

# **Judah Adashi Testimony Supporting SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Adashi, Judah

Position: FAV

**Testimony Supporting SB0276**  
**Dr. Judah Adashi, Faculty at Johns Hopkins University**  
**January 19, 2021**

My name is Dr. Judah Adashi. I am a member of the faculty at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, a near-lifelong Baltimore City resident, and a registered voter in Maryland's District 46. I offer the testimony below in support of SB0276, repealing all provisions relating to the establishment and maintenance of a police department at Johns Hopkins University.

As the 2016 Justice Department Report on the Baltimore Police Department and the 2018 Gun Trace Task Force trial have affirmed, policing in Baltimore has caused great harm, disproportionately traumatizing Black citizens, families, and neighborhoods. The prospect of adding police of any kind, particularly a force developed by working closely with the Baltimore Police Department, is deeply troubling.

All of the graphics in Hopkins' 2018 Interim Study on Approaches to Improving Public Safety highlight crime statistics. While the negative impact of policing on marginalized groups is noted, the issue is not similarly highlighted. The name Freddie Gray appears once in 160 pages. Not one, not two, but six police officers were involved in killing Mr. Gray, an innocent, unarmed Black man. I can think of nothing more central to any discussion about increasing the number of police officers in our city.

In the summer of 2020, I was part of a collective of Hopkins faculty and students seeking complete abandonment of the private policing initiative. Our petition was signed by over 6,000 people – faculty, staff, students, alums, and Baltimore residents – as well as over 50 local, statewide, and national organizations, including the ACLU of MD and the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. I stand with these individuals and institutions in profound opposition to Hopkins' efforts to establish a university police force, and therefore offer my utmost support for SB0276.

I value safety and security as much as anyone, especially when it comes to our students, but not at the continued expense of Baltimore's most vulnerable people and communities. It is long past time for us to acknowledge that policing is the problem, not the solution, in Baltimore.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for all that you do for our city.

# **Bentley Addison-- testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Addison, Bentley

Position: FAV

**Testimony Supporting SB0276**  
**Bentley Addison, Student at Johns Hopkins University**  
**January 19,2021**

My name is Bentley Addison. I am an undergraduate student at the Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, a Baltimore City resident, and a registered voter in Maryland's 43rd district. **I am testifying today to urge the committee to support SB0276: private institutions of higher education should not be permitted to establish police forces.**

First, a greater police presence in the communities around Hopkins property would have a marked increase in danger for students of color and non-Hopkins community members, who would be actively surveilled, targeted, and arrested based on police profiling that they do not belong at Hopkins or are already criminals. We've seen, in June 2018, a Portland State University police officer shoot and kill a 45-year-old Black navy veteran who was breaking up a fight. The man killed, Jason Washington, had a registered and legal concealed carry permit on him. The officers faced no criminal charges.

As a Black student on campus, I am scared. So many of my peers have been murdered by police, and thousands more have been intimidated or profiled. We must not allow private universities to, on exaggerated cause, inflict this kind of damage on communities they serve.

Since Columbine the police presence in schools has skyrocketed, but police have never managed to actually stop a school shooting. There is reason to believe that a greater police presence would increase the insecurity of students and residents, who would then have little recourse to question, challenge, or seek redress from a private force that Hopkins is forcing onto the city, rather than working with the city to directly address the issues that actually contribute to crime, such as rampant inequality and economic segregation.

**Finally, Private police will erode community trust that universities need to fulfill their mission.** Johns Hopkins' relationship with Baltimore is already fraught because of decades of abuses and misdeeds on the part of the University.. If the University operates a private police force -- one that carries guns and arrests city residents -- this will further poison its relationship with Baltimore. Residents may be reluctant to seek educational opportunities, medical care or participate in research at Johns Hopkins if they think their lives will be threatened by a campus police force.

**For all these reasons, I support SB0276.**



# **SB0276 Repeal.pdf**

Uploaded by: Andrews, Caleb

Position: FAV

I am writing in support of repealing the charter/ability of Johns Hopkins University to create its own police force. As a student and employee of Johns Hopkins, many of us have been vocal in our support of keeping JHUs campus safe, however I do not believe more police are the solution. The decisions to enact and create a JHU private police force was done behind closed doors, without any input from students or faculty, but instead were handled in a top-down dictatorial manner. This is undemocratic, and will only serve to further divide JHU from its surrounding community while building tensions and stoking fires. In addition, these police would have authority over JHU property off campus as well, which continues to grow as JHU expands into its surrounding communities. I do not think the solution to JHU's, and by extension Baltimore City's, concerns of safety can be addressed with more guns, body armor, and handcuffs. Already, students have been profiled, harassed, and unduly hassled by JHUs private, unarmed, security force; and I cannot imagine that situation will improve once the authority and armament of badge carrying, state sanctioned, police become part of the equation. There is a lack of accountability, and Johns Hopkins has failed to demonstrate adequate need for this police force (which will certainly cost quite a bit to fund) and provided little to justify its current stance following the past several years of calls seek alternative forms of community policing and security.

**Berger for SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Berger, Zackary

Position: FAV

I am a Johns Hopkins faculty member, proud resident of Baltimore City, and physician to patients who work for, study at, and live near Johns Hopkins. I am writing in support of Senator Jill Carter's SB0276, which would repeal the legislation giving Johns Hopkins University permission to found its own private, armed police department.

The original legislation, in keeping with the very idea of university private police forces, is based not on evidence that such a police force would be effective (for that is lacking), neither on the expressed will and preference of Hopkins-adjacent communities. These were ignored time and again in the hasty run-up, then abandonment, then final full-throttle force-feeding that led to its approval. Neither is it based on deliberate attention to the critiques of Hopkins faculty, students, staff, or patients (these were met with scorn and opacity). The effect of armed police on neighborhood health was not considered, nor the potential deleterious influence on the hospital that would be under the private police's jurisdiction.

The legislation is a waste of money, time, and attention. We need to place police under community control, not multiply firearms on our city streets based on a model of violent subjugation. Private police forces are even less accountable than the horror show that is the Baltimore City police. Johns Hopkins jammed this legislation down the throat of Baltimore. .It is high time to extract it.

**written\_testimony\_SB0276\_signed.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bowring, Mary Grace

Position: FAV

To whom it may concern,

My name is Mary Grace Bowring, I am a voting resident of District 46 and an MD-PhD student at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. I am writing to you **in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.**

Will you join the community you have been elected to serve, and support and vote for SB0276?

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Will you stand with the people of East Baltimore and support SB0276?

I will consider your actions when I vote again. We look forward to publicly discussing your response.

Thank you for your time,



**Mary Grace Bowring, MPH**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

MD-PhD Candidate | Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

MPH Epidemiology | George Washington University '15

BS Mathematics | University of the South '12

mbowrin1@jhmi.edu

# **SB0276 Johns Hopkins University.pdf**

Uploaded by: Britt, Adiena

Position: FAV

SB0276 Johns Hopkins University - Police Department – Repeal

Stance: Support

Testimony: My name is Adiena C. Britt and I am a resident of the 45<sup>th</sup> Legislative District of Baltimore city. I am writing to offer my support for SB0276 as a full Repeal of the JHU Private Police Department. As someone who has been engaged in, and witnessed several cases of peaceful civil actions to protest various causes in and around the Johns Hopkins University Campus, I can attest to the overreach and abuses of this private police force. This force is not only redundant within City Limits, but is also rife with “bad apples” that move from being employed by the BCPD onto this force since it’s considered a more cushy and profitable position without all of the potential risk of being a BCPD officer.

I personally know individuals who were assaulted, abused, and placed under false arrest to be handed over to BCPD, as the JHU private police seem to work in conjunction with BCPD. They are beyond the reproach of citizens having a means to report misconduct, and any reporting seems to fall on deaf ears. No one in positions of authority at JHU are willing to hold any of these officers accountable which opens the door wide for abuses and misconduct. There appears to be no oversight of this entity, and the allowance of this police force should be repealed and disallowed sooner rather than later.

Please allow this bill to be presented to the full Senate and House and passed into Law.

Thank you.

Adiena C. Britt

6014 Old Harford Rd

Baltimore, MD 21214



**SB0276Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Carter, Nicole

Position: FAV

My name is Nicole Carter, and I am a PhD Candidate in Biochemistry, Cellular, and Molecular Biology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. I am writing in support of SB0276, which would repeal legislation allowing Johns Hopkins University to establish a private police department. My Black, Latinx, and Indigenous peers have consistently said that the private police force is a threat to their safety on campus. Many of these students have already experienced racial profiling and harassment from Johns Hopkins security officers, and those experiences will only worsen with armed police officers patrolling campus. Furthermore, the establishment of a university police force will increase policing in the areas surrounding Johns Hopkins campuses. As the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Eric Garner, Philando Castile, and many others have shown, interactions with police are dangerous and often deadly for Black Americans, including those who have not committed crimes and have no criminal record. There is also a lack of evidence that policing is an effective strategy for crime prevention. Finally, the private police force raises a host of accountability issues, as this would be the first time a private university in Maryland was permitted to have its own police force.

I therefore strongly support the repeal of the Johns Hopkins private police force. I urge the university to re-invest these funds in holistic, community-centered approaches to public safety, such as Safe Streets and Baltimore Ceasefire.

Sincerely,

Nicole Carter

**LChen\_Testimony to SUPPORT SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Chen, Li

Position: FAV

**To:** Senator William C. Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
**From:** Li Chen, MPH; Student at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and former student at the School of Public Health  
**Date:** January 19, 2021  
**Re:** Support for SB 0276, to Repeal the Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD)

I am a public health professional, medical student, and concerned resident of Baltimore writing to **strongly support SB0276 to repeal provisions related to the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD)**. As a trainee at Johns Hopkins Hospital and concerned resident who has lived near both East Baltimore and Homewood campuses, I have no doubt that the creation of JHPD would exacerbate longstanding wounds between the University/Hospital and surrounding communities, perpetuate police violence, and threaten the safety and health of all of us but especially of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

While individual police officers may be against racism, policing systems in the US are founded on an agenda of surveillance based on race and class – and the JHPD would be no different. My Black and Brown friends, mentors, neighbors, and patients feel this surveillance. My Black and Brown classmates, professors, and attending physicians share how they must put in extra effort to dress formally when walking on campus, in the hospital, and around the city so as to not be targeted. My Black and Brown patients share how they feel when they experience physical force to quell their “aggression” and “belligerence” as they appropriately request pain medications after a traumatic accident or surgery. (As an aside, while trainings on implicit bias and microaggressions help, no training can do away the racist origins of policing in the US which have so seeped into every aspect of its daily operations). My Black and Brown friends who are historical residents of the Middle East neighborhood – where more than 700 families were displaced in the early 2000s as Johns Hopkins Hospital was expanding, a fact that Hopkins still chooses to ignore – have received threats from various members of the Hopkins institution as they defend against schemes to continue to displace other families that have inhabited East Baltimore for generations.

Policing has often been used in conjunction with other efforts to gentrify communities and “rid” communities of members that are seen as less profitable to an institution – and the JHPD would be no different. In fact, in considering other actions of the Hopkins institution – including the historical and continued displacement of poor families in the Middle East, the suing of indigent patients in East Baltimore for medical debt leading to many of their bankruptcy and now homelessness, all while Hopkins receives large sums of money from the State to provide in charity care – it is clear that the creation of a JHPD constitutes part of a larger racist and classist agenda to displace surrounding poor communities and communities of color.

As the events of this year have illuminated, more than ever, the disproportionate threat of policing to the lives and health of Black and Brown communities, the unfortunate reality is that unjustified shootings and/or killings are likely if a Hopkins police force were to proceed. Furthermore, it would destroy any efforts that Hopkins has made to mend relationships with marginalized communities of Baltimore, to care for its own students, faculty, and staff – as we have made it clear through numerous petitions, calls, and protests which the Hopkins administration has repeatedly chosen to ignore – to diversify its workforce, to fight against health inequities, and to stay true to its mission of “improving the health of our community and the world”. It is hard to overstate the devastating impacts that a Hopkins police force would have on us, on our communities (both within and outside of Hopkins), and even on the Hopkins reputation and on setting precedents for further private policing in the US. On the other hand, repealing the provisions would allow us to begin to imagine alternatives to policing that are rooted in equity and justice, and to use the funds that would be dedicated to JHPD to improving patient care and education, improving our communities, and addressing dire social issues that are killing the lives of so many. I therefore stand by my many friends and colleagues in urging you to strongly support this bill.

**SB0276 Support Testimony JHPD BFBJ.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cocke, Abigail

Position: FAV



*Many struggles, one mission.*

## Testimony SUPPORTING SB0276

January 19, 2021

Dear members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

My name is Abby Cocke and I am a resident of Baltimore City in District 43 and a strong supporter of SB0276. On behalf of Baltimore for Border Justice, a local advocacy and aid organization, I am submitting this testimony to urge you to SUPPORT SB0276, *Johns Hopkins University – Police Department – Repeal*.

When our communities are over-policed, it draws stark borders between who may move freely and who is targeted. A private JHU police force is not supported by students, staff, or community members in affected neighborhoods, because we know that it will expand and empower a violent system that already targets and disproportionately harms immigrants, people of color, gender and sexual minorities, the homeless, the disabled and neuro-atypical, and anyone else who doesn't fit in. In a poll filled out by more than a third of under-graduates, fully 75% were opposed. Over 100 faculty members have come out against it, and over 6,000 people from the school and surrounding neighborhoods have signed a petition in opposition. A month-long sit-in against the plan drew broad participation and formal support from the school's Student Government Association. How then can it carry forward with legitimacy?

Amongst our members and our friends, we have people who have been baselessly harassed, beaten, and arrested on their own blocks by existing Hopkins security, well outside of the Hopkins campuses and while in no way posing any disturbance or threat. We also have people who are passionately opposed because of their own knowledge of the brutality of the existing police forces in Baltimore, of the ways these forces move around like predator priests being assigned new parishes, and of the ways that JHU President Ron Daniels and his backers disdain our voices and safety already. The sit-in itself was attacked by a white supremacist teacher and Hopkins security failed to intervene, as outlined in the damning fact-finding report commissioned afterwards by the university (<https://facultyassembly.jhu.edu/files/2019/12/Homewood-Faculty-Assembly-Fact-Finding-Committee-Report.pdf>, page 29), drawing further grave concerns about the idea that Hopkins needs more security because it cares about the safety of its students and community.

For a powerful account in favor of this legislation from a very different perspective, we encourage you to read the words of Baltimore Police Department veteran Larry Smith, who lays out the case against the specific officers already involved with Hopkins security, with the process itself, and with similar models across the country and locally that have caused deaths rather than preventing them: <https://theappeal.org/johns-hopkins-universitys-private-police-force-will-bring-more-cops-to-an-overpoliced-baltimore/>

Thank you for your attention and for doing the right thing.

Sincerely,  
*Abby Cocke*

Abby Cocke  
Co-founder, Baltimore for Border Justice  
3616 Rexmere Road  
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443-631-0432

# **Support SB0276 to Repeal Hopkins Police.pdf**

Uploaded by: Copland, Andrea

Position: FAV

I am writing to you in support of SB0276 as a resident of Baltimore City and alumna/employee of Johns Hopkins University, to repeal Hopkins' private police. Will you join the community, and support and vote for SB0276?

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Will you stand with the people of East Baltimore and support SB0276? We look forward to publicly discussing your response.

Thank you,

Andrea Copland



**SB0276 SUPPORT TESTIMONY.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cortes, Dre

Position: FAV

My name is Dre Cortes, and I am a Latinx Transgender individual in the Charles Village community who has suffered physical and emotional harm at the hands of a violent and unhinged Baltimore City Sheriff who was working secondary employment for Johns Hopkins University Police Department. It is out of my own harrowing experience that I sincerely urge you to support SB0276- Johns Hopkins University Police Department Repeal because it is the only means by which to restore justice and fairness to our East Baltimore communities.

