

February 19, 2021

Support: SB0276 / HB 0336

I do not believe that Johns Hopkins University should be able to develop a private police force, and I feel that this effort should be permanently halted. There are manifold issues with the current state of policing in Baltimore, and we do not need to add to them by creating an additional private police force that can operate without even the small amount of oversight that citizens currently have over the BPD.

I urge lawmakers to imagine the rightful outcry that would occur if a police officer working for JHU caused wrongful harm to a citizen of this city. Judging from the history of prior private police forces, it is only a matter of time before something like that would happen with this police force as well.

The current unarmed security guard personnel at the various JHU campuses seems to be providing adequate security and I question why this security can't just be expanded if necessary.

Regards,

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