

February 8, 2024

Written Testimony - Bill SB0585

To the General Assembly,

I am writing to voice my support of Bill SB0585. It is important for those involved in accidents to remain at the scene whether involving a vehicle or vessel. The law should be the same for both means of transportation, and is possibly even more important on the water when the people involved/hurt could drown.

I have been personally impacted by this gap in law as my mother, Laura Slattery, was killed in a hit-and-run on the Chesapeake in July of 2022. The person who hit my parents' boat was drinking and operating his boat in a dangerous and reckless manner resulting my mother's death. He ran from the scene thinking he could escape the consequences of his actions, and indeed did not receive an appropriate punishment due to having fled the scene.

Hopefully this bill will help other families, and possibly lives, when these kinds of accidents arise.

Thank you for your consideration,

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