I am living proof that the mere existence of the violent system that is the JHU Police Department is extremely dangerous for our community. I have routinely witnessed JHU Police Officers harassing Black and Brown people in our community and unreasonably and unlawfully questioning their motives and movements. In August of 2019, I approached Baltimore City Deputy Sheriff Richard Watts who was assigned to the corner of 27<sup>th</sup> and Guilford Avenue as a JHU officer. Deputy Watts was harassing a black man as he was merely walking up the street. When I confronted Deputy Watts about his misconduct, he began to aggressively argue with me and ultimately he falsely accused me of assaulting him by allegedly "touching his arm" (I am 5'1 and 125 lbs, whereas he is over 6 feet tall and weighs over 300 lbs). The officer then violently took me to the ground and pinned me to the cement. I had bruises, cuts, and abrasions all over me. His attack put me in in the ER, where he then handcuffed me to a bed and sat in the hospital room next to me in a grimacing manner for 8+ hours. He then hauled me off to Central Booking where I was wrongfully detained for over 16 hours. Why? Simply because I witnessed him harassing a Black man who was only passing by, and when I used my camera to bear witness to the interaction, the officer became agitated and aggressive and violated my right to simple human decency by violently attacking me. It is important to note that the bogus criminal charges filed by Deputy Watts against me were summarily dismissed in court.

I have lived in my neighborhood for almost 6 years now, at address 2717 Guilford Ave, Baltimore, MD 21218- District 12. I am proud to be a member of this community and to be a leader in this community who is connected to the pulse and the people in our community. I am intentional about caring for my community by volunteering my time and effort with organizations and neighbors alike in an effort to improve life for everyone here. Before this incident, I had never been arrested in my life, and I never have since. I had also never before in my life felt the sense of fear and danger I felt that night when I survived this heinous act of brutality at the hands of the John Hopkins Police Force. I can only thank God that I did not suffer the same tragic fate as Tyrone West, who was killed at the hands of a Morgan State University Police Officer.

I know the serious challenges that our neighborhoods in Baltimore face. But deploying a culturally insensitive, overly aggressive, and wholly unnecessary police presence in our neighborhoods is absolutely not the right answer. In fact, it is a major problem because I am unfortunately not alone. I know several others who

have suffered at the hands of JHU's Police Force. I also know I am not alone in supporting the repeal. In a poll of more than 1/3 of JHU under-graduates, 75% were opposed to the JHU Police presence. Over 100 JHU faculty members have spoken out in opposition of the force, and over 6,000 people from the JHU community and surrounding neighborhoods have signed a petition in protest.

More importantly, all of the data available regarding this type of University policing model shows that police forces like JHU's are wholly detrimental to the surrounding communities; they hurt exponentially more than they help. Let's compel JHU to use the massive amount of money needed for its police force to actually invest in the lifeblood of our communities: to create the jobs it promised, to infuse resources into the community as it promised. We must compel JHU, as Dr. King said of America, to make good on the "Bad Check" it has written to East Baltimore, not encourage the institution to add to the harmful effects of the white supremacist system of criminal justice.

Thank you for your time. We need SB0276 passed this legislative session.

Please stand up strong for the people and remove JHU Police Department.

**Danahy, M. SB 276 Comment.pdf**

Uploaded by: Danahy, Molly

Position: FAV

I support Senator Carter's bill to repeal the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins University private police force. I stand with students, faculty, and community members who oppose the creation of an unaccountable armed private law enforcement department at Johns Hopkins.

Molly Danahy

# **Statement on Hopkins Police Force.pdf**

Uploaded by: Daniel, Andrew

Position: FAV

I have been a professor at Johns Hopkins University for over twelve years. I understand the concerns and anxieties that drive the proposal for a private police force, but I am strongly opposed to the creation of this force because I believe that it is not in the interests of the safety and well-being of my own students, and it is not in the interests of the safety and well-being of my neighbors and community members in Baltimore. Studies in sociology and public health on the impact of police interactions upon youth of color abundantly demonstrate the profoundly negative effect of being repeatedly questioned, interrogated and stopped by police officers. We have all seen the vigils and memorials on behalf of those killed by police across our country, including, as in the case of Tyrone West on the campus of Morgan State, the tragic and all too familiar spectacle of armed officers using deadly force and ending the lives of people they are supposed to protect and serve. There is no need to militarize the space around Hopkins campuses, and doing so will polarize ongoing patterns of inequality, creating a kind of “two-tier” system of citizenship in Baltimore. The implicit message of such a force is that the lives of Hopkins students matter more than the lives of their neighbors. Furthermore, there is simply no way to ensure that Hopkins students, especially immigrants, students of color, and queer/trans students, won’t be subjected to profiling and harassment because of stereotypes about the implied or imagined face of who “belongs” on our campuses. There will be no turning back from the kind of violent incidents that we can expect once we have omnipresent armed patrols. This is the absolutely the wrong direction for a world class research university to pursue, and it sets a disturbing precedent for university/city partnerships. I don’t want to lose a single neighbor, and I don’t want to lose a single student, to police violence. I urge you not to let Hopkins have a private police force.

- Drew Daniel, Jan 19, 2021

# **SB0276 Written Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Dean, Lorraine

Position: FAV



Written Testimony of Lorraine T. Dean, ScD  
Support of SB0276: Repeal JHU Police Department (JHUPD)  
1/19/21

Opposing the Hopkins police force is of vital importance to me because as a Hopkins faculty member and East Baltimore community member, I will be influenced by their presence both at home and at work. When I learned that the JHUPD would move forward, I felt my best course of action would be to join the Johns Hopkins Police Accountability Board (before it was suspended), to which I was accepted.

My concerns about a JHUPD were both personal and professional. My personal concerns stem from having lived in several places that saw increased police presence while I lived there. Sadly, it led to racial profiling and additional harassment to me and the other members of my Black family, as well as emotional, time, and financial costs of fighting false allegations. I continue to have concerns about the potential for racial profiling, given that the JHPD may hire officers from the existing Baltimore Police Department which, just a few years ago, was cited by the US Department of Justice for its egregious racial profiling. My concerns are justified, as confirmed by the recent domestic terrorist attacks on the US Capitol, the uses of unnecessary force on peaceful Black Lives Matter protesters, and growing evidence in [other parts of the world](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/21/world/europe/germany-far-right-neo-nazis-police.html) (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/21/world/europe/germany-far-right-neo-nazis-police.html>) that US police forces have been infiltrated by openly racist agents, that cannot be trusted to protect the health and safety of Black and Brown people. Over 6,152 community members join me in opposing a police force, as evidenced by [this petition](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpsB7_92QbqA11C4ApIZqUVMmVL4Tj6l1Td2VV0bwoA1ba0g/viewform?gxids=7628) ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpsB7\\_92QbqA11C4ApIZqUVMmVL4Tj6l1Td2VV0bwoA1ba0g/viewform?gxids=7628](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpsB7_92QbqA11C4ApIZqUVMmVL4Tj6l1Td2VV0bwoA1ba0g/viewform?gxids=7628)).

My professional concerns come from my work with students to identify studies on the relationship between policing and health, [which we've made public](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Zf4_2mCs1rXL78KtlvsXUPQjabt5_kXt38THqReoT2Q/edit?ts=5f0f83b2) ([https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Zf4\\_2mCs1rXL78KtlvsXUPQjabt5\\_kXt38THqReoT2Q/edit?ts=5f0f83b2](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Zf4_2mCs1rXL78KtlvsXUPQjabt5_kXt38THqReoT2Q/edit?ts=5f0f83b2)). In reviewing the data, studies overwhelmingly show that greater police presence increase the risks of adverse mental and physical health (including death). Thus, as a public health expert, I cannot support any activities that increase police presence. But in addition to what I've explored in my work, I've been witness to how police presence harms me and family firsthand. Additionally, I am concerned about the use of an armed police force: more guns are not a solution or evidence-based preventive technique to stem violence and are likely to cause more harm than good. I am not the only faculty member at Hopkins expressing concern: in summer of 2020, Johns Hopkins Faculty Senate sent a resolution to Hopkins' President Ron Daniels requesting that the JHUPD be abandoned. This resolution was sent by the most powerful faculty representatives we have as faculty members.

Seeing so many recent public examples of the violence and unnecessary death that police have exacted on Black people terrifies me as a Black citizen with a Black family and Black partner. It's especially terrifying knowing that so many of these heinous acts

go unpunished because of structural barriers like the Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights that protects police from facing public accountability when they act badly.

Given all that we have seen with policing across our country, knowing that Hopkins still has the authority to move forward with a police force concerns me all the more. Despite that the JH Police Accountability Board members attempted to form a group that would truly hold any new police force accountable, our group was constantly met with barriers, poor communication, and a lack of resources that stymied our ability to move forward with our charge. In its first few months the JHPAB wasn't able to move past basic administrative issues like scheduling regular meetings or writing a collective letter to state our commitments, leaving many of us feeling hopeless that true accountability would ever happen. The experiment of having an accountability board has not worked, and I believe our only recourse is to abandon the idea of a JHU police force.

Thus, I urge you to vote in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.

**sb testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: DeBrosse, Ren

Position: FAV

My name is Ren DeBrosse and I am a first year medical student at Johns Hopkins University. I am also a resident of District 46 and I worked for a Johns Hopkins affiliate on the East Baltimore medical campus for two years prior to matriculating in the School of Medicine. I love this city so much that I decided to spend at least six years of my life here for my scientific and medical training. My relationship with the Middle East community has also grown in that time, as I have done service work with that community and consider them family. It is for these reasons I must speak out against the formation of the Hopkins private police and in support of SB0276.

The deployment of private police in the Middle East neighborhood and Charles village targets an area that already has strong Hopkins security presence. Racism within the Hopkins security force has been reported to the Office of Inclusion and Diversity as of summer of 2020 but has not addressed. If there is already a lack of accountability within the security team, we lack evidence to support that a police force would be held accountable, either.

The track record for additional police force as a means to reduce crime is not convincing and is also tied to the death of countless Black people across the country. Six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 police killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and others did not save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. To follow the track record of university policing, one needs only look as far as the tragic and preventable death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer. We see the harm that University policing promises and community members, both residents and employees, should not have to live in fear of an additional private police presence.

The money that would be spent on the private police force could be more effective at promoting safety in Baltimore by putting it in the hands of community organizations. Middle East community organizations have repeatedly and continue to ask for university funds to come directly to them so that they may make autonomous decisions about their neighborhoods. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs— 20% of what they promised. JHU has not brought their promises to bring community aid to fruition and instead focuses its efforts on a police force that the has elicited a large dissenting voice:

The institution of this private police force does not take into account or acknowledge the over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#), which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

I hope for the sake of myself, my neighbors, my coworkers, and the patients that I am beginning to care for that this bill repealing the Johns Hopkins University Police Department will pass. I look forward to following this legislation and continuing discussions about what practices are best for the safety of all community members.

**sb0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Diamant-Cohen, Yoella

Position: FAV

Subject: SB-0276

I believe the motion to repeal Hopkins Police in the area is vital to the community and to the lives of the neighborhood which the aim to effect.

The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence. In that same neighborhood, over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in this petition which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

Moreover, research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

The community in East Baltimore want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Sincerely,

Yoella Diamant-Cohen

**SB276 PDF JHU Repeal Final Ditz.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ditz, Toby

Position: FAV

Toby Ditz  
Professor Emeritus & Academy Professor, Johns Hopkins University  
1416 Bolton St, Baltimore, MD 21217  
toby.ditz@jhu.edu / 410-669-0085

January 2021

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB276**

**TO:** Chair, William C. Smith, Vice Chair, Jeff Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

As a resident of Baltimore City (D40), and as a faculty member who taught at Johns Hopkins University for 36 years before retiring and still retains an active affiliation there, I strongly support SB276 and the end of the JHU Police Department.

I opposed the original enabling legislation for the JHU Police Department in 2019, and events since have only reinforced my conviction. At the height of the nationwide protests over the police killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others, over 6000 Baltimoreans and JHU faculty, students, and staff, joined by over two dozen local organizations, signed a petition demanding that the President and the Board of Trustees end the JHU Police Department. The petition and the momentum it generated produced a partial capitulation on the part of the JHU administration, a “suspension” of implementation for three years ([Baltimore Sun](#), June, 2020).

Like the other originators and signers of that [petition](#), I believe we should end the JHU Police Department now, *before* there are boots on the ground. It is wrong for the City of Baltimore, and it sets the wrong precedent. It is also antithetical to every overarching goal of serious reform that we seek to achieve in the legislature this year.

First, the JHU Police Department does not accord with our goal of reducing the systemic racial harms of police violence. The majority of JHU undergraduates and of the Black faculty believe an armed police force will reduce, not enhance safety on campus and in the surrounding neighborhoods. I agree. The record of serious injuries and fatal shootings resulting from the use of excessive force by campus police is disheartening. And, no case is more vivid in the minds of Baltimoreans than the killing of Tyrone West.

Second, accountability is a cornerstone of state-wide police reform initiatives. Yet the authorization of an armed police force run by a private institution moves us in the wrong direction. The residents of Baltimore can vote out a mayor who appoints an ineffective or incompetent police chief. But neither JHU students or employees nor our neighbors can remove the University President who approves the police plan and hires the head of Security.



Simply put, universities are not democratic institutions. For that reason, too, they are not governed by the standards of publicity that in principle apply to public governing bodies. One example is the opaque decision-making that led JHU leadership to call in over eighty members of the Baltimore Police Department to end the Garland Hall sit-in in May 2019, a decision that led to an independent investigation and highly critical [report](#) by an independent fact-finding committee of Homewood Faculty Assembly, of which I am a member. In short, the people's control over a police force run by private institutions is indirect and attenuated.

Similarly, the sheer proliferation of overlapping jurisdictions and competing lines of authority among multiple police departments also make it much harder for Baltimoreans to exert effective oversight over the police in their city. This is especially problematic for the beleaguered residents of adjacent neighborhoods who would have to live under a dual regime: some East Baltimore community organizations are already organizing to forestall the potentially worst effects of simultaneous policing by the BPD and the JHU PD. This patchwork is a roadblock to robust accountability.

Finally, the JHU Police Department is also at direct odds with another fundamental goal of reform: reducing the footprint of policing in favor of a serious commitment to alternative strategies for enhancing public safety. An armed JHU police force seeking to patrol its campus perimeters reinforces the image of Hopkins as a “gated community,” especially among East Baltimoreans, who, remembering the recent history of massive housing displacement, view with suspicion current efforts at redevelopment as a form of gentrification. Ironically, its continuation will *undermine* rather than enhance the efforts of those JHU faculty and staff who are already supporting the development of community-driven alternatives to public safety: good mediation programs, youth education, rapid delivery of mental health services, and more.

Ending the short life of the JHU Police Department should be part of the 2021 session's program of serious police reform. Repeal is a must if we want to ensure that all Baltimoreans, especially its black residents, are safe and have meaningful oversight over all of the armed police in their City.

I urge you to report favorably on **SB276**.

**SB 276 Testimony (1).pdf**

Uploaded by: Donegan, Juna

Position: FAV

01/19/20

Dear Senators,

I am a resident of Charles Village and live on 31st street only a couple blocks from the Hopkins homewood campus. I am writing to urge your support of Senate Bill 276 to prevent the creation of a dangerous and unaccountable Johns Hopkins University private police force.

If this bill is not passed, armed JHU campus police will be permitted to patrol city streets in Baltimore without the explicit requirement that they comply with the accountability measures detailed in the federal consent decree issued in *United States v. Police Department of Baltimore City*. Compliance with the consent decree should be the bare minimum requirement for any armed security force in Baltimore, a city whose black citizens live in fear of a heavily armed and notoriously corrupt police force every day. JHU has used violent crime as the primary justification for their police force, yet their officers will not actually be allowed to intervene legally in these sorts of crimes. JHU has used the threat of violent crime to try and scare citizens into supporting their private police force, but their force will only be legally allowed to respond to a few of these crimes. This internal conflict will surely result in illegal and untoward collaboration between BPD and the JHU private force. JHU already has a security force of over 1,000 personnel, including 63 unarmed officers with arrest powers and 63 armed off-duty BPD officers and deputies. If they already have a security force of this size and public safety is still such an enormous issue, could it be that a larger security force does not always correspond with greater public safety?

