

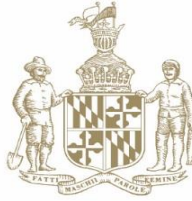
**WILLIAM WIVELL**  
*Legislative District 2A*  
Washington County

Environment and Transportation  
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Local Government and  
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**HB1042, Public Information Act – Police Officers – Unfounded Complaints.**

I am pleased to present HB1042 which seeks to protect the privacy of our law enforcement officials.

As you are aware, police reform passed in the 2021 legislative session declared that records relating to administrative or criminal investigation of misconduct by a police officer, including internal affairs, hearing, and disciplinary decision records are not personnel records and therefore subject to Freedom of Information Act requests. One exception was created for records of a technical infraction. This bill adds an additional exception for administrative or criminal investigation records if the investigation determined that the complaint of misconduct was unfounded. In this case, the record would remain a personnel record and therefore remain confidential.

The issue was brought to the Washington County Delegation by our Sheriff and we believe that it is appropriate to be a state-wide bill. On behalf of the Washington County Delegation, I ask for a favorable report. Thank you.