



BALTIMORE COUNTY LODGE NO. 4
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

INCORPORATED

CORPORATE OFFICES • 9304 HARFORD ROAD • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21234

(410) 668-0004 • (410) 668-0046 • FAX (410) 668-8126

www.foplodge4.org

DAVID M. ROSE
LODGE PRESIDENT

DONNA M. PATTERSON
LODGE SECRETARY

The Honorable Luke Clippinger
House Judiciary Committee
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, Md. 21201

Re House Bill 707 – Law Enforcement Reform - Favorable

The Maryland State FOP is in support of House Bill 237, law enforcement reform.

This bill is similar to the SMART Policing Act that was written and passed in the Baltimore County's Council in 2020.

House Bill 237 codifies certain training and policy requirements, many of which are already in place in agencies across Maryland, such as

- a. Proper level and use of force;
- b. Sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity;
- c. Interacting with those with disabilities;
- d. Implicit bias
- e. Duty to intervene
- f. Render medical assistance
- g. Early warning intervention
- h. Use of force reporting
- i. Use of de-escalation techniques

In addition, HB 707 requires certain agencies to equip their officers with Body Cameras. In Baltimore County, our officers would probably never give up the use and protection that a BWC provides. Although the operation of a BWC requires much more work above the normal duties, they have been invaluable in exonerating officers in many more cases than ever before they were available. The State's attorney has also found the BWC to be a valuable tool for prosecution. This bill strikes a balance to help those smaller jurisdictions with the upstart cost associated with a BWC system.

Dave Rose
President
Baltimore County FOP #4

REPRESENTING THE PROFESSIONAL POLICE OFFICERS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