Public safety is a critical shared goal of everyone who lives, works, and attends school in Baltimore City. Everyone wants safe neighborhoods; and safe neighborhoods are ones that are both free of violent crime and unlawful policing practices. Time and again in Baltimore City, we have seen approaches to public safety that have done anything but make low-income communities of color feel safer, such as discriminatory practices against Black residents; unlawful stops, searches, and arrests; and excessive force, all described at length in the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) 2016 report on its investigation of the BPD. If JHU was actually interested in the safety of all the citizens of Baltimore city, they would put their significant capital and political power into further supporting community centers, businesses, and schools, and into building egalitarian relationships with Baltimore city organizations who are already fighting for humane and useful solutions to violence in Baltimore.

I share JHU's concern for student safety as well as the concerns of the many JHU faculty and students who say a private campus police force is not the answer. Community members and organizations have been vehemently opposed to the JHU police force since its inception. Community organizations have consistently been kept in the dark about Hopkins plans.

Supporting Senate Bill 276 will protect and support the many neighborhood organizations and community members who have rallied in opposition to a private JHU police force. Passing SB 276 will prevent the wave of racial profiling and violent police murders which will surely follow should a JHU police force be created.

I hope that my testimony is instructive in the passage of this bill.

Respectfully,

Juna Donegan  
Guilford Ave, Baltimore MD

**SB0276SUPPORT.pdf**

Uploaded by: Doogan, Suzanne

Position: FAV

1/19/21

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of [SB0276](#) to repeal the Johns Hopkins University private police force. I have lived and worked as an educator in Baltimore City for the past nine years, and am an alumnus of the Johns Hopkins School of Education Masters in Teaching program. I completed my teaching internship at the Henderson-Hopkins school in East Baltimore, the area in which JHPD would first be deployed. Through my experience as an educator, I've become intimately invested in the lives of my students and their families. I demand that Johns Hopkins's plans for policing be repealed for the health and well-being of the children that I have worked with.

The Middle East neighborhood where Hopkins police will be deployed is already heavily policed by Baltimore officers, and patrolled by Hopkins security. When I commuted to the Middle East neighborhood in order to complete my teaching internship for my Masters degree, I saw how militarized the presence of Johns Hopkins security officers already was near the medical campus. The first time I walked along Ashland Avenue, I was shaken to feel that I was in an area being colonized by Hopkins, for the interest of wealth and prestige, which hypothetically, according to the Hopkins lore, would eventually trickle down to long-time neighborhood residents. I'd heard heart-warming stories from Hopkins administration about collaboration and community-building between the institution and the community at large, but as I learned about Hopkins's work with the East Baltimore Development Initiative and the displacement of over 700 families from their homes in 2002, I saw things differently. During my walks, I didn't see many neighbors out and about or exchanging greetings not because there hadn't been deep connections and strong bonds, but because the neighborhood itself had been destabilized by Hopkins's actions.

And the militarized climate that Hopkins fostered extended beyond the streets. When I entered the Henderson-Hopkins school building each day, I was greeted by tight security and an extremely sterile atmosphere. The school itself, sponsored by Johns Hopkins, seeks to offer a "whole-brain" and progressive research-based approach to learning. Instead, in the classrooms found along its quiet hallways, primarily Black and lower-income students are taught to submit to directions and conform rather than assert their voice and choice through creative problem-solving. Voice and choice of those most affected has similarly had no place within Hopkins's plans for a private police force that will disproportionately affect the Middle East's long-time residents -- many of the families whose children I worked with. Instead of engaging in creative and collaborative problem-solving to foster a healthy environment for students and community members, Hopkins is pursuing policing despite its own renowned public health research and the input of community leaders who offer differing perspectives. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration.

JHU has made multiple promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. It is impossible not to see Hopkins policing as a continuation of Hopkins's extractive relationship to the areas, like the Middle East, in which its campuses are located. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past. This transparency and respect is what safety truly looks like.

Best,

Suzanne Doogan

# **Testimony - Support SB0276 - Rosalie Eck.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eck, Rosalie

Position: FAV

Dear Maryland State Senators,

I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. I am a community member of 7 years with no direct ties to Johns Hopkins. However, my neighbors, friends, family (with and without connection to JHU) and myself will be directly and negatively affected by an increase in extra-city policing. An increase in police does not increase safety for me in my neighborhood or home. An increase in police will disproportionately affect Black people in and around Hopkins' three campuses.

There is little grounds for trust in JHU's policing as evidenced by long-standing disregard for communities of color surrounding institutions' buildings. The communities of Middle East Baltimore have had promises broken by JHU over the years. For example, the Minority Inclusion Agreement in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

There is also little grounds for trust that a private police force would lead to increased safety, especially for those most marginalized. Research and history show that police reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another. Not to mention the murder of Tyrone West at the hands of another university police officer, this time at Morgan State.

I stand with the Coalition Against Policing at Hopkins in the demand that the University place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. That is what safety would look like.

The community has already spoken in the form of a petition, testimony and civil action, none of which have been acknowledged or deeply considered by the Hopkins administration. Will you stand with the community and people of East Baltimore and support SB0276? We look forward to publicly discussing your response.

Sincerely,  
Rosalie Eck  
3117 Guilford Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
[rosalie.eck@gmail.com](mailto:rosalie.eck@gmail.com)



# **Legislative Testimony SB276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Elliott, Richard DeShay

Position: FAV

Legislative Testimony:  
SB276

I strongly support Senator Carter's Senate Bill 276 to remove the Johns Hopkins University Private Police, and prevent private schools in the future from establishing private police forces.



By Authority: Rich Elliott For Maryland Keanuu Smith-Brown, Campaign Chair Christian Hillian, Treasurer

# **Bruce Emmerling - Letter.pdf**

Uploaded by: Emmerling, Bruce

Position: FAV

Dear committee,

As a citizen of Baltimore city, I feel that my testimony must be read regarding the attempt at creating an armed police force on the campuses of Johns Hopkins University. Repealing the bill is must to help ensure community integrity and safety for all peoples living around the campuses. Implementing an armed police force would not only affect the school and its students but also many residents living within reach of each campus. The city of Baltimore already has a police force that is nominally held accountable by the public. Creating a second police force that was privatized and armed would go against the concept of a publicly accountable force beholdng to residents of the city.

In a time of many deaths from homicides, we need safety measures to reduce such human losses. Unfortunately, the rash attempted at providing a greater degree of safety for Johns Hopkins students is not the answer. Why is this? One reason is that Johns Hopkins University has not addressed alternatives in providing a safe environment for its campuses and nearby communities. Some of the most basic of safety measures such as providing adequate lighting have not been researched, let alone implemented. The campuses have too many areas that are unlit and kept closed off, making them potential areas where crimes could occur. The campuses could also use more call boxes, cameras, and other measures for security. Yet the school decided just to create a private police force and ignoring other issues of safety.

Not only would students be affected by a private police force, many residents living either near campuses or in developments would also be in daily contact with such a force. Today the Baltimore City police force provides policing through these communities along with the current Hopkins unarmed security force. Adding a second force would create situations where residents would find themselves interacting with a new police force that would have limited public control, oversight, and lack public information on its operations. Police accountability is vital in fostering a climate of approachable police interactions where the community can learn to trust the police. At least that is a major goal that may or may not be met. Implementing a private police force would go against such a possibility from occurring.

Police alone without community support often fail to reduce homicide and violence rates. While our police force has had major problems with its interactions with the community, there are still attempts at reaching towards a greater community interaction. Its vital not just for crime reduction but for ensuring safety of the city's citizens. This means increasing trust between police and residents, working to reduce or eliminate instances of unwarranted police brutality, and helping the community to see the police as more than enforcers of laws. This means that we need to reform the current police force along with major changes. This would be difficult but it is doable. However, simply ignoring the community-policing model with the implementation of a private police force would be an enanthema to this process.

Creating a police force is a rushed answer with little evidence that it would work. Worse, it would be detrimental to a fragile relationship between the residents of Baltimore and police systems. It would be seen as less accountable and create a potentially more aggressive presence of law enforcers with unknown regard to the rights of residents. Johns Hopkins University needs to examine alternatives in securing its campuses, reach out to nearby communities, and work towards a greater system of engagement with the city. Lets repeal the current law and work towards fairer, more balanced system of safety.

**ASE\_SB0276Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eneim, Andrew

Position: FAV

I am a Johns Hopkins Graduate Researcher and proud Baltimore community member writing to support Senator Jill Carter's SB0276 to repeal the ability for Johns Hopkins University to create a private, armed police department.

In keeping with the history of Hopkins exploiting Black bodies through the likes of the affront to the family of Henrietta Lacks, lawsuits carried out for medical debt of disproportionately Black patients, and a long history of medical racism in this country, Johns Hopkins University is attempting to use this police force to further control the neighborhoods around its campuses. It is unconscionable to suggest that in a time of national reckoning with the ills of policing in this country, that the solution to a corrupt and ineffective Baltimore Police Department, of which the leaders of Baltimore City have no control, is to allow a private institution to create another police force that the city also does not have control over.

This institution has ignored the concerns of their faculty, nurses, students, and staff as well as the Baltimore City residents that would live with this policing every day in their own communities. Not only have community associations adjacent to Hopkins voted to oppose this police force, Hopkins affiliates of color strongly oppose the formation of this force. We do not support policing our patients, neighbors, and visitors to East Baltimore and Johns Hopkins. I implore you to support this bill, as the half a million dollars in lobbying by JHU does not matter more than the lives of people who are rising up to oppose this police force. Do the right thing.

**testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Fan, Juliana

Position: FAV

Dear to whom it may concern,

My name is Juliana Fan, I am a Baltimore resident and student at JHUSOM. I am writing in firm, unequivocal support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. s

The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. **Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore.** This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Sincerely,  
Juliana Fan



**Testimony SUPPORTING SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Feldenzer, Emile

Position: FAV

January 19, 2021

## Testimony SUPPORTING SB0276

Dear members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

I am submitting this testimony to urge you to SUPPORT SB0276, Johns Hopkins University – Police Department – Repeal.

To whom would the Johns Hopkins University Police Department be accountable? The answer is in the question: an elite, wealthy private institution that doesn't pay property taxes to the city of Baltimore. It's like something out of a dystopian novel. In the city of the Gun Trace Task Force, the city where human beings named Mya Hall, Tyrone West, Freddie Gray, and many others have died at the hands of police, the last thing we need is a group of armed officers even less accountable to the good of the communities they operate in. This is why a broad coalition of students, staff, community members, and organizations came together to oppose this private police force before it even materialized: we knew that far from making us safer, it would inflict harm on the most marginalized of us. A vote for this bill is a vote for the safety and dignity of Black people, people of color, homeless people, trans people, disabled people, and homeless folks. People without whom Baltimore would not be Baltimore.

I'll never forget the day I logged on to social media and saw the pictures of 80 police officers coming to arrest 7 protesters at JHU's Garland Hall, the door smashed in, the misgendering and verbal abuse directed at a trans woman. According to the Police Commissioner, this was an "appropriate response" to the sit-in (because no one was beaten or run over). To me, it just further illustrated the danger inherent in policing, the way it stifles dissent and democracy. Even in front of the cameras, even on its best behavior. This is exactly why the Johns Hopkins Police Department must be repealed.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Emile Feldenzer

**SB0276\_Fraser\_REPEAL.pdf**

Uploaded by: Fraser, Andrea

Position: FAV

To: Judicial Proceedings for SB0276 Repeal Johns Hopkins Police Department

Position: Favorable

I am a resident in the 43<sup>rd</sup> district, a Doctor in Public Health and Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. My family and I have lived in Baltimore for generations.

**JHU has actively ignored, dismissed, and evaded residents, students, staff, and critical stakeholders to pass previous legislation. They communicated with the legislature more than they did with Baltimore City, and the people they claim they “serve” and the police will serve, to get previous bills passed – how is that ok with you?**

Please consider that no amount of money makes Hopkins behavior ok. The fact **that they criticize the police department when they don't pay taxes** and think they can do a better job when they have **no experience or record of this capacity in the community**, should be enough to **repeal this incredibly undeserved power to police.**

As stated by the American Public Health Association, law enforcement violence is a public health issue. This goes far beyond the economics and fiduciary responsibility you have as senators to balance the budget. Claiming financial or budgetary restrictions does not excuse you from your job to, at least, not create an environment that encourages law enforcement violence. The JHU private police does exactly this. It is an invitation for increased policing over vulnerable populations- senior citizens, black residents, students dealing with sexual assault and violence.

Everything about the Hopkins private police initiative goes against what I was taught at Johns Hopkins, from social, environmental, racial, community and spiritual standpoints.

Since previous legislation was passed granting Hopkins private police and paving the way for many more private police forces, Hopkins relationship with my neighborhood has only deteriorated.

**We have reported racist social media profiles of current security officers and professors that physically assaulted students with ZERO recourse for the perpetrators violent behavior.**

**They are still on the security force or were able to quit without repercussions. These instances alone indicate how damaging the Hopkins private police will be on students and the surrounding community.**

If you do not repeal this bill, you are going against guidance from the American Public Health Association – the largest public health professional institution in the United States. In their national policy statement on Addressing Law Enforcement Violence as a public health issue, they detail how the “trainings” Hopkins claims they want to be done and technology they want to employ has already failed in addressing the issues of police violence. They state:

A public health strategy that centers community safety and prevents law enforcement violence should favor community-built and community-based solutions. APHA recommends the following actions by federal, state, tribal, and local authorities: (1) eliminate policies and practices that facilitate disproportionate violence against specific populations (including laws criminalizing these populations), (2) institute robust law enforcement accountability measures, (3) increase investment in promoting racial and economic equity to address social

determinants of health, (4) implement community-based alternatives to addressing harms and preventing trauma, and (5) work with public health officials to comprehensively document law enforcement contact, violence, and injuries.

Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) submitted as written testimony in addition to the thousands of signatures collected against the 2 previous attempts for creating the private police. None of this community feedback has been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. We have not been contacted or engaged with. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

May God have mercy on you,

Dr. Andrea Fraser

# **To Whom it may concern,.pdf**

Uploaded by: Froom, Moss

Position: FAV

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my support of the repeal of Senate Bill 276, the bill to repeal the Johns Hopkins Private Police Department. I believe that the creation of a Johns Hopkins private police force will endanger the lives of my friends and neighbors in Baltimore City.

We have seen time and time again, especially in the last few weeks, how police forces have aligned themselves with racism and white supremacy. Adding an additional police force in the neighborhoods- Charles Village, Remington, Waverly, where so many of my loved ones lives makes me genuinely afraid for their safety.

Please support this bill to repeal SB 276 and repeal the creation of the Johns Hopkins Private Police Force.

Thank you!

Best,  
Moss Froom  
517 Orkney Rd. #1  
Baltimore, Maryland 21212

**Testimony re HB336-SB276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Furstenberg, Francois

Position: FAV



François Furstenberg  
2122 E Pratt St.  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
410-878-2734

January 19, 2021

**Re: HB 336/ SB 276**

Dear Senators and Delegates:

I am writing this testimony in strong support of BH336/SB276, to repeal and prohibit private institutions of higher education. I write as a Baltimore City resident and as a faculty member at Johns Hopkins University. There are many reasons to support this legislation. Here are the ones I would like to highlight.

**1. The creation of a JHPD does not reflect the best interests of the institution.**

When Johns Hopkins University's leadership pushed this bill through the Maryland legislature, they did so in the face of vocal opposition from within the university and in affected neighborhoods. The university's leadership hired high-priced lobbyists, engaged in a public relations blitz, and exerted pressure on local leaders. There was **no grassroots support** for the legislation that authorized the private police. Speakers at the public forums organized by Johns Hopkins overwhelmingly expressed their opposition to the plan. On the Homewood campus, the undergraduate and graduate student associations voted to oppose the bill; a referendum organized by the student government found that 75% of undergraduates opposed the creation of a JHPD. Unionized university employees testified against the legislation, over 130 faculty members signed a letter against the bill. Meanwhile, several local neighborhood community groups expressed their firm opposition to a plan that would put armed officers on their streets unaccountable to their elected officials.

The university leadership that pushed this legislation through with their sheer political muscle **did not speak for any constituency other than the JHU Board of Trustees**, most of whose members do not live in Baltimore or in Maryland. The whole episode reflected extremely poorly on the university leadership.

