



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chairman and
Members of the Judiciary 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 11, 2020

RE: **HB 541 – Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission – Training Requirements – Hate Crimes**

POSITION: **Letter of Information**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) provide the following information on HB 541. This bill would require the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission (MPTSC) to incorporate certain requirements with respect to hate crimes into its curriculum.

Current law requires the MPTSC to set standards for entrance-level and in-service training requirements in a number of areas. Many of these requirements are written broadly to avoid the necessity of routine legislation and provide flexibility to the Commission to incorporate appropriate types of training as necessary. Public Safety Article 3-207 requires the following training and study, among many other areas:

- Criminal laws concerning rape and sexual offenses, including the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and related evidentiary procedures;
- Criminal laws concerning human trafficking, including services and support available to victims and the rights and appropriate treatment of victims;
- Contact with and treatment of victims of crimes and delinquent acts;
- Notices, services, support, and rights available to victims and victims' representatives under State law; and,
- Sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity.

From these broad statutory requirements, specific training on hate crimes has been incorporated into the police entry level objectives that must be followed by all training academies in the State. The link below is to the document that outlines all entry level objectives.

Below are the specific objectives for hate crimes.

- Objective 04.05.01 - Identify resources available to the officer while conducting a criminal investigation for hate crimes
- Objective 09.01.01 - Describe the methods of intervening in interpersonal conflicts, i.e., ..., hate crimes...
- Objective 09.03 - Identify the basic psychological response of crime victims, i.e., ..., hate crimes....
- Objective 09.04 - Identify techniques that an officer can use to defuse the crisis stress symptoms of a victim, i.e.,...hate crimes....