson, Jr. is memorialized on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Panel 40W, Line 37 and was laid to rest at Lee Memorial Park near Pennington Gap, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board wishes to commemorate the brave service and sacrifice of PFC Samuel Johnson, Jr. to country and countrymen;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Lee County Board of Supervisors, in accordance with the requirements of Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia, does hereby request the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Virginia Department of Transportation formally designate and name the bridge over Straight Creek on Route 352 (St. Charles Rd) as the "Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge".

Adopted this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

  
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CLERK OF THE BOARD





## Lee County Board of Supervisors

LEE COUNTY  
P.O. Box 367  
Jonesville, Virginia 24263-0367

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
Telephone 276-346-7714  
Fax 276-346-7712  
www.leecova.org

October 31, 2023

Mr. Allan Sumpter, Resident Administrator  
Wise Residency  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
703 Hurricane Road, N.E.  
Wise, Virginia 24293-0060

Dear Mr. Sumpter:

Enclosed please find a copy of a resolution adopted by the Lee County Board of Supervisors on September 19, 2023 requesting the naming of the State Route 352 bridge over Straight Creek, just north of Route 628 in the former Town of St. Charles, as the Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge.

We also acknowledge that the Lee County Board of Supervisors will be responsible for payment of all sign costs billed by the Department of Transportation.

If you should have any questions or need further information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

