



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr. Chairman and
Members of the Judicial Proceedings 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: February 4, 2020

RE: **SB 227 Family Law – Final Protective Order - Extension**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) SUPPORT SB 227. This bill would require an automatic extension of a protective order if a motion to extend the term of a protective order is filed and not heard before the original expiration date of the order.

MCPA and MSA generally supports judicial discretion, however, the potential danger in these cases demand a process that ensures close and continuous attention. The automatic extension of a protective order in these circumstances gives the victim assurances that the case will remain under review and puts the defendant on notice.

This is a sensible and workable adjustment to the process of dealing with these volatile situations. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA support SB 227 and urge a FAVORABLE committee report.