

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 425
Judiciary

(Delegate Oaks, *et al.*)

Public Safety - Loyola University and The Johns Hopkins University Police Forces

This bill includes members of the police force of Loyola University (LU) and the police force of The Johns Hopkins University (JHU) as “police officers” under provisions granting the authority to make arrests. The bill also makes those officers eligible for certification as police officers by the Maryland Police Training Commission (PTC).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Any additional training and certification by PTC can be handled with existing budget resources. It is assumed that any additional arrests resulting under the bill do not significantly affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal or none.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Under provisions of the Criminal Procedure Article, the term “police officer” means a person who in an official capacity is authorized by law to make arrests and is:

- a member of the Department of State Police (DSP);
- a member of the Baltimore City Police Department;
- a member of the Baltimore City School Police Force;
- a member of the police department, bureau, or force of a county;

- a member of the police department, bureau, or force of a municipality;
- a member of the Maryland Transit Administration Police Force or Maryland Transportation Authority Police Force;
- a member of the University of Maryland Police Force or Morgan State University Police Force;
- a special police officer who is appointed to enforce the law and maintain order on or protect property of the State or any of its units;
- a member of the Department of General Services (DGS) security force;
- the sheriff of a county whose usual duties include the making of arrests;
- a regularly employed deputy sheriff of a county who is compensated by the county and whose usual duties include the making of arrests;
- a member of the Natural Resources Police Force of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR);
- a member of State Forest and Park Service Police Force of DNR;
- an authorized employee of the Field Enforcement Bureau of the Comptroller's Office;
- a member of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Park Police;
- a member of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City Police Force;
- a member of the Crofton Police Department;
- a member of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metro Transit Police;
- a member of the Internal Investigative Unit of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS);
- a member of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) Police Force;
- a member of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Police Force;
- a member of the Ocean Pines Police Department;
- a member of the police force of the Baltimore City Community College (BCCC);
- a member of the police force of the Hagerstown Community College (HCC); or
- an employee of the Warrant Apprehension Unit of the Division of Parole and Probation within DPSCS.

Under provisions of the Public Safety Article, a person eligible for training and certification as a “police officer” by PTC is an individual authorized to enforce the general criminal laws of the State and who is a member of one of the following law enforcement agencies:

- DSP;
- Baltimore City Police Department;
- the Housing Authority of Baltimore City Police Force;
- the Baltimore City School Police Force;
- the police department, bureau, or force of a county or municipality;
- special police officers of the police force of a State, county, or municipality;
- the Maryland Transit Administration police force and the Maryland Transportation Authority Police;
- the office of the sheriff of a county;
- the police forces of DNR, DGS, and DLLR;
- the Crofton Police Department;
- the WSSC Police Force;
- the Ocean Pines Police Department;
- the police forces of the University System of Maryland and Morgan State University;
- the police forces of BCCC and HCC; or
- the parole and probation employees of the Warrant Apprehension Unit of the Division of Parole and Probation in DPSCS who are authorized to make arrests.

The Public Safety Article definition of “police officer” applicable to PTC training and certification also includes:

- a member of the Field Enforcement Bureau of the Comptroller’s Office;
- the State Fire Marshal or a deputy State fire marshal;
- an investigator of the Internal Investigative Unit of DPSCS;
- an Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Prince George’s, or Worcester County fire and explosive investigator; and
- a City of Annapolis or City of Hagerstown fire and explosive investigator.

It does not include (1) an individual who serves as a police officer only because the individual occupies another office or position; (2) a sheriff, the Secretary of State Police, a commissioner of police, a deputy or assistant commissioner of police, a chief of police, a deputy or assistant chief of police, or another individual with an equivalent title who is appointed or employed by a government to exercise equivalent supervisory authority; or (3) a member of the Maryland National Guard who is under the control and jurisdiction of the Military Department, is assigned to the military property designated as the Glenn L. Martin State Airport, and is charged with exercising police powers in and for the Glenn L. Martin State Airport.

At JHU, a Campus Safety and Security unit provides law enforcement services to the university around the clock. All campus special police officers are commissioned by the State and have full police powers on all university property in the State. The officers patrol on- and off-campus facilities and university activities on foot, on bicycles, and in conspicuously marked security vehicles. Plainclothes officers and investigators are also on staff. JHU also deploys Allied Barton security officers to walk, bike, and drive in highly visible uniforms throughout the area. In addition, JHU hires off-duty Baltimore City police officers to patrol, in uniform, along the Charles Street/Charles Village corridor and along University Parkway.

At LU, a public safety unit is comprised of the Police Services Division and the Support Operations Division. Police Services consists of 40 sworn police officers who provide a 24-hour presence on the LU campus using foot, bicycle, and motorized patrol.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola University, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 3, 2014
ncs/lgc

Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510