**2. Private policing goes against the tide of current politics.**

The bad judgement of the university's leadership is attested to by the fact that it forced this legislation through just as a giant movement was gaining force against overpolicing and overincarceration of Black communities. From the very beginning, it was or should have been clear that there would be **no security benefit from a private police force**. Johns Hopkins already has more than one thousand security officers, including 63 off-duty police (who carry guns and have full power of arrest). They could hire as many more off-duty police as they wish. There are already an unknown number of Campus Police who have full arrest power on JHU property as "Special Police" under Maryland Law (Md. Code, Pub. Safety § 3-301 *et seq.*). These security officers can already carry guns if they have an individual state firearm permit. It is very hard to know how a new police force would improve campus security. Hopkins says that they can't make arrests, but this is misleading, since anyone in Maryland can forcibly detain someone if they have probable cause that the person has committed a felony, or has committed a misdemeanor breach of the peace in their presence. Meanwhile, since Hopkins will likely hire most, if not all, of their new police officers from the Baltimore Police Department, the immediate effect will be

to further exacerbate the problems of an already understaffed department charged with protecting the entire city.

### **3. A JHPD gains extreme protections.**

Currently, Johns Hopkins is strictly liable for the negligence or misconduct of its security officers. As a state-chartered police force, JHU officers will have qualified immunity from liability under federal law, thus dramatically reducing the university's liability. Additionally, a state-chartered JHPD would gain all the protections of Maryland's very controversial Law Enforcement Bill of Rights. Even if Johns Hopkins were to believe officers were guilty of misconduct they would be unable to fire or discipline them unless a trial board composed of other JHU police, including one of the same rank, agrees with JHU's assessment. In other words, these officers would have extraordinary protections denied even to tenured faculty.

### **4. Lack of accountability to the community.**

Johns Hopkins would gain police powers that extend well beyond university borders. Baltimore's majority Black residents living or simply passing through these areas would suddenly find themselves under the jurisdiction of a law enforcement outside of the control of their elected representatives. This **highly undemocratic arrangement** would have major ramifications on the relationship between the university and its neighbors for decades to come. Despite the university's protests to the contrary, the new police force would lack any meaningful oversight. The same university leadership that has pushed this bill in the face of student, faculty, and community opposition would be the one staffing the oversight board. I'll let you decide how meaningful and independent that oversight will be.

### **5. Finally: the symbolism.**

Johns Hopkins and so many of its employees and students have worked hard for many years to create a university that understands itself as part of, and bound up with, Baltimore city. The creation of a private police force charged with protecting some of the safest parts of the city sends precisely the wrong message. It conveys the very clear message that Hopkins Lives matter more than others.

Our reckless university leadership has undermined the credibility of the institution with their misguided push to create a private police force. The leadership lacks the wisdom or maturity to admit that it made a catastrophic mistake. I suspect they are looking for a way out of the mess they created and even if they do not see it, repealing the legislation that made the police force possible would be a huge favor to them. It clearly would be to the community.

Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely yours,



François Furstenberg  
Professor of History

**SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Galarraga, Joseph

Position: FAV

Joseph R. Galarraga  
300 Woodbourne Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21212

January 19, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter should serve as written testimony in support of SB0276. The bill is summarized as follows: "Repealing all provisions relating to the establishment and maintenance of a police department at the Johns Hopkins University, including all applicable authorizations, powers, requirements, and prohibitions on the University, University police officers, the Baltimore Police Department, and the Department of Legislative Services; etc.". As a resident of Baltimore City, I do not believe that a private police force that serves the interests of a private institution – especially one as monolithic as Johns Hopkins University – is in the best interest of all Baltimoreans. Baltimore hosts an incredibly diverse and varied community, and a private police department designed to protect the interests of a small segment of Baltimore's population has the potential to create unequal enforcement of the law. Additionally, this private police force presents concern with regards to accountability, as they will be contracted by the university instead of the residents of Baltimore. In conclusion, I support SB0276, and believe that the Johns Hopkins University police force provisions should be repealed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.R. Galarraga". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "J.R." and the last name "Galarraga" clearly distinguishable.

Joseph R. Galarraga

**SB0276\_testimony\_Gan.pdf**

Uploaded by: Gan, Quan

Position: FAV

To: Senator William C. Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
From: Quan Gan  
Date: January 19, 2021

Dear Senator Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Greetings! My name is Quan Gan. I am a resident of Baltimore City and a researcher working at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. I write to you in earnest support for SB0276, a bill that would repeal provisions relating to the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD). Adding more cops to one of the most heavily policed cities in the U.S. is a dangerous idea that we call on you to put to an end.

As employees of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, my colleagues and I are more than aware of the concerns about safety in the neighborhoods surrounding our campus. However, I believe that allowing Johns Hopkins to establish a private police department is not the right solution. The safety issues in many Baltimore communities are the result of widespread poverty and lack of access to job opportunities and social services, which Johns Hopkins University has regrettably contributed to in the past by not paying property taxes and by suing poor patients for medical debt. A private police department that is accountable only to Johns Hopkins itself would further alienate us from the surrounding community and the city at large without significantly improving campus safety.

Moreover, campus police departments in the US have a long track record of racist abuses against students and community members. At Yale, UCLA, the University of Chicago, and Arizona State University, among others, Black students, faculty, and community members have been harassed, tasered, shot, and assaulted by campus cops. In Baltimore, it was a Morgan State Police Officer who murdered Tyrone West in 2013. As an employee of color, I worry that my safety and the safety of my colleagues would in fact be threatened by the proposed private police department.

Even if a private police department were able to somewhat improve campus safety, I seriously doubt it would be a good place for Johns Hopkins to spend its money. Even before the start of the pandemic last year, Johns Hopkins was already taking austerity measures and cutting benefits for its employees citing financial difficulties. These austerity measures have only been redoubled in the wake of the pandemic, aggravating the situation for those employees who are already facing financial and work challenges. Just recently, the University decided to exclude all graduate students from a \$500 end-of-year relief check. If Johns Hopkins University really is on such a strained budget, why would it spend millions of dollars on a wasteful project such as a private police department?

The law authorizing the private police was unpopular among Hopkins students and faculty when it was first introduced and has proven even more unfavorable since. In the past two years, a groundswell of Johns Hopkins students and employees (me included) have constantly called on university administration and Board of Trustees to stop its push for a private police department. The University has chosen to ignore our demand and has instead used lies and misinformation to distort our message. It also threatened to use disciplinary actions against students who are vocal about this issue. Last year, amid a nationwide wave of protests following the police murder of George Floyd, Johns Hopkins only agreed to put a two-year pause to the establishment of a private police force instead of abandoning the endeavor altogether. It is quite transparent to employees and community members alike that the University is not responding to our demands sincerely but is only biding its time. At this point, I believe that the University administration will

only listen if the message comes from the General Assembly itself in the form of a law that explicitly prohibit them from pursuing their goal. That's why I am urging your favorable recommendation for SB0276. Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Quan Gan

**Draft Testimony - Caitlin Goldblatt 1\_19\_21.pdf**

Uploaded by: Goldblatt, Caitlin

Position: FAV



My name is Caitlin Goldblatt, I am the founder of Scan the Police in Baltimore, Maryland, and I am writing to support SB0276/HB0336. Since my organization began listening to and transcribing police radio traffic in Baltimore City on a near daily basis six months ago, it has further become apparent to me that adding an additional police force to this city will only compound current policing practices that already endanger city residents.

The Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) already receives a budget of over \$500 million annually, the largest police budget per capita in the United States. Charles Village and Abell, two of the neighborhoods immediately surrounding Johns Hopkins University, already have private security officers patrolling those areas. Many of those involved in private security operations are off-duty police officers, and there is no reason to believe that current or former Baltimore City Police Officers would not move from working as private security to joining a private police force at Johns Hopkins University.

Even the potential for overlap here concerns me, as many officers already engage in alarming behavior that actively targets people experiencing homelessness, activists, and Black and brown residents. Since the summer, I have personally heard police officers amassing around groups of roughly one dozen peaceful protesters at a ratio of two officers for every one protester; referring to anyone wearing black clothing as “antifa”; performing stop-and-frisk activities as part of their daily schedules on orders from superiors; responding to reports of drug overdoses without live-saving naloxone that officers are already provided; and arriving at mental health crises with neither medics nor crisis counselors in tow. In one instance of the latter, officers shot a man who experiences schizophrenia and was begging them to leave his home. The man was hospitalized for two weeks, then charged with allegedly brandishing a weapon at the officers who shot him; the State’s Attorney’s Office subsequently dropped the charges against the man.

I know this may seem like a controversial statement, but Baltimore City is already overpoliced. Officers here spend the vast majority of their time going business-to-business on their posts by matter of course, performing traffic stops, sitting on assigned corners to watch people and check for parking violations. They are not preventing violence in the city; almost every time a cop responds to a shooting scene, it is because a “shot spotter” sensor, many of which are placed in designated parts of the city, picked up discharge. If such an instance of violence occurred on a college campus, there would be nothing to stop anyone from calling the Baltimore City Police Department. There is no reason to funnel money into an additional, private police department that would also adhere to the Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights, and therefore less accountable than regular security guards are.

Finally, to those convinced a university police force would somehow be gentler or more responsive to its community, I would be remiss to discount the effects of preexisting private police forces in the city. In 2013, at least one Morgan State University police officer participated in the murder of Tyrone West alongside Baltimore City Police officers during a traffic stop. West was not even on the Morgan State University Campus at the time. This officer was not protecting students, nor were they protecting community members. A college campus is a place of learning, and it is as much of a home as anywhere else here. A home is not a place for armed police officers who are empowered to arrest dissidents, cause physical harm to people experiencing mental health crises, or heighten the tension of people just going about their days.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you will vote in favor of SB0276/HB0336.

**testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Gray, Chelsea

Position: FAV

Chelsea Gray, LMSW.

As a licensed social worker in the state of Maryland and a resident of Baltimore City, I call on the legislature to pass SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.

The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.

Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

# **SB 276 FAV Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition Test**

Uploaded by: Gudlavalleti, Rajani

Position: FAV



January 21, 2021

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: SUPPORT of Senate Bill 276 (Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal)**

Dear Chairman Smith and Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee members,

Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition (BHRC), an advocacy organization that mobilizes community members for the health, dignity, and safety of people targeted by the war on drugs and anti-sex worker policies, supports Senate Bill 276 (Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal).

We believe the Maryland Senate should act swiftly to bring this legislation to a vote and to repeal the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins University police department, including all applicable authorizations, powers, requirements, and prohibitions on the University, University police officers, the Baltimore Police Department, and the Department of Legislative Services.

We represent health care providers and professionals, including people who provide essential life-saving services in our communities. A large portion of our volunteers and supporters are justice-oriented Hopkins alum, students, staff, and or faculty. We strongly believe that a Hopkins police force will deteriorate any trusting relationship between Johns Hopkins University and Baltimore's communities. **As essential health care providers and harm reduction advocates, it is our obligation to support the repeal of the Johns Hopkins University police force.**

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation, and provide the following recommendations that we believe will strengthen it.

- **Ensure that Johns Hopkins University will not be permitted to establish a police force in the future.** Incidents of police brutality against residents in cities like Baltimore, continue to occur across the nation while the efforts toward police reform and accountability have been weak and ineffective. To date, Johns Hopkins has shown no meaningful acknowledgement of the petition from over 6,000 Baltimore city residents, University faculty and students, against the police force. Until the Johns Hopkins University Administration has been held accountable to the steps it has taken to form a private armed police force, it is critical to ensure that once its established police force has been repealed, the University will be prohibited from establishing a similar police force or department or granting certain police powers to certain employees in the future.



- **Expand the scope of the bill to include private institutions of higher education across the state.** Delegate Ivey has introduced legislation, HB0336, which would repeal the Hopkins Police and the Police Forces of Other Private Institutions of Higher Education, to ensure that private colleges and universities across the state will be prohibited from establishing or maintaining a private police force. Like in Baltimore city, Black and Brown residents, staff, and students across the state should feel safe and remain shielded from an unwarranted - or deadly - encounter with the police, whether they reside on campus or in the communities surrounding a university or college campus.

**BHRC respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.**

For more information about BHRC or this position, please contact Rajani Gudlavalleti at [Rajani@BaltimoreHarmReduction.org](mailto:Rajani@BaltimoreHarmReduction.org).

# **SB0276 Testimony Han Clara.pdf**

Uploaded by: Han, Clara

Position: FAV

SB0276

Testimony: Clara Han, MD/PhD, Associate Professor of Anthropology, JHU

Address: 31 Merrymount Road, Baltimore, MD 21210

I am Associate Professor of Anthropology at the Johns Hopkins University and resident of the Baltimore City. I have conducted long-term social science research in Latin America, focusing on the impact of state violence on low-income neighborhoods, including drug raids, street policing, police occupation, and extrajudicial killings. I am writing in support of Senator Jill Carter's SB0276, which would repeal the legislation giving Johns Hopkins University permission to establish its own private, armed police department.

In Spring 2019 to Fall 2019, I acted as non-voting Member Secretary to the Johns Hopkins University Homewood Faculty Assembly Fact Finding Committee on the Garland Hall Sit-In. The Sit-In was precipitated as a result of JHU's determination to move forward with the private police plan, after the passage of SB793/HB1094 by the Maryland General Assembly and despite multiple protests by students, faculty, and community members. The JHU administration has often cited "125 stakeholder meetings". However, the Fact Finding Committee heard testimony from students who reported that their feedback was routinely minimized or disregarded. Attracting a diverse, expansive group of students, the Sit-In represented a substantial fraction of the Homewood student population and the Sit-In's aims (namely, the opposition to the establishment of an armed, private police force) was endorsed by the Student Government Association. The Sit-In lasted 35 days, because the university administration circumvented their own policy by allowing the protestors to stay overnight in the building and then, they refused to meet or negotiated with the protestors because they were staying in the building. The administration's own decisions created a dangerous situation, which escalated in the final days of the Sit-In. The night of May 7, 2019, then Research Professor Daniel Povey led a group of non-JHU affiliates into a violent altercation with the protestors, who were verbally and physically assaulted by this group. (The group was reported to have shouted racial slurs at the protestors, in addition to dragging a student down the stairs by her hair and punching another student in the face.) Distressed student protestors approached a badged JHU Security and told him they were being assaulted. JHU Security responded dismissively, saying that they were only there "to protect Johns Hopkins property." Thankfully, no one was seriously injured or killed during this chaotic altercation while JHU Security looked on. The Sit-In ended by a show of force involving approximately 80 officers from the Baltimore City Police Department, which, according to the Fact-Finding Committee findings, suggested a lack of appropriate coordination between University administration and law enforcement concerning the appropriate police response. The full report can be found on the Homewood Faculty Association website: <https://facultyassembly.jhu.edu/files/2019/12/Homewood-Faculty-Assembly-Fact-Finding-Committee-Report.pdf>

As a faculty who has worked long-term in neighborhoods impacted by armed police and who live the effects of profiling, leading to mass incarceration, and fugitive lives, I have seen and documented the devastating effects on families as well as the human rights violations that occur under the banner of "law and order". For this reason and as a Baltimore City resident,



who does not want to see an armed police on campus that profiles students and residents alike, I have long opposed the private police force. For this reason, I also was a co-organizer of the "Letter calling on President Daniels to abandon the formation of an armed private police force at Johns Hopkins University" which gathered over 6000 signatures, including nearly 400 faculty across the University.

However, in my capacity as the Member Secretary of the Fact Finding Committee, I was astounded by JHU administration's intransigent unwillingness to listen to the community, the "we set the rules and can break them" exceptionality that the administration espoused with respect to the student protestors, and finally the appalling manner by which JHU security reneged on its duty to protect human life above property in the face of what could have been a life-threatening, violent encounter. Given what has been documented by the Fact Finding Committee, the deep issues with institutional transparency paired with an armed, private police force -- that is answerable to a private institution and not the elected leaders of Baltimore City - - would create a dangerous situation for students, faculty, staff, and Baltimore City residents who would be exposed to this policing.

I therefore strongly support SB0276. Thank you Senator Jill Carter.

