
By: **Senator Exum**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2002

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County - Police Department - Settlement Agreements**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a settlement agreement entered into by a person,
4 who had a claim or filed a civil action against the Prince George's County Police
5 Department, and the Prince George's County Police Department is a matter of
6 public record; requiring the Chief of Police of the Prince George's County Police
7 Department to make the terms of the settlement agreement available to the
8 public; prohibiting a court from sealing the terms of certain settlement
9 agreements; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to
10 settlement agreements with the Prince George's County Police Department.

11 BY adding to
12 The Public Local Laws of Prince George's County
13 Section 18-146.02
14 Article 17 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
15 (1999 Edition and 2000 Supplement, as amended)

16 BY adding to
17 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
18 Section 6-411
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
22 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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Article 17 - Prince George's County

2 18-146.02.

3 (A) ANY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BY A PERSON, WHO HAD A
4 CLAIM OR FILED A CIVIL ACTION AGAINST THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE
5 DEPARTMENT, AND THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT IS A
6 MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD.

7 (B) THE CHIEF OF POLICE SHALL MAKE THE TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT
8 AGREEMENT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UNDER SUBTITLE 6 OF TITLE 10 OF THE
9 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

10

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

11 6-411.

12 A COURT MAY NOT SEAL THE TERMS OF A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN AN
13 ACTION AGAINST THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
15 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
16 any effect on or application to any settlement agreement in an action against the
17 Prince George's County Police Department entered into before the effective date of
18 this Act.

19 ~~SECTION 2.~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
20 effect October 1, 2002.