



MARLOW HEIGHTS SPECIAL POLICE

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Good Morning members of the Senate,

My name is Captain Paul Rovillard of the Marlow Heights Special Police Department. This is my 20th year of service at Marlow Heights Special Police and my 41st year in law enforcement. My tenure at Marlow Heights Special Police has been both extremely rewarding while at the same time challenging. In addition to policing the Shopping Center, we also provide coverage to the surrounding multicultural community that depends on the Shopping Center for groceries, household necessities, apparel, restaurants, medication, others services and entertainment. This coverage outside of the Shopping Center provides the Prince George's County Police with the flexibility to allocate their limited resources elsewhere in the County.

I have seen entire families, including grand-parents, fathers, mothers and children grow up in this shopping center and immediate community. The term community-oriented policing applies here to our Special Police staff, which we practice on a daily basis.

Just a few weeks ago, a young Marine approached me in front of the Giant Food and asked me if I remembered him, I did not. He proceeded to explain that when he was 12 years old, he had stolen a soda and bag of chips from a local store and that I had responded to the radio call of the incident. He advised that I proceeded to instruct him on his poor decision-making and that I sent him home with some important recommendations for a young teenager. The impact of that simple life episode convinced this young teenager he was on the wrong path in his life. For me, seeing him in his Marine Corp uniform and hearing his recollection of this small life experience provided me a sense of pride. This is just one example of the many that this department has experienced over the years while serving this shopping center and community with dedication and determination.

The passing of Senate Bill 63 will permit Chief Conklin and myself to move this department into the future.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide some brief testimony today regarding Senate Bill 63 and the Marlow Heights Special Police Dept. .

God bless you all and may God bless the great State of Maryland. Thank you!

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