**SB0276 testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Hare, Sean

Position: FAV

Dear Senator Carter,

I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.

I am a fourth-year graduate student at Johns Hopkins University. In June 2020, I signed a letter with over six-thousand other community members, addressed to President Ronald Daniels and the Board of Trustees, demanding the abandonment of the formation of an armed private police force. The President has not once replied to, addressed, or publicly acknowledged this letter once, and this incident is not even the first of its kind. In fact, this letter came twenty-one months after an initial petition of almost two-thousand community members that was similarly ignored. JHU appears committed to the creation of a private police even after the death of Tyrone West a few years ago, who was killed nearby by a Morgan State University officer.

To put the number six-thousand in perspective: JHU has a little over six-thousand undergraduate students currently enrolled. And a letter signed by roughly this many people was not mentioned even once in an email addressed to us or on their website.

The lack of any direct response to these multiple letters demonstrates a refusal to communicate with and a lack of respect for the entire city of Baltimore. University leaders have maintained in public announcements that the creation of a private police is necessary to improve campus safety. In doing so, and in ignoring these letters, they have made it clear this private police force is something simply to be advertised, and that they have no interest in communicating with the local community if it involves responding to criticism in any manner. This is foretelling of the complete lack of accountability the university absolutely will display should a private police force be created. If the university cannot directly respond to a peaceful letter signed by thousands of its own students, faculty, and community members, what reason do we have to believe they will hold themselves accountable to an inevitable killing by their armed police force?

It is helpful to remember that JHU is simply a private institution with no direct accountability to the city of Baltimore; the president only has a financial obligation towards the university's financial endowment. Knowing this, and knowing that they have ignored multiple community letters, the university has made it clear that their intentions behind the private police are financial. Many of us have been left to speculate that the private police force is nothing more than a marketable feature that the university can use discuss their dedication to safety, as opposed to the establishment of any communication with the community they claim to make more safe.

Last June, at the onset of the Black Lives Matter protests that swept the nation, the university announced the postponement of the private police force. The fact that this postponement came years after makes it very clear that this postponement is not proactive, but reactionary. In other words, it was simply done as a response to the changing political climate, because the university has given us no reason not to think the private police is simply a public relations tactic. In fact, some of my fellow grad students have recently seen

Hopkins police units despite the university announcing postponement via email, leading us to believe the university is reneging on this promise.

Is this public postponement of the private police force a waiting tactic to reintroduce the private police when racial tensions are gone? That is a question that worries the entire community, and we would rather not have it answered and instead see this story come to a close. Students and faculty have spent years demanding change to a president and board of trustees that cannot respond to criticism. There are no routes left to express our voices, and many of us see this bill as the last opportunity to oppose the creation of a private police.

Sincerely,

Sean Hare

# **Hinenu Testimony for SB276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Hasiuk, Ethan

Position: FAV

Testimony SUPPORTING SB0276

Ethan Hasiuk on behalf of [Hinenu: The Baltimore Justice Shtiebl](#)

Good afternoon. I am Ethan Hasiuk, a resident of Baltimore City District 43, and I am a strong supporter of SB276. I am here representing my synagogue, Hinenu, which has more than 200 members and meets across the street from the Hopkins Homewood Campus.

We are a Jewish community that includes Black people and people of color, queer and trans people, and disabled folks. Just over two weeks ago, we watched as a white nationalist mob wrought havoc at the United States Capitol while police stood by. Not only do we believe that police do not keep us safe in moments of crisis, but we fear for our most marginalized members being the targets of police violence. This is why we have consistently rejected offers of police “protection” and instead sought safety and solidarity through relationships with our interfaith neighbors.

We believe that everyone in Baltimore deserves safety from all forms of violence. We see the Hopkins Police Department not as a public safety effort, but rather an attempt to build even higher walls around a powerful institution. We have no interest in being part of this fortress, for it would endanger us and alienate us from the neighbors we love and who keep us safe. Thank you.

# Hay-Chatterjee SB0276.pdf

Uploaded by: Hay-Chatterjee, Priya

Position: FAV

Priya Hay-Chatterjee, UMD Graduate

**Testimony for SB0276**

**Position: Support**

In a political moment that has laid bare the cruelty and corruption of our law enforcement systems, it is crucial that we recognize the true needs of our campus communities. In the City of Baltimore and across our State, we need *less* policing, not more.

I graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park in May of 2020. UMD has its own police department, UMPD, which sends out alerts at least once a week about criminal activity in the area but never seems to resolve any crimes, from robberies to sexual assault. In all my time at UMD, there has been one instance where UMPD has informed us that a suspect has actually been caught and taken into custody.

What's more, UMPD polices criminal activity in the surrounding, predominantly Black and Latinx communities more than it policed the heinous criminal activity in the university which funds it. Despite the fact that a UMD student died on Route 1 after leaving a frat party *and* there were date rape drugs found in her system, no one was charged with her drugging or death. The fact that sexual assault and hazing continue at UMD shows that UMPD does not exist to reduce crime at the university, but instead to permeate the communities of color nearby.

Rather than having a police force devoted entirely to policing a community, universities in Maryland would do well to redistribute police budgets to sexual assault hotlines, mental health programs, and other student and community support services within its departments. For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on SB0276.



**SB276 - TESTIMONY AGAINST HOPKINS PRIVATE POLICE.p**

Uploaded by: Heilker, David

Position: FAV

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0276

Jan 19, 2021 • Dave Heilker (Dist 43) • davidj.heilker@gmail.com

To Senator Smith, esteemed Chair, Senator Carter, sponsor, and the assembled members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Dave Heilker.

I am a resident of Baltimore City. And I am here to ask you to **vote to repeal the powers granted in 2019 to Johns Hopkins University by voting for Senator Carter's bill: SB0276** — because We Belong in a City with representatives who listen to residents.

In April of 2018, I worked in the Mayor's Office of Communications, I was invited to attend a roundtable discussion called "BMore College Town." At this discussion, communications people from each of the colleges with a footprint in Baltimore City were looking for a solution to a common problem: *Parents of incoming students didn't think Baltimore was safe.*

As we heard about the current efforts of each of these schools, all of them shared a stock response: "We tell the parents that **Baltimore City might not be safe, but our campus is.**"

Make no mistake: **Johns Hopkins does not seek a private police force to make Baltimore City safer; they want to make their campus appear safer.** Simply put, they have illustrated clearly that they want police power, but lack the responsibility to implement it in a timely and transparent manner. This is simply the culmination of a marketing effort, and we must reject it, fiercely.

This is a school that is known for their exemplary programs in public health, in education, and in public policy, and yet for all of the incredible students and well over 100 faculty members who have spoken out, at terrible personal risk, AGAINST the Campus Police Force:

- JHU has *not* sought to treat the violence in our City as a public health crisis.
- JHU has *not* sought to educate communities on how a less accountable private police force could negatively impact their children.
- JHU has *not* built public TRUST into their public policy.

We belong in a City that doesn't promise \$10 million in tax dollars to a school with a four-and-a-half BILLION dollar endowment. We belong in a City where the women and men we trust with our votes can be trusted to fight these battles year after year instead of relying on the people who are most vulnerable and most at risk of falling victim to aggressive & racist policing to, once again, take up the responsibility of doing what we elected you to do: to say "**NO!**" unequivocally and unwaveringly to the powerful institutions that seek to purchase power at the expense of The People of Baltimore.

I commend Senator Carter, who is an unyielding champion of justice and civil liberties, for her commitment to seeing an opportunity to correct the wrongs of the very recent past **before** they become a financial, health, and litigious burden on Baltimore.

For Baltimore,



Dave Heilker

**SB0276\_written\_testimony\_MHo.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ho, Margaret

Position: FAV

Dear Legislators of Maryland,

I'm a current postdoctoral research fellow at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and registered voter in the state of MD (District 42A). I am writing to **support SB0276**, which would repeal the provisions allowing our university to establish a private police force.

**A Hopkins police department would be a threat to safety on and around the school's properties, an irresponsible use of resources, and insufficiently accountable to the public, as well as setting a dangerous precedent for the privatization of local policing.** The consequences of excessive use of force and racial discrimination at the hands of an armed police force, as we are too often reminded, are deadly. In particular, I fear for the safety of Black and Brown members of our community. Faculty, students, and community members have been asking our university's administration to stop this initiative for the last two years with no sign of reconsideration.

The previous legislation (which SB0276 seeks to rectify) permits the proposed Hopkins police to operate armed police not only on campus but also in quite large areas surrounding the campus where there are diverse communities, setting the stage for many private citizens who are not affiliated with Hopkins to be unduly targeted and potentially caught up in operations. In fact, **there is an extensive history of university police departments harming citizens in the community:**

Tyrone West murdered by Morgan State Police and Baltimore Police during a traffic stop:  
<https://www.afro.com/5-years-after-brothers-death-tawanda-jones-still-fights-for-justice/>

Racial profiling by the University of Chicago Police: <https://www.berkeleyside.com/2019/07/03/ucpd-handcuffing-of-11-year-old-boy-prompts-criticism-campus-response>

UCPD detain two Black children: <https://www.berkeleyside.com/2019/07/03/ucpd-handcuffing-of-11-year-old-boy-prompts-criticism-campus-response>

University of Cincinnati police killed Samuel Debose, an unarmed Black man, in 2015:  
<https://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/2015/08/06/family-sam-dubose-left-behind-wrestles-loss/31211597/>

Unarmed black woman shot at Yale University: <https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2019/12/psu-to-pay-1-million-to-family-of-jason-washington-shot-and-killed-by-campus-police.html>

Community member shot and killed by Portland State University police:  
<https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2019/12/psu-to-pay-1-million-to-family-of-jason-washington-shot-and-killed-by-campus-police.html>

Racial profiling and excessive use of force by UPenn police department:  
<https://www.thedp.com/article/2015/04/penn-police-training-to-combat-use-of-excessive-force>

I would also like to reference **this article by a former Baltimore City police officer and police internal affairs investigator who opposes the JHPD** and describes issues with current Hopkins security practices and details previous incidents involving deadly force and history of officials that often come from troubled Baltimore Police units. <https://theappeal.org/johns-hopkins-universitys-private-police-force-will-bring-more-cops-to-an-overpoliced-baltimore/>

I am not alone in this position. **A majority of those in the Hopkins community including 75% of undergraduates are opposed to a Hopkins police department** (<https://baltimorebrew.com/2019/02/20/johns-hopkins-plan-for-a-private-police-force-splits-communities-and-the-student-body/>) **Over a hundred JHU professors have signed a letter opposing a Hopkins police department** (<https://www.jhunewsletter.com/article/2020/01/101-faculty-sign-letter-against-private-police-force>). In fact, this summer, JHU has suspended for two years the implementation of the police department as a result of public outcry, but is poised to return to business as usual at the end of the two years, which is why opponents are proposing legislation to prevent them from doing so. I am very skeptical that armed JHU campus police are the answer to security issues and **I object to an armed Hopkins Police Department, who, unlike a city or county police, have even less accountability to private citizens living in the surrounding community.** Furthermore, we are speaking about a campus community which is not supposed to discriminate against individuals, whereas existing campus security already have a history of discrimination and harassment against minorities. Adding armed police will only increase harm and harassment.

Sincerely,

Margaret Ho

**testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Hughes, Colleen

Position: FAV

1/19/2020

I'm writing to ask that you support SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. As a staff member at JHU I do not want a private police force where I work.

The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.

Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in this petition which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Thank you,  
Colleen Hughes

# **SB0276 Bill.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jajodia, Anushka

Position: FAV



I believe the motion to repeal Hopkins Police in the area is vital to the community and to the lives of the neighborhood which the aim to effect.

The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence. In that same neighborhood, over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in this petition which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

Moreover, research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

The community in East Baltimore want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Sincerely,  
Anushka Jajodia

**SB0276 .pdf**

Uploaded by: Jeon, Bomin

Position: FAV

January 19th, 2021

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.

Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

2 East, Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Support for SB0276**

Committee Chair Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

My name is Bomin Jeon and I am a resident of Reservoir Hill neighborhood in Baltimore city. I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.

As a former student and current employee of Maryland Institute College of Art, I am very aware and critical of the presence of private higher education institutions in the city. When the educational institutions prioritize "safety" of their campus and students by hiring more police force, they actually create racist and oppressive culture for the surrounding residents who do not have access to these institutions' offering. It is no secret that systematic racism against black and brown people exist throughout all sectors, but it is especially detrimental when it is done in the hands of excessive force. I have seen my black and brown friends be racially profiled and policed around JHU campus for simply existing. Also, the lack of residents' consent to heavy police presence around campus is an issue.

Adding more police presence around private institutions to guard their properties will create more hostility and division to the city. I support SB0276 to move away from the increasing in policing of community to rebuilding foundations and resources for the community that will keep us all safe.

Sincerely,  
Bomin Jeon

# **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0276 (1).pdf**

Uploaded by: Jordan, Samuel

Position: FAV

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0276

**To:** Senator William C. Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
**From:** Students at the Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health  
**Date:** January 19, 2021

We write to you in enthusiastic support for SB0276, a bill that would repeal provisions relating to the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD). Adding more cops to [one of the most heavily policed cities](#) in the U.S. is a dangerous idea that we call on you to put to an end.

As future healthcare professionals and researchers, it is clear to us that allowing Johns Hopkins to create a private police force will make Baltimore City less safe, especially for those who are Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and/or Disabled. Police violence across the U.S. is a public health crisis, with studies showing that police kill 3 people every day, and 1 in 1000 Black males are expected to be killed by police.<sup>1,2</sup> The negative health effects of policing are not limited to physical violence. A study conducted in Baltimore and New York found that contact with police—especially if it involves violence—is tied to trauma, anxiety, and suicide attempts/ideation among young people.<sup>3</sup>

Private police forces are not exempt from perpetuating this violence. At [Yale](#); the [University of California, Los Angeles](#); the [University of Chicago](#); and [Arizona State University](#), among others, Black students, faculty, and community members have been harassed, tasered, shot, and assaulted by campus cops. In Maryland, we haven't forgotten that it was a Morgan State Police Officer who murdered Tyrone West in 2013. Must we wait for Johns Hopkins Police Officers to do the same before reconsidering whether this police force was a good idea?

The law authorizing the private police was unpopular among Hopkins students and faculty when it was first introduced, and has proven even more unfavorable since. Over 6,000 students, faculty, staff, and community members stated their opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been recognized by the Hopkins administration. Multiple [rallies](#) and [protests](#) also highlight disapproval of the private police, yet our institution has done nothing to accept or even acknowledge voices that do not align with plans to create this force. Additionally, we are not satisfied with the “two-year pause” on creation of the force announced in June 2020. We interpret this as a strategic maneuver on the part of the administration to buy time until it is more politically favorable, not a good-faith reconsideration of whether more police is beneficial.

Johns Hopkins claims that it will reimagine policing to increase accountability, yet every action that this University has taken has proven its lack of integrity. During a town hall for medical students this past June, Vice President for Security Connor Scott said in regard to the private police: “As you all know, we set up an accountability board, we have a student advisory committee for security which we'll be submitting applications for this summer. We are going to have an incredibly participative process and be a part of the process and we need your thoughts and your views.” Two months later, the accountability board was [disbanded](#), and the only

avenue listed for community members to give feedback is now through a [form on their website](#). How can we expect the accountability of any future JHPD if its administration will not even take the time to listen to opinions that challenge its plans? With so little transparency now, can we really believe it will appear out of thin air later?

We haven't chosen to become nurses, physicians, researchers, and other healthcare professionals to alleviate only the symptoms of systemic illnesses in our society. We want to get to their root causes. Any reform short of abolishing the private police will only accomplish the former. We urge your favorable recommendation for SB0276.