D. Dane Poe  
County Administrator

Enclosure

# Proposed Bridge Naming

Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge

GPS: 36.480948, -83.032733

Route 352 - St. Charles Road

Structure No: 1043

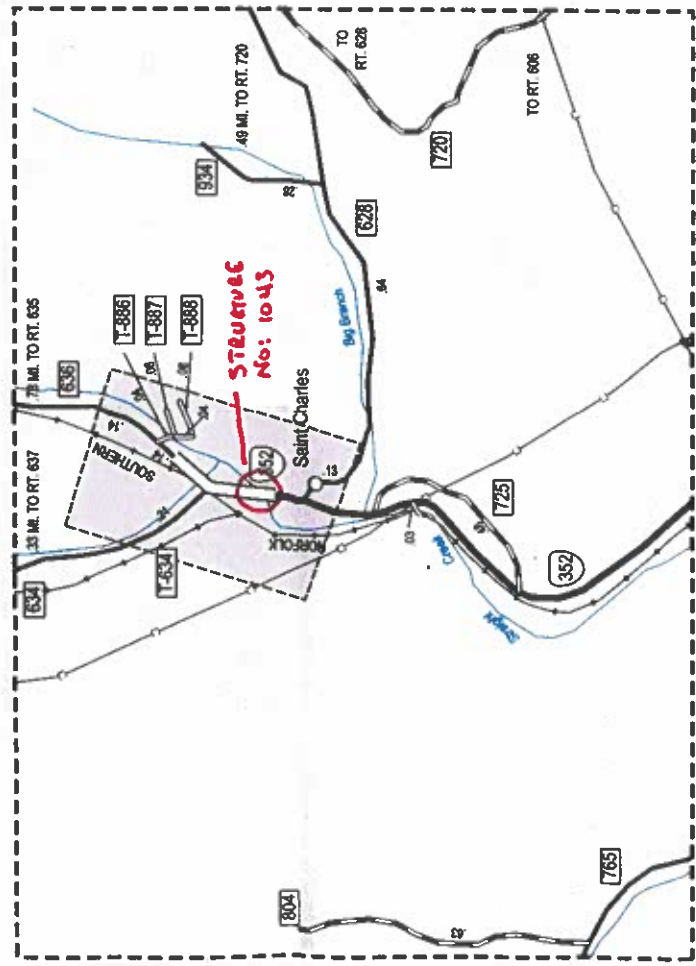
Over: Straight Creek

## Legend



Proposed Bridge Naming

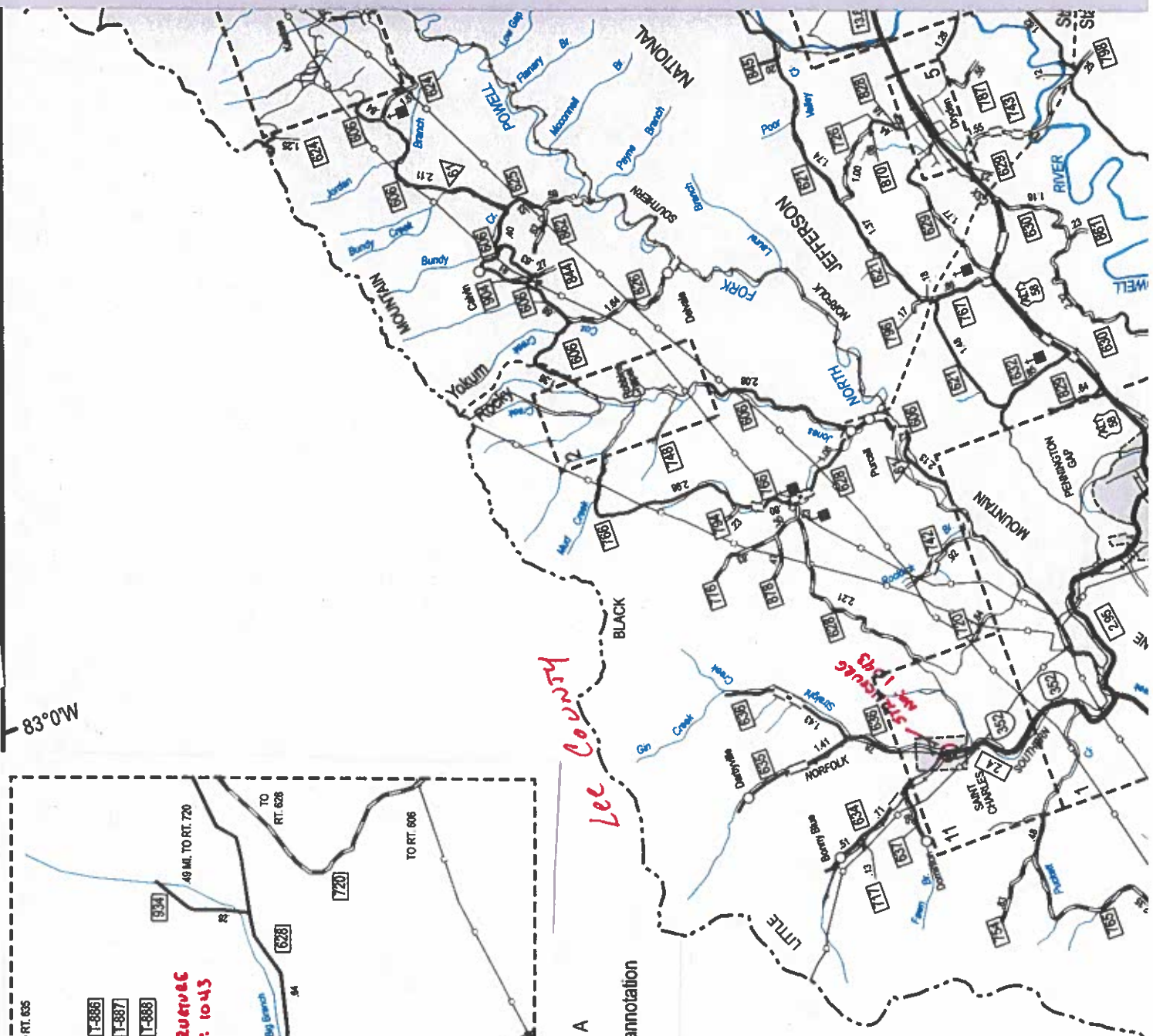




M.0°0'W

11  
 SAINT CHARLES AREA  
 four times map scale  
 see notation on map cover for distance annotation

*Lee County*



**From:** [Cantrell, Glenn \(VDOT\)](#)  
**To:** [Dunn, Brack \(VDOT\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Bridge Naming Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge  
**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 9:13:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-y4curjpu.png](#)

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Good Morning Brack,

Attached is the confirmation email from Lee County for the above request bridge naming. If you need anything further, please let me know.

Thanks,  
Glenn



**Glenn M. Cantrell**

*Eng. Tech., Sr. - Permits - Wise Residency*  
(o): 276.321.6456 (c): 276.973.7503  
[glenn.cantrell@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:glenn.cantrell@VDOT.Virginia.gov)

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**From:** Dane Poe <ddpoe@leecova.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 9:06 AM  
**To:** Cantrell, Glenn (VDOT) <Glenn.Cantrell@vdot.virginia.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Bridge Naming

Glenn,  
I debated changing it in the letter but that's what I had provided on a previous one.

This will confirm that the Lee County Board of Supervisors will pay for all costs of producing, placing, and maintaining signage for naming the Rte. 352 bridge over Straight Creek in the former town of St. Charles as the "Samuel Johnson, Jr. Memorial Bridge".

Dane Poe  
County Administrator



Lee County



Proposed Bridge Naming  
"Samuel Johnson, Jr.  
Memorial Bridge"

Straight Creek



Virginia Department of Transportation  
Maintenance Division

CTB MEETING: December 05, 2023

Lee County  
Proposed Bridge Naming:  
**"Samuel Johnson, Jr.  
Memorial Bridge"**