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February 8, 2022

Chair William C. Smith, Jr.
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 345/SB 106 - Baltimore City and Prince George's County - Grant Funding - Violence Prevention and Community Service

POSITION: Information

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (Office) is providing this letter of information for House Bill 345/Senate Bill 106: Baltimore City and Prince George's County - Grant Funding - Violence Prevention and Community Service.

This legislation requires the Governor to annually include \$500,000 in the annual budget bill for the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office and the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office for grants to nonprofit organizations to fund violence prevention and community service initiatives. The bill requires the two State's Attorney's Offices to establish procedures for nonprofit organizations to use in applying for grants and enhance coordination of existing anti violence programs and nonprofit grant funds to minimize duplication of services. A nonprofit organization that receives funding under this legislation and shall comply with data sharing and reporting requirements, established by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services as a condition of receiving funding.

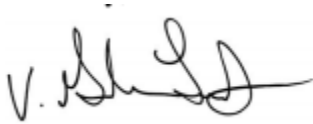
In prior and current fiscal years, the Office has funded both the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office and the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. The Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office (PGSAO) currently receives approximately \$1,624,681 to include state and federal funding sources, for a total of 6 awards. Of the \$1.6 million, \$1,145,600 is based on a State pass-through grant to support personnel within the Strategic Investigative and Charging Unit (PGSI). The program increases the number of successful prosecutions of violent and non-violent, repeat and chronic offenders in order to

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further enhance and ensure safer communities in Prince George's County. Furthermore, the remainder of funding (\$479,000) is issued based on a competitive basis. Funds support gun violence reduction, targeted repeat offenders, one-time housing assistance for victims of domestic violence under the COVID Emergency Supplemental Funds, and sexual assault/domestic violence prosecution efforts for the PGSAO. The Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office currently receives \$5,150,756.00 in grant funding from the Office, with some of the funds as follows: \$1,760,355.00 going towards FY22 Comprehensive Violence Prosecution, \$100,000 going towards Gun Violence Reduction, \$214,240.00 towards Targeting Repeat Violent Offenders, and \$1,798,101.00 towards the Victim/Witness Unit.

In addition to the funding that both State's Attorney's Offices receive, the organizations are eligible to apply for competitive grants that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services offers, should eligibility requirements be met. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services will continue to support state law enforcement efforts to advance public policy, enhance public safety, reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, and serve victims.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services