1. Edwards F, Esposito MH, Lee H. Risk of Police-Involved Death by Race/Ethnicity and Place, United States, 2012–2018. *Am J Public Health*. 2018;108(9):1241-1248. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2018.304559
2. Edwards F, Lee H, Esposito M. Risk of being killed by police use of force in the United States by age, race–ethnicity, and sex. *PNAS*. 2019;116(34):16793-16798. doi:10.1073/pnas.1821204116
3. DeVlyder JE, Jun H-J, Fedina L, et al. Association of Exposure to Police Violence With Prevalence of Mental Health Symptoms Among Urban Residents in the United States. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2018;1(7):e184945. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2018.4945

Seva Khambadkone—School of Medicine  
Katie Tai—School of Medicine  
Samuel Jordan—School of Medicine  
Kevin Lee—School of Medicine  
Leigh Alon—School of Medicine  
Sajya Singh—School of Medicine  
Minsoo Kim—School of Medicine  
Julia Wainger—School of Medicine  
Aleksandra Popovic—School of Medicine  
Sahana Jayaraman—School of Medicine  
Elana Liebow-Feeser—School of Medicine  
Rachel Strodel—School of Medicine  
Carolyn Reuland—School of Medicine  
Leah Weston—School of Medicine  
Galen Shi—School of Medicine  
Lillian Hayes—School of Medicine  
Jake Ruddy—School of Medicine  
Emma Zeng—School of Medicine  
Christina Ambrosino—School of Medicine  
Bethany Hung—School of Medicine  
Neha Anand—School of Medicine  
Matthew Rabinowitz—School of Medicine  
Ethan Morris—School of Medicine  
Alina Spiegel—School of Medicine  
Zoe Cosner—School of Medicine  
Insia Zufer—School of Medicine  
Matthew Generoso—School of Medicine  
Erin Wang—School of Medicine  
Priyal Gandhi—School of Medicine

Melika Marani —School of Medicine  
Bhavitha Kotha—School of Medicine  
Denis Routkevitch—School of Medicine  
Juliana Fan—School of Medicine  
Ren DeBrosse—School of Medicine  
Grant Wen—School of Medicine  
Nicholas Andrade—School of Medicine  
Darien Colson- Fearon—School of Medicine  
Laura Pugh—School of Medicine  
Malcolm Lizzappi—School of Medicine  
Cara Plott—School of Medicine  
Evan L. Eschliman, MS—School of Public Health  
Madeline Holt—School of Public Health  
Kechna Cadet—School of Public Health  
Katherine Narvaez—School of Public Health  
Veni Kandasamy—School of Public Health  
Kay Beth Tyson—School of Public Health  
Lori Niehaus—School of Public Health  
Faye Korich —School of Public Health  
Alex Rittenhouse—School of Medicine  
Erin Eileen Cooney, MSPH, CPH—School of Public Health  
Cherish Morris, BSN RN—School of Public Health  
Sophie Berube—School of Public Health  
Prashasti Bhatnagar—School of Public Health  
Will Payne —School of Public Health

Sarah Lane Cochrane-Payne—School of Education  
Omeid Heidari —School of Public Health  
Alexandra Norton—School of Medicine  
Irena Gorski Steiner—School of Public Health  
Mina Tehrani—School of Public Health  
Kira Riehm—School of Public Health  
Nathan Whye—School of Public Health  
Lucy O'Sullivan—School of Medicine  
Mary Gaul—School of Public Health  
Vinayak Bhardwaj —School of Public Health  
Kaitlyn Harper—School of Public Health  
Cailey Jamison—School of Public Health  
Henri Garrison-Desany—School of Public Health  
Anjiya Sulaiman—School of Public Health  
S Rouhani—School of Public Health  
Alexandra Mueller—School of Public Health  
Trang Quynh Nguyen—School of Public Health  
Rhett A Snyder—School of Medicine  
Clare O'Brien-Lambert—School of Public Health  
Wengiel Gugssa—School of Public Health  
Clifton McKee—School of Public Health  
Casey Tokeshi—School of Public Health  
Caitlin Weiger—School of Public Health  
Madeleine Howard—School of Public Health  
Maureen Rakovec—School of Medicine  
Alyssa Kretz—School of Medicine  
Daisy Badovinac—School of Public Health  
Alyssa Wooden—School of Public Health  
Danielle Nestadt—School of Public Health  
Jennifer O'Keeffe—School of Public Health  
Rachel Milkovich—School of Public Health  
Brittney Ehlers—School of Public Health  
Katherine Moon—School of Public Health  
Anushka Aqil—School of Public Health  
Stacy Vegas Lu—School of Public Health  
Lydia Katrin—School of Public Health  
Elizabeth Graham—School of Public Health  
Shoshanna Fine—School of Public Health  
Brooke A. Jarrett—School of Public Health  
Li-Kuang Chen—School of Medicine  
Mary C Miller—School of Public Health  
Lily Shipp—School of Public Health  
Janay Hawthorne—School of Public Health  
Caroline Wilkerson—School of Public Health

Natalya Kostandova—School of Public Health  
Anna Weimer—School of Medicine  
Megan Hunt—School of Medicine  
Danielle Geong—School of Public Health  
Kathleen Ridgeway —School of Public Health  
Niloufer Taber—School of Public Health  
Shivani Patel—School of Public Health  
Carla Tilchin—School of Public Health  
Laura Nicole Sisson—School of Public Health  
Sofia Ryan—School of Public Health  
Lydia Adnane—School of Medicine  
Macy Early—School of Medicine  
Serena Sonderegger —School of Public Health  
Benjamin Johnson—School of Medicine  
Kelley Koeppen—School of Public Health  
Sydney White—School of Public Health  
Cyndy Vasquez—School of Public Health  
Ikechukwu Enenmoh—School of Medicine  
Nicolette Vigiano—School of Public Health  
Makenna Tiger—School of Public Health  
Hannah Cowley—Applied Physics Laboratory  
Giselle Edwards—School of Public Health  
Andrew S Eneim—School of Medicine  
Krishna Patel—School of Public Health  
Timothy Barber—School of Public Health  
Kate Spielman—School of Public Health  
Allyson Horstman—School of Public Health  
Molly Mantus—School of Public Health  
Kyra Grantz—School of Public Health  
Ashlyn McRae—School of Medicine  
Casie Kubota—School of Medicine  
Elise Thompson—School of Public Health  
Tuo-Yen Tseng—School of Public Health  
Oz Amram—School of Arts and Sciences  
Khudejha Asghar—School of Public Health  
Rachel Grisham—School of Public Health  
Mara Hollander—School of Public Health  
Isadora Salles—School of Public Health  
Kelsey R Babik—School of Public Health  
Kristin Brig-Ortiz—School of Medicine  
Alexandra Hill—School of Public Health  
Amrita Rao—School of Public Health  
Sophie Schouboe—School of Public Health  
Ellen Howerton—School of Public Health  
Alexis Sullivan—School of Public Health  
Anne Dorothea Smith—School of Public

Health

Alison Athey, PhD—School of Public Health  
Fernanda Alonso —School of Public Health  
Kristin E Schneider, PhD—School of Public Health  
Caleb Andrews—Whiting School of Engineering  
Madelyn McKeague—School of Public Health  
Cassie Parks—School of Medicine  
Jason Smith—School of Public Health  
Kathryn Sugg—School of Public Health  
Ayah Nuriddin—School of Medicine  
Jasmin Jeffery—School of Medicine  
Sarena Ho —School of Public Health  
Blake Johnson—School of Medicine  
Kimberly Khoo—School of Public Health  
Marina Better School of Medicine  
Nathaniel Colbey Walker—School of Public Health  
Raghavi Anand—School of Public Health  
Vy Nguyen—School of Public Health  
Emily Pantalone—School of Public Health  
Andrea Jacobson—School of Public Health  
Claire Chen—School of Public Health  
Brittni Moore—School of Medicine  
Shatabdi Patel—School of Public Health  
Alexis Carey—School of Medicine  
Olivia Veira—School of Public Health  
Danielle Dillard—School of Medicine  
Eda Reed—School of Public Health  
Omaris Caceres—School of Public Health  
Allister Suarez—School of Medicine  
Grace Steward—School of Medicine  
Andrianna Ayiotis—School of Medicine  
Kyle Cavagnini—School of Medicine  
Elizabeth Partan—School of Medicine  
Helen Schmidt—School of Medicine  
Alan Wei—School of Medicine  
Ruth Hartke—School of Medicine  
Kayla Ingram—School of Medicine  
Karla N Robles—School of Medicine  
Adam Aragaki—School of Medicine  
James D Barnett—School of Medicine  
Raleigh M. Linville—School of Medicine  
Morgan Beckett—School of Medicine  
Justin Otter—School of Arts and Sciences  
Princess Collins—School of Public Health  
Andrew Scasny—School of Medicine  
Sarah Kruessel—School of Medicine  
Sarah Smith—School of Public Health

Emily Lo—School of Medicine  
Wangui Mbuguiro—School of Medicine  
Alyssa Bowling—School of Medicine  
Mara Ruth Grace—School of Medicine  
Veronica Busa—School of Medicine  
Maya Koretzky—School of Medicine  
Melissa Lyman—School of Medicine  
Amy Gill—School of Medicine  
Katharine M Jenike—School of Medicine  
Kai Wilmsen—School of Public Health  
Marie Stoltzfus—School of Medicine  
Henry McDonald—School of Public Health  
Daniel Q. Smith—School of Medicine  
Calla Shubin—School of Medicine  
Niklas Bachmann—School of Medicine  
Cecilia Vichier-Guerre—School of Medicine  
Nicole Carter—School of Medicine  
Sara Haile—School of Medicine  
Antonio Salas—School of Medicine  
Jennie Ruelas Castillo—School of Medicine  
Ruoxi Yu—School of Medicine  
Rocio Carranza—School of Public Health  
Emma Chaloux-Pinette—School of Medicine  
Bernat Navarro-Serer—School of Medicine  
Alexandra Pucsek—School of Medicine  
Clara To—School of Public Health  
Jasmine Grey—School of Medicine  
Catherine LaCourse—School of Medicine  
Elijah Blank—School of Medicine  
Zachary Hunter Berliner—School of Public Health  
Tracy Chung—School of Medicine  
Michael Dryzer—School of Medicine  
Hana Goldschmidt—School of Medicine  
Makeda Stephenson —School of Medicine  
Nur Cardakli—School of Medicine  
Kate Mieth—School of Public Health  
Haley Appel—School of Medicine  
Dylan Hardenbergh—School of Medicine  
Gina LoMastro—School of Medicine  
Eillen Daniela Martinez—School of Medicine  
Ingharan Siddarthan—School of Medicine  
Mary Grace Bowring—School of Medicine  
Benjamin Koleske—School of Medicine  
Eva Yezerets—School of Medicine  
Michael Bjerngaard—Alumni  
Hayley Farless—School of Public Health  
Tyler Ogunmowo—School of Medicine  
Jenny Yineen Chen—School of Medicine



Holly Everett —School of Medicine  
Rohan Panaparambil—School of Medicine  
Salma Khan—School of Public Health  
Maria Molinaro—School of Medicine  
Xian Mao—School of Medicine  
James Forsmo—School of Medicine  
Tasha Davilmar—School of Medicine

# **TestimonyfortheBill.pdf**

Uploaded by: Khan, Naveeda

Position: FAV

Subject: Senate Bill SB0276

Date: January 19, 2021

I, Naveeda Khan, residing in 213 Chancery Road, Baltimore, MD, write in strong support of the Senate Bill SB0276 to repeal the JHU Private Police Department. I do so in my capacity as a tenured professor of Johns Hopkins University.

Why as a professor of JHU do I so strongly oppose the creation of a private police force by Hopkins and by any other institution of higher learning? As a social scientist, I do not believe that we have sufficient evidence to support the claim that having a private police force will reduce violence or better protect individuals and communities. In fact, the data predominantly points to the fact that having police in certain areas, displaces criminal activity onto adjoining areas, which are forced to deal with the situation by hiring armed security of their own, and, if unable to do so, suffering a worsening in their situation. In other words, private police passes on the burden of violence onto poorer and more vulnerable neighborhoods, accentuating inequality and ghettoization.

Having a private police force is an outright admission of a lack of confidence in local government. Instead of pursuing proper means to strengthen local government and produce accountability, the act of creating a private police force is in effect an illegitimate capture of the legitimate authority of representative government. Local government may collude with the private institution in enabling this capture, but such collusion doesn't take away from the fact that the security of its constituency is the responsibility of elected officials.

The private entity that is empowered to carry arms may be technically trained but is not trained in the code of public service. It must of necessity serve its employers. This makes private policing exclusionary, prioritizing the protection of private property over the safety of individuals, potentially vulnerable to violating civil and human rights, and unaccountable to a broader public.

Next, I want to explain why I do not trust the Johns Hopkins University administration to run a private police force. Hopkins has repeatedly shown itself to be a non-transparent corporate-like entity with top down management whose claims to be otherwise is not born out by any actions that I have observed in the last three-four years that I have been attending to the issue of the private police bill. The university administration has never provided a persuasive argument as to why it is pursuing this course. Among the many excuses proffered are that a police force will mitigate the concerns of potential student applicants and their parents who currently view Baltimore as dangerous, and that having a police force will allow Hopkins to join the ranks of its peer institutions. Running a private police force, which will undoubtedly be a huge financial undertaking, to offset perceptions rather than deal with realities on the ground would make this action an expensive mode of perception management. Also to think that Hopkins, which considers itself one of the leading institutions in international public health, would reduce the issue of violence to one of private policing rather than deal with it as a public health concern suggests that the current administration of Hopkins would rather that Hopkins be imitative and indistinguishable from its peers, than be a leader among them.

Hopkins made a big show of consulting community leadership, minority faculty and staff, and students in its various committees and forums on the issue but, as these very participants readily attest, every objection to the private police bill was put aside. Simply organizing town halls for airing concerns, while not taking seriously any of them, some of which were petitions signed by scores and even hundreds of people, does not constitute meaningful consultation. They are just pro forma at best, media spectacles at worst. If the later, they suggest the cynicism that informed this consultative effort.

When undergraduate and graduate students organized the Garland Hall protest, I sat in many times to listen to the students, converse with them, etc. but I did not see any member of upper administration attempt to do so. Rather the administration had security officers escort them in and out of the building, indicating not just fear but a possible demonization of the students. I also watched with horror when no fewer than 80 police officials in riot gear, barricades and trucks showed up to force the ten or so students within Garland Hall to evacuate the building. There was no effort to learn how many students were within the building and

to match force appropriately, once again indicating that the university administration is more given to media spectacles, including the demonization of its own students, than to appropriate behavior befitting of serious, accountable governance.

Although the administration did not press any legal charges against the students involved in the protest, they undertook a closed-door review and reprimand of several of them. I have only been privy to a few student accounts of these sessions with administrative figures, but it is clear from them that there was no explanation given to students as to why these staff members were chosen to correct student behavior, what authority they had over the students, what procedures they were using to carry out these sessions, and why they undertook to threaten students with expulsion if they involved themselves in any future agitation. Such opaque modes of disciplining, whose impact is to muzzle student protest, leave me with no confidence in Hopkins administration.

Finally, in 2021, by which it has become amply clear that policing in this country, public and private, is in need of serious rethinking and reform, for Hopkins to be pursuing a private police force seems completely out of sync with the needs of the times. Therefore, I write to strongly urge everyone to support SB0276 to repeal the JHU Private Police Department. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with me at [nkhan5@jhu.edu](mailto:nkhan5@jhu.edu) or [naveedariver@gmail.com](mailto:naveedariver@gmail.com) or 410/274-0191.

Thank you for your kind attention. Yours sincerely,

Naveeda Khan  
Associate Professor, Anthropology  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Anthropology

**SB0276 Support Testimate\_LaCourse.pdf**

Uploaded by: LaCourse, Catherine

Position: FAV

I am a Johns Hopkins graduate student, proud resident of Baltimore City, and life-long Marylander. I am writing in support of Senator Jill Carter's SB0276, which would repeal the legislation giving Johns Hopkins University permission to found its own private, armed police department.

The original legislation was not borne by evidence or community support, and its approval was a forced process that went against the expressed will of both the Hopkins community and adjacent neighborhoods. Johns Hopkins' own students, faculty, and physicians have offered signed petitions, peaceful protests, and overwhelming public dissent in an effort to clearly convey that we do not want this. Members of Hopkins-adjacent communities have similarly come forward in firm opposition. Despite this, Johns Hopkins University invoked under-handed tactics in order to dismiss community concerns; they are playing a waiting game by planning to set up the police department only after the original dissenters have left the University. No effort has been made to address the effect of armed police on neighborhood health, nor the potential deleterious influence on the world-renown hospital that would be under the private police's jurisdiction.

