

FROM THE COMMUNITY MEMBER

## Anne Arundel County, MD

January 18, 2021

Erica Scott (Property-Owner)  
465 Mainview Ct.  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

Dear Senate Judicial Committee and Legislators,

In July of 2015, Two Anne Arundel County Police Officers, Officer Ferris and Bilter responded to a call at my residence, while my teenage daughters were home, over the age of 15 years old; however younger than 19 years of age. I was not home at the time. Officer Ferris and Bilter was able to speak with me due to my daughter calling me and allowing them to use her phone. During our conversation, Officer Ferris and I agreed that I would speak with my daughters when I returned home. Both officers later spoke with their supervisor and completed their report, which omitted information that was significant to the call and the resolution of the call, as well as mis-categorized; and misinformed officials during a hearing. Once I became aware of the report that both officers had written, between 1 to 2 years later, I was not able to effectively appeal the report or its content that had a significant impact on the lives of my children.

Following the latter, I filed a complaint with their supervisor, Sargent Charles Benner. Sgt. Benner spoke with the officers, and stated that he was not able to do anything else further than speaking with the officers, and that my child was afforded the opportunity not to be charged. Thereafter, I filed an Internal Affairs complaint. During the departmental Internal Affairs investigation, I was not privy to who was interviewed in the department, what their statements were about; how many people were interviewed; nor if there were any priors from any of the officers. Recently, I was informed by the Anne Arundel County Police Department, that they revisited the IA investigation and found that all interviewees had the same story; however, they could not answer how significant information was omitted on a police report, yet the Officers expressed this information to their superiors, which contradicts the current report on file today.

I support the reform of the Public Information Act/ SB0178.

Erica Scott