

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1034

(Baltimore City Delegation)(By Request - Baltimore City Sheriff)

Judiciary

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 specifically authorizes the Sheriff to appoint up to two social workers and, subject to existing provisions relating to collective bargaining, any additional sworn or civilian personnel if the funding for the personnel is provided in the ordinance of estimates or any other source.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State finances or operations.

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, 1 assistant sheriff, 3 deputy sheriff majors, 3 deputy sheriff captains, 6 deputy sheriff lieutenants, 1 secretary sheriff, and 1 fiscal clerk sheriff. The sheriff may appoint up to a maximum of (1) 9 deputy sheriff sergeants; (2) 103 deputy sheriffs; (3) 2 domestic violence clerks; and (4) 2 domestic violence advocates.

Statutory provisions set forth a process by which full-time sworn law enforcement officers who are deputy sheriffs at the rank of lieutenant or below and court security officers within

the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office may seek recognition to organize and bargain collectively in regard to specified matters. For example, sworn law enforcement officers and court security officers may seek recognition in order to organize and bargain collectively in good faith with the Baltimore City Mayor and the Baltimore City Council concerning merit step increases and those benefits that are determined, offered, administered, controlled, or managed by the Mayor and the City Council.

Local Fiscal Effect: Although the bill *requires* the appointment of 2 additional assistant sheriffs and *authorizes* the appointment of additional personnel, subject to collective bargaining and if funding is provided in the ordinance of estimates or any other source, Baltimore City advises that the bill has no fiscal impact. Baltimore City further notes that the bill provides flexibility for appointing additional staff but does not directly affect the budget or the city's process for authorizing changes to the budget. Finally, Baltimore City advises that the fiscal 2024 budget for the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office includes 212 positions, 40 of which are currently vacant.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See SB 486 of 2023.

Designated Cross File: SB 1160 (Senator Carter)(By Request - Baltimore City Administration) - Rules.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 2024
km/jkb Third Reader - March 20, 2024
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 20, 2024

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