On both a personal and intellectual level, I disagree wholeheartedly with establishing a private, armed police department at the University. There is simply no need; Johns Hopkins contracts unarmed security personnel, who provide security escorts including motor transportation at any time of day, staffed security booths on every block, and a guard posted at each building entrance. Students receive email notifications for any crime to occur on or near a Hopkins campus, so I can confidently say that every conflict could have been avoided by utilizing the existing security. Even so, conflicts are rarely violent, and even more rarely do they involve a weapon. Armed police are not necessary and would only increase the likelihood of violence in such instances.

The legislation is a waste of money, time, and attention. We need to place police under community control, not multiply firearms on our city streets based on a model of violent subjugation. Private police forces are even less accountable than the horror show that is the Baltimore City police. Johns Hopkins jammed this legislation down the throat of Baltimore. It is high time to extract it.

Sincerely,

Catherine LaCourse

**sb0276 testimony.pages.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lalimarmo, Carlos

Position: FAV

Testimony in favor of SB0276:

I am a neighbor of the Johns Hopkins University's Homewood campus, having lived in the Charles Village neighborhood of Baltimore City for most of the last 5 years. It has been my experience that the unarmed security personnel employed by Hopkins are an acceptable solution for community safety.

I am opposed to Johns Hopkins University establishing a private police force to address a need that is adequately and safely met by unarmed citizens. In my time living within the area patrolled by Hopkins security, I have not experienced or perceived any threats to community safety. If there are any community safety issues that are not addressed by the presence of unarmed security personnel, a police force will not resolve those issues, and is more likely to jeopardize the safety of community members. A private police force is an unacceptable solution for a problem that, as far as I can tell, does not exist.



**doyoun lee testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lee, Doyoun

Position: FAV

I have been a resident of the Waverly and Better Waverly neighborhoods since 2013. I strongly oppose the Johns Hopkins Private Police Force because Johns Hopkins has been an adverse force to my community. I have been concerned with the issue of JHU Private Police for over two years now and attended several protests against it. I view this as a continuum of gentrification methods pursued by JHU that have and continue to push out my community of independent artists and the queer community plus many others from their homes and neighborhoods.

JHU has refused to listen to its concerned students and faculty members, as well as the community members for months during the sit-in protests and have repeatedly mocked the action. I do not believe the administrators of this institute have our best interest in mind. The JHU private police force will be a menacing presence to local residents and bring more cops into an over-policed city. Not to mention, local residents do not deserve to be exposed to the surveillance methods of a police force that does not serve them.

The nation is moving towards defunding and reducing the power of law enforcement institutions. There is nothing more anachronistic than to establish a private police force that will be less accountable for their actions than public law enforcement.

Thank you,

Doyoun Lee  
630 E 31<sup>st</sup> St  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
[doyunnolee@gmail.com](mailto:doyunnolee@gmail.com)  
765-637-8002

**Lester -- Testimony Supporting SB 0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lester, Quinn

Position: FAV

**TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SB 0276**  
**Senate Judiciary Proceeding**  
**Quinn Lester, PhD Candidate, Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences**  
**Tuesday, January 19th**

My name is Quinn Lester. I am a PhD student at the Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, a Baltimore City resident in Charles Village, and a registered voter in Maryland's 43rd district. **I am testifying today to urge the committee to support SB 0276: the Johns Hopkins Private Police Force should be repealed.**

In my dissertation I research the relationship between policing and democracy, so I first want to ask, does greater police presence increase safety, as Johns Hopkins wants to claim? There is little scholarly consensus that more police equals an increase in safety. In the vast majority of cases police are not present for when a crime occurs, and most of the time they do not solve the crime after the fact. There is little reason to believe a Hopkins police force would be different. Police presence is mainly used to maintain social order, which often focuses on minor, quality-of-life crimes that do not harm individuals but offend the sensibilities of community leaders or property developers, such as Johns Hopkins.

A greater police presence in the communities around Hopkins property would have a marked increase in danger for students of color and non-Hopkins community members, who would be actively surveilled, targeted, and arrested based on police profiling that they do not belong at Hopkins or are already criminals. In fact, the presence of more police could immediately lead to an increase in the crime rate, as a police presence leads to arrests for activities that previously were not seen as criminal by the community, such as drinking and disruptions of public order by college students.

Furthermore, the Police Accountability Board set up by Hopkins to oversee itself is already a joke. Johns Hopkins was able to pick its own people for the board, the board does not meet in public, and no meeting notes have yet to be published from it. The initial opposition to a Hopkins private police force argued that, as a private entity, Hopkins would have even less oversight than the Baltimore Police Department and those warnings are still prescient.

Finally, two years ago Hopkins rushed its private police force bill through the General Assembly on the basis of needing to address an urgent crime wave around the Hopkins Medical Campus. However, once the bill passed there has been nary a word about actually establishing a police force while crime itself has gone down. I can only believe then that crime was never the real reason for this drive towards a wholly novel in Maryland police force. Legislators need to take a step back now and re-examine Hopkins claims about its police force, what its purpose was for, and how Hopkins lied to them and the public from the start.

**For all these reasons, I support SB 0276.**

**SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lewis, Jack

Position: FAV

## **Testimony in Support of SB0276**

Jack Lewis

I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.

The people of the Johns Hopkins community, the city of Baltimore, and the entire state of Maryland have made our voices loud and clear – now we call upon our elected officials to turn the will of the democracy into political action. The people have protested in the streets, in university buildings, and from far and wide to demand an end to this police force. The will of the people can also be seen in the community petition with thousands of signatures, all demanding this repeal. A private police force would add violence to our community, division between neighbors, and prevent the conditions for true safety.

Black and Brown students, faculty, and staff at Johns Hopkins and residents of Baltimore City have been clear: They are already disproportionately targeted by law enforcement and see a Hopkins police force as a threat to their safety and the safety of their friends and families. Police don't make our communities safer. Instead, they put lives at risk and will only deepen the divide between Hopkins and the surrounding community. The establishment of a private police force exacerbates long-standing wounds, compromising any partnership with residents. It is hard to overstate the devastating impact that negative interactions between the Hopkins police and community partners would have. We need divestment from police and investment in the community.

In this historic moment, as the country reflects on the harm police continue to inflict on Black and Brown communities, we have a chance here to change for the better. If you care about public safety for all, if you want to support the people of Baltimore, and if you hear the chorus of voices outside your windows- vote yes on this bill. Thank you.

# **SB0276 To Repeal Hopkins Police.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lewis, Maggie

Position: FAV

Hello, my name is Maggie Lewis and I am writing this testimony in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in this petition which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another. I am urging the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like. I urge you to pass SB0276 in order to repeal Hopkins' private police force. Thank you for your time.



# **Link Testimony - SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Link, Sebastian

Position: FAV

My name is Sebastian Link Chaparro and I fill this testimony to support the Bill SB0276 sponsored by Senator Jill Carter titled "Johns Hopkins University - Police Department – Repeal."

I participated in the Student Advisory Committee of the VP for Security at Johns Hopkins University. In that experience, I could see first hand how unprepared is Hopkins for having policing powers within the University and in surrounding communities. In this document, I will provide information around three critical Hopkins institutional flaws that make a private police a threat to Baltimore. I focus on the *internal operations* of Hopkins because I think the institution is unable to fulfill the President's commitments regarding the different concerns around this project. These flaws are the following.

- The lack of the rule of law and institutional capacity building.
- A total lack of concern and strategic and operational planning for addressing the cultures of police brutality already in place in current JHU security forces.
- A manipulative and unserious engagement with students and neighbors (two examples).

**1) Lack of the Rule of Law and Institutional Capacity Building.** At Hopkins, the President's word is the rule. The vice president's office has been unable to build an institutional project relatively autonomous from the President's arbitrariness. The operation of the Student Advisory Committee for Security was an expression of it. The committee operated erratically, with no meetings between March and July 2019 and between March and September 2020. When the previous VP for Security Melissa Hyatt left the University, the new acting Vice President for Security broke the committee's continuity. Hyatt's commitments were forgotten, meetings became more informative than engaging the committee members, and the notes severely lost their quality (with no register of the committee's detailed discussions).

In the Student Advisory Committee meetings, we met with the leadership of the Public Safety office at Hopkins. Despite leading it, they could not commit to anything during the sessions, allegedly asking the President's Office how to follow. When asked about who was managing the project of a new private police force, Vice Provost Sunil Kumar informed that Daniel Ennis was leading those efforts, the ex-Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration. In other words, Hopkins tried to move the project of a private police force forwards and respond to general concerns on the threats of racist police brutality without mobilizing its institutions allegedly specialized for doing so, i.e., the office of public safety.

We saw a similar pattern in the relations with the non-Hopkins and neighboring communities. Hopkins decided to give this work to the Local Government, Community and Corporate Affairs office. This office's leading staff is strongly specialized in lobbying but not in building substantive, protracted, and trustful relations with neighbors. When asked about these relations, the acting VP for Security showed its inability to influence that process, subordinating its expertise on security to the other office's communicational and lobbying expertise.

Moreover, there was so little interest in institutional capacity building in the Public Safety office that the new acting Vice President had to work at once in keeping track of the general operations of security forces in Hopkins here in Baltimore and abroad, and in leading the office. The search for a new VP for Security followed the same path, with a flawed job description that did not integrate the requirements for unfolding strategically and operationally *community-oriented policing*, as President Daniels

repeatedly committed. Today, that search has been a total failure, with Hopkins allegedly having no ability to provide new hires institutional certainty for leading the office.

This lack of institutional capacity building in the Vice President for Security office and the President's arbitrariness characterizes the whole University's operations. Other workers at Hopkins with different authority levels from the offices for Security, Student Life, and Diversity and Inclusion, have explicitly stated that this arbitrariness is usual to this type of elite institutions. Moreover, people assuming leading positions could be easily fired by the President's Office if they raise critiques to the University's operations, having no institutional protection for creatively and substantively advancing their offices' goals.

In the following points, I present some examples of *institutional discontinuities* in the Hopkins private police project, which come textually from the notes of the meeting of the Advisory Committee held on August 23, 2019. I put them textually to make the point that Hopkins authorities were aware of these evaluations. [[The notes of the meeting of the Student Advisory Committee for Security were online in its Hopkins website. However, at the moment of writing this text, only the notes from February and October 2020 are available. I attach the report I sent to the meeting on August 23, 2019](#)]

- **Cleary violation 2015.** Hopkins authorities in security are not aware about details regarding Department of Education Investigation into JHU Cleary reporting violations related to sexual assault within Cleary boundaries. Security guards were implicated in discouraging survivors reporting and in misreporting.
- **Melissa Hyatt's project and continuity of her commitments.** For example, in one of the former meetings she argued that the Committee will not be used to legitimate the new private police force, unless it is already working as a substantive and properly advisory committee. Nevertheless, both Melissa Hyatt and, most recently, Connor Scott have named the Student Advisory Committee as an example of participation, which can be analogue to future committees with community members.
- **Needs assessment.** The commitment to study the possibility of a "needs assessment" with the participation of the community was not realized. Hopkins authorities committed publicly to study this possibility in July 24, and three weeks after in the community meetings, the security personnel claims having no knowledge about what a needs assessment is.
- **Repetition of student feedback without incorporating it in a systematic manner.**
- **A comprehensive plan to address shootings and to educate Hopkins community.** This advice was realized since the first meeting of the Student Advisory Committee, and at that moment Hopkins leadership engaged in addressing it. However, one year after there has been no advance in this topic.
- **The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing is not mastered by the current unit that lead Public Safety and Security in the University.** In such conditions, that report is not being used to orientate trainings, policies, organizational transformations, and every other central decision that could fall under such a report.

**2) Lack of concern and strategic and operational planning for addressing the cultures of police brutality already in place in current JHU security forces.** I include in this section the notes presented on the meeting of August 23, 2019, about the use of trainings for facing the cultures of police brutality at Hopkins security forces.

*"Every concern related with police brutality based on race, gender, sexuality, and disability, among other social relations, has been responded by the University with the promise of "trainings", i.e., assuming that the cause of police brutality rests in the "individual" and its "bias", but not in the current everyday life in which those individuals engage. As a result, the VP for Security has no plan to inquire over how the current organizational culture of his office foster the threat of police brutality, and, consequently, no orientations for addressing it but a few trainings.*

- *Racism and police brutality are not just an outcome of mismanaged cases (training to communicate with minorities (sic)), or of psychological traits (unconscious bias).*
- *Is the University conscious in how it participates in producing racism and police brutality in Baltimore? A factor, for example, is the fear of Hopkins students towards Baltimoreans, the lack of a plan to start a process of truth-telling and racial reconciliation between Hopkins and the city (as COPS promote for a community-oriented policing).*

*In contrast with a community-oriented approach defined by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), University leaders have talked on trainings on racism focusing on unconscious bias of police officers. In contrast, COPS distinguishes between bias reduction, and racial reconciliation, which are both organic parts of the model. In that sense, Hopkins and non-Hopkins Baltimoreans misperceptions (sic) about each other should be addressed.*

*Furthermore, trainings in themselves are not enough, they require organizational transformation as well, e.g., at the level of operations, organizational culture, and organizational climate, among others. Consequently, I advise to incorporate trainings into a major plan of trainings and organizational transformation, which should be goal oriented, and an organic part of a major project of Public Safety and Security at Hopkins. With such a plan, we can discuss about the goals and which are the best means to achieve them. Without such a plan, the criteria of discussion and for incorporating new advice becomes arbitrary."*

Regarding another incident, I personally informed the acting VP for Security about the threat of police brutality within his security forces through Facebook posts of two officers. He confirmed that both officers have never stopped working at Hopkins, and he did not inform about any plans for addressing this threat or any analysis of the situation. Are these Facebook posts representatives of the current Hopkins Security Forces? If Hopkins is unable to face this culture in the current security forces, how will they be able to manage the cultures of police brutality with a new police force? Some Facebook posts of these officers, publicly available at Facebook, are the following:



John Harley

Timeline

2020

June

Add Friend

Photos



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Intro

Studied at The Old School Of Hard Knocks  
From Baltimore, Maryland  
Married

Photos



Intro

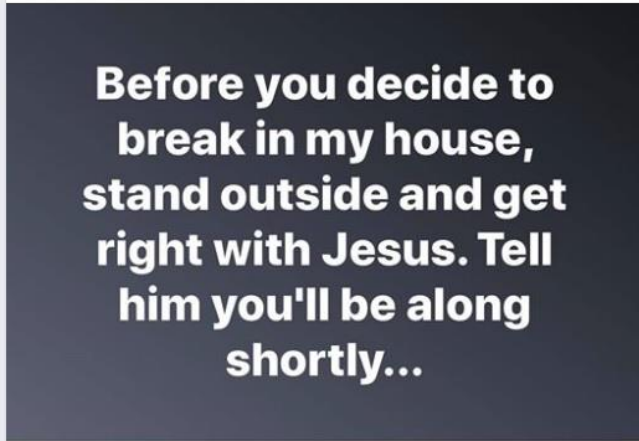
Studied at The Old School Of Hard Knocks  
From Baltimore, Maryland  
Married

Photos



John Harley

June 2 at 11:59 AM



Moonshiner Tyler Wood

June 1 at 8:59 PM

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9,373 Views

Jay Kay

Yesterday at 8:29 AM

Yup is the New Normal the MSM is talking about???

2

2 Comments

Like

Comment

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Cody Boone They are poking a sleeping giant and when the white man's patience and compassion runs dry there will be hell to pay with every action there's a reaction historically caucasian peoples are and always have been the most advanced and tactical warriors which is the sole reason there are any blacks in this country to begin with

Like · Reply · 3h



Robert Noll ALL BLACKS attacking a single WHITE GUY. Where is the riots. Looting, vandalism and arsons by outraged WHITES. NONE.

Like · Reply · 1h



**John Harley**

May 5 at 10:19 PM · 🌐



They caught him when he tried to spend the \$4 he got from the dollar store, he never had that much money before LMFAO What a loser.

