

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 632
Judiciary

(Delegate Smith)

Judicial Proceedings

Baltimore City Sheriff – Staffing

This bill increases, from one to three, the number of assistant sheriffs that must be appointed by the Baltimore City Sheriff. The bill also repeals the limitation on the maximum number of specified officers that the Baltimore City Sheriff may appoint. Additionally, the bill specifically authorizes the Sheriff to appoint social workers and any additional sworn or civilian personnel that are funded by the Sheriff’s operating budget or by any other funding source.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Baltimore City finances, as discussed below.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Baltimore City Sheriff must appoint specified employees, including an undersheriff or chief deputy sheriff, one assistant sheriff, three deputy sheriff majors, three deputy sheriff captains, six deputy sheriff lieutenants, one secretary sheriff, and one fiscal clerk sheriff. The sheriff may appoint up to a maximum of (1) nine deputy sheriff sergeants; (2) 103 deputy sheriffs; (3) two domestic violence clerks; and (4) two domestic violence advocates.

Local Fiscal Effect: The bill *requires* the appointment of two additional assistant sheriffs and *authorizes* the appointment of additional personnel. Although Baltimore City did not respond to a request for an estimate regarding the fiscal impact of the bill, in *similar* legislation introduced this legislative session, Baltimore City indicated that there was no fiscal impact. Accordingly, based on that information and for purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that any associated expenditures are accommodated using existing budgeted resources of the Sheriff's Office, without requiring additional funding from Baltimore City that is attributable to any new positions created as a result of the bill.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 2023
km/jkb Third Reader - March 20, 2023

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