



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair and
Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: Chief David Morris, Co-Chair, MCPA, Joint Legislative Committee
Sheriff Darren Popkin, Co-Chair, MSA, Joint Legislative Committee
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: March 11, 2020

RE: **HB 1564 Public Health – Emergency Evaluations – Duties of Peace Officers
and Emergency Facilities**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) SUPPORT HB 1564. This bill puts a process in place for law enforcement to stay at an emergency facility if at the time an emergency evaluatee is brought into a hospital, the evaluatee is violent.

The intent of HB 1564 is to improve the process currently in place when law enforcement brings an emergency evaluatee into a hospital setting. MCPA and MSA understands that at times individuals may become violent and create dangerous situations for emergency personnel.

MCPA and MSA worked with the bill sponsors, the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the Maryland Hospital Association on this legislation prior to introduction and believes the process outlined in the bill is workable and reasonable.

Therefore, MCPA and MSA SUPPORT HB 1564 and urge a FAVORABLE Committee report.