

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2006 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 913 (Prince George's County Delegation and Montgomery County Delegation)  
Judiciary

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**Park Police of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission -  
Enforcement Authority  
PG/MC 108-06**

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This bill provides statewide jurisdiction for the park police of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) when investigating controlled dangerous substances offenses and forfeiture provisions relating to controlled dangerous substances offenses. If investigative or enforcement action is taken by any authorized police officer under this authority on property owned, leased, or operated by or under the control of M-NCPPC, notification of the investigation or enforcement action must be made to the M-NCPPC chief of police for the county in which the property is located.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill would not materially affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill's changes could be handled with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Notwithstanding any other law, a law enforcement officer of the Maryland Transportation Authority, a municipal corporation, or a county may investigate incidents involving controlled dangerous substances offenses and forfeiture provisions relating to controlled dangerous substances offenses without limitation as to jurisdiction and to the same extent as a law enforcement officer of the Department of State Police.

The authority may be exercised only in accordance with regulations adopted by the Secretary of State Police. Notification of an investigation must be provided to the specified, appropriate local law enforcement authorities.

**Background:** M-NCPPC employs 192 sworn law enforcement officers in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. It is assumed that not all of them would investigate controlled dangerous substances offenses.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** In 2003 and 2005, bills were introduced to expand the jurisdiction of the park police so as to cover matters relating to identity fraud statewide. HB 393 of 2003 passed the House, as amended, and was heard in the Judicial Proceedings Committee but received no further action. In 2005, HB 534 had a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee and was withdrawn.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Department of State Police, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 1, 2006  
nas/hlb

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