This content isn't available right now

When this happens, it's usually because the owner only shared it with a small group of people, changed who can see it or it's been deleted.

😂 2

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



**John Harley**

May 3 · 🌐



I thought that was a guy. DAMNNNNNNNNNN



👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



**Donna Auld Wyatt** She's disgusting 🤢

Like · Reply · 4w



1



**John Harley** Yes HE is LOL

Like · Reply · 4w



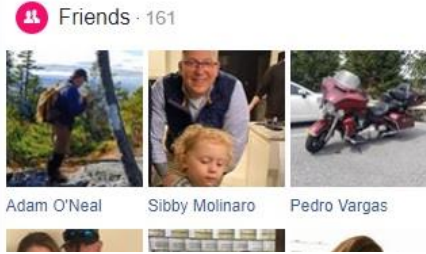
1



Write a reply...







Benjamin Held  
June 20, 2015 · 🌐

**MAKING GOOD PEOPLE  
HELPLESS  
WONT MAKE BAD  
PEOPLE HARMLESS.**



**"SHARE" if you agree**

Benjamin Held  
June 20, 2015 · 🌐

## Five Rules to Remember in Life

1. Forgive your enemy but remember the bastard's name.
2. Money cannot buy happiness but it's more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes than on a bicycle.
3. Help someone when they are in trouble and they will remember you when they're in trouble again.
4. Many people are alive only because its illegal to shoot them.
5. Alcohol does not solve any problems, but then again, neither does milk.

**These should assist you with most daily decision choices.**



Benjamin Held  
June 18, 2015 · 🌐



## **THIS IS A FRIGHTENING STATISTIC**

25% of the women in this country are on medication for mental illness.

That's scary.

It means 75% are running around untreated.



John Harley  
June 1 at 12:55 PM · 🌐



BALTIMORESUN.COM

**Stores vandalized, fire set in bank, Baltimore police pelted as hundreds protest George Floyd death**



8

1 Comment 4 Shares



Like



Comment



Share



Benjamin Held Wild animals!! And wild animals should be put down, there a danger to society

1 like · Reply · 3d



**3) Manipulative and unserious engagement with communities inside and outside Hopkins.** In this section, I criticize the outcomes of the community and student engagement processes led by Hopkins. These two examples show Hopkins leadership's unseriousness to substantively engage with the communities and *stakeholders* involved. With unseriousness, I refer to President Daniels' discursive commitments without setting the conditions for its practical planning and unfolding.

*Example 1 – Community engagement. More than 100 meetings with no fruitful results*

The Office of Local Government and Community Affairs led the conversations with Baltimorean communities, both for the private police bill discussions and the search of the new VP for Security. In an interview published December 5 in the JHU Newsletter, President Ronald Daniels said they participated in more than 125 meetings with the community. Nonetheless, there are no notes from those meetings with which we could have evaluated and analyzed the community's concerns and recommendations vis-à-vis Hopkins private police force. As a result, Hopkins leadership and staff have given reports on meetings that actively exclude the criticisms, concerns, and mistrust towards Hopkins.

Through different means, including the Student Advisory Committee of the VP for Security and the Police Commissioner, we have asked for the notes of the 125 meetings. However, the response has been that the *community input* was included in the *Interim Study on Approaches to Improving Public Safety on and around Johns Hopkins University*, i.e. *Interim Study Report*. The report includes, among other elements, a description of the procedures they followed to assure community engagement, a list of organizations consulted, and communities engaged, a flyer on community events, and some emails sent to the community. Despite the complexities of these descriptions, the substantive input of communities is biased and reduced at the minimum. Instead of having analytical insights on institutional capacity building, *findings from community engagement* stress a narrative legitimizing of the police force.

What is striking is the absence of substantive information from the meetings with the community. Instead of engaging with their content, the *Interim Study Report* delegitimizes the insight actively when it was critical to the University. First, it is dismissed as minoritarian, contrasting it with really restrictive and biased participative procedures -for example, the online feedback or *conversations one-on-one*. Second, it is dismissed by simplifying and deviating the argument. They have simplified the opposition as an over-ideological statement with no other insights but saying "*no to private police*". And they deviated the opposition by arguing that our concerns are linked to broader concerns about the state of policing in Baltimore and the United States, and that allegedly was not Hopkins responsibility.

It is not totally clear which units of the University engaged in the relations of the community. However, we know that the Office of Local Government and Community Affairs and the President's Office were highly involved, while the Center of Social Concerns, the Department of Political Sciences and faculties involved in communities and public health were not involved. Under conditions of reasonable action and good faith, it would have been expected the mobilization of Hopkins resources for community engagement, democratic procedures and a holistic approach to public safety. Instead, Hopkins authorities preferred to treat the relations with the community as if they were politicians, mobilizing the office populated by lobbyists.

**Example 2 – Producing the conditions for unfruitful students' inputs**

The University has organized multiple meetings with students through different mechanisms. Despite several meetings, they all provided very similar inputs, which tended to match with the usual orientations described in documents on Community-Oriented Policing and the President Obama's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing. Meeting after meeting, those that represented Hopkins authorities appreciated the input and tended to describe them as really fruitful and insightful. However, while talking with the same representatives and authorities on one-on-one conversations they agreed in the fact that such inputs were not as useful.

Moreover, the *Interim Study* also excluded the input of those supporting the police, which is reduced to supporting the initiative. As we could expect from conversations, it is hard to believe that their only input was this one. This dismissive approach towards their opinions, reducing them to a binary position in favor/against the police, just reinforce the fact that Hopkins does not institutionally care about these inputs.

In this situation, the University has two alternatives of evaluation. On the one hand, they could evaluate the mechanisms by which they are engaging students, as well as the bureaucratic procedures for implementing the most urgent and *insightful* recommendations. And, on the other hand, they can neglect students input as unfruitful, believing that the meetings are not being useful because Hopkins counterparts have nothing important to say.

Sadly, the University has taken the second venue. Instead on innovating in new ways of participation and collective reflexivity, Hopkins is organizing meetings that does not allow deepening in the topics and reaching insightful inputs. This orientation mirrors Hopkins engagement with the community.

# **Report Student Advisory Committee VP of Security (**

Uploaded by: Link, Sebastian

Position: FAV

## Student Advisory Committee of Security

DRAFT - Notes for the Meeting of August 23, 2019

Revised – August 27, 2019

**Author.** Member of the Student Advisory Committee

This document approaches the search of the new vice-president, the Student Advisory Committee, and the hypothesis of the existence of important flaws within the Campus Safety and Security institution.

### Vice President Search

#### Job Description

The role of the Vice President of Security is defined as a technical work in terms of an *“operational and organizational leader”* with the ability and expertise of *“managing and driving a high-performing, service-oriented security and public safety operation”*. *“This position is responsible for oversight and direction (...) as well as planning and (...) oversight”*.

There are no requirements to the new VP of Security of leading, producing and promoting a vision and a general comprehensive project on security and public safety at Hopkins. Furthermore, the job description refers to acknowledge The President’s Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing, however there is no experience or abilities required in order to plan its concrete application for Hopkins.

Currently, it seems that the leadership unit involved in Public Safety and Security in the University does not master the President’s Task Force Report, nor a community-oriented approach as defined by such a report and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Furthermore, trainings and planning are not oriented by those principles. Thus, there is no institutional background in the University that could offer a base for the new VP of Security in such an expertise.

#### Particular sections

- **Areas of Responsibility.** In relation to crime, the responsibilities are described mostly as responding to crime or to its menace. However, there is no emphasis in producing a comprehensive approach that introduces Hopkins security forces in a bigger project of crime reduction in Baltimore.
- **Reporting relationship.** The VP does not report to any participative organ that includes community members, faculties, or other stakeholders.
- **Experience.** There is no reference to what has been proposed by students in repeated occasions, including no mention on expertise on awareness on racial bias and disabilities, for example, and on how to address police brutality.
- **Major Duties & Responsibilities**

- The VP of Security “*proposes, implements and monitors an annual safety and security plan*” that is in accordance with the national best practices in constitutional and community-oriented public safety and security. Which kind of experience and expertise are required to interpret and to build a plan for a Hopkins 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing?
- The VP of Security “*facilitates community partnership*”. The university has shown no major innovations in the ways in which students, faculties, staff, and communities have been involved in the process. The community-partnership has been related mostly with “listening” some groups, and through investment. This expertise is not asked.
  - The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has defined three key triads for producing community partnership. However, none of these elements are clearly defined in the Job Description.
    - Triad for building community trust. Organizational transformation, problem-solving, and community partnership.
    - Triad of trainings for community-oriented policing. Procedural justice, bias reduction, and racial reconciliation.
    - Following the COPS Office, the problem of mistrust (*sic*) between communities and police forces requires “*racial reconciliation, truth-telling, and police legitimacy*” (Mentel, 2012). Do we have a document analogue to this one but specific to Hopkins and its relationship with Baltimore?

General question: what does it mean “community-oriented”?

- Are we following the orientations of the COPS Office? [See notes above].
- Which are the cons and limits of a community-oriented policing, given the experience of more than 30 years?
- According to The President’s Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing
  - Law enforcement as stakeholder:
    - “*Review and update policies, training, and data collection on use of force, and engage community members and police labor unions in the process*”. Hopkins has followed the path of local government, “*create listening opportunities with the community*”.
    - “*Examine hiring practices and ways to involve the community in recruiting*”.
  - Community as stakeholder
    - “*Participate in problem-solving efforts to reduce crime and improve quality of life*”.
  - The general orientation for getting communities involved in the process of a private police force has been that for local governments (which are already *democratically* elected). “*Create listening opportunities with the community*”.
- Is there anybody in the Search Committee that masters The President’s Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing?

Search Committee

- Of 19 members, 3 are not Hopkins affiliated. These three have been called “community members” and “community representatives” in different meetings and communications.

- The concept “community member” has been ambiguous. Given the sensible character of the new VP of Security, I propose to restrict such a concept to members of the community with no close relationship with public and Hopkins authorities, i.e. not related with the power structures of Baltimore.
- In addition, I propose to incorporate members of the communities that have been facing forced displacement launched by Hopkins, particularly working class and poor communities without political power. In simpler terms, this can be understood as a lack of diversity in terms of “income” (*sic*) and stratification.
- Hint: this is not a moral or essential discussion of who and who is not a community-member, but a discussion over the necessity of integrating those communities that face most likely the dangers of police brutality and the worse possible outcomes of a potential private police force.
  - Attorney Dana Moore.
    - Baltimore Board of Liquor License Commissioners, appointed by the Democrat Governor Martin O’Malley in 2014 (2014-2017). According to Baltimore Brew, she “*gained a reputation for taking neighborhood concerns*” seriously.
    - Deputy city solicitor, working with Andre Davis, who was called by Major Pugh to lead the Baltimore law’s department (2017-today). According to Baltimore City, her annual salary at 2018 was \$155,600 dollars.
    - She was part of the Greater Baltimore Committee
    - She has represented city mayors since 1995.
    - “*Dana Petersen Moore, an attorney with deep ties to City Hall and the State House*”. Baltimore Brew, June 14, 2014
    - “*Dana Petersen Moore, Esq. – Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners – Ms. Moore is the owner of Petersen Moore LLC, in Baltimore MD. She has been Counsel at Venable LLP, Baltimore and a partner at Whiteford, Taylor and Preston, LLP, Baltimore. Ms. Moore has served on the Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commission for Baltimore City, the Maryland Appellate Courts Nominating Commission, the Bates College Board of Trustees and Mother Seaton Academy and the Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel. She chaired the Baltimore City Board of Ethics and chaired the leadership program of the Greater Baltimore Committee. Ms. Moore earned her degree in English Literature from the Bates College and her Juris Doctorate from the Washington and Lee University School of Law*”. Grater Baltimore Committee, July 7, 2014.
  - Samuel T. Redd
    - Former Fire Commissioner of Baltimore City.
    - “*He is a graduate of the Spring 2008 Class of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Citizens Academy. He has served as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and is currently President of the FBI Alumni Association. He hosts and produces a Baltimore City Cable Network (TV25) television show*”.
  - Regina Hammond
    - President of ReBUILD Johnston Square.
    - The only community-member that seems to be independent from the networks of power of Baltimore and Hopkins.

Accountability of the process

- *Secret* community meetings with selected leaders of associations.
- Restricted student participation, both in topics (repetition of usual advice) and participation (only 5 student leaders went to the last meeting).
  - For example, we are asked for advice about the experience and characteristics of the new VP of Security, however there is no mechanisms for making sure that the advisees read the Job Description in order to strengthen and deepen their participation.
  - This is not only a question about having the information in advance, but about having a moment to analyze the information previous to the meeting in order to deepen the conversation in the meeting.
- The website for receiving feedback was not correctly publicized. Furthermore, it is not a specific site, but the site of general feedback associated with the webpage *publicsafetyinitiatives.jhu.edu*.

### **Student Advisory Committee of Security**

There has not been space for giving a reflective and informed advise in the most contentious topics and/or key decisions.

The advice provided by the Committee has been mostly in areas that an expert should already know, i.e. a plan and a program to address the danger of shootings, crisis management, multiple bias, relation with people with disabilities and foreign language, orientations of COPS and the President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing for community-oriented policing, etc. None of those criteria were highlighted in the Job Description for the new VP of Security.

- **Problem.** Student's feedback in the meetings set by Hopkins tends to saturate fast, i.e. one new meeting tends to repeat what has been said before. Consequently, we are facing unproductive meetings in which you listen some ideas, you engage selectively with them, but then they are totally absent from the final decisions (example, Job Description of the New Vice President of Security).
- **Opportunity.** When social groups have already a common conversation in a topic, or similar experiences, there is an opportunity to deepen in such topics. Consequently, "listening" meetings could be transformed in "workshops" and "work meetings" in which the problem of "saturation" is transformed into the opportunity of deepening in our understandings of security and public safety in Hopkins.

The Student Advisory Committee of Security has been presented as an example of student participation, and that it is a good foundation for planning future community involvement in analogue committees [See institutional flaws below].

### **Institutional Flaws**

I recommend adding into the Job Description the expertise required to solve the following hypothesized flaws. These flaws are restricted to a few experiences, so they could refer to the way in which this unit has engaged with students and community members, and not necessarily to a general flaw of the unit. Such an evaluation exceeds this document.

### **Institutional Discontinuity**

The experience of public and closed meetings with students and community members during the last two years, and the changes in security authorities, have shown an important flaw in Hopkins security institutions.

Which are the mechanisms to assure continuity between Melissa Hyatt, Connor Scott and the new VP of Security?

Examples of discontinuity:

- *Cleary violation 2015.* Hopkins authorities in security are not aware about details regarding Department of Education Investigation into JHU Cleary reporting violations related to sexual assault within Cleary boundaries. Security guards were implicated in discouraging survivors reporting and in misreporting.
- *Melissa Hyatt's project and continuity of her commitments.* For example, in one of the former meetings she argued that the Committee will not be used to legitimate the new private police force, unless it is already working as a **substantive** and properly **advisory** committee. Nevertheless, both Melissa Hyatt and, most recently, Connor Scott have named the Student Advisory Committee as an example of participation, which can be analogue to future committees with community members.
- *Needs assessment.* The commitment to study the possibility of a "needs assessment" with the participation of the community was not realized. Hopkins authorities committed publicly to study this possibility in July 24, and three weeks after in the community meetings, the security personnel claims having no knowledge about what a needs assessment is.
- *Repetition of student feedback* without incorporating it in a systematic manner.
- *A comprehensive plan to address shootings and to educate Hopkins community.* This advice was realized since the first meeting of the Student Advisory Committee, and at that moment Hopkins leadership engaged in addressing it. However, one year after there has been no advance in this topic.
- *The President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing* is not mastered by the current unit that lead Public Safety and Security in the University. In such conditions, that report is not being used to orientate trainings, policies, organizational transformations, and every other central decision that could fall under such a report.

### **Training fetishism**

Every concern related with police brutality based on race, gender, sexuality, and disability, among other *social relations*, have been responded by the University with the promise of "trainings" by the university,



i.e. assuming the problem is founded just in the “individual” and its “bias”, but not in the current everyday life in which those individuals engage.

- Racism and police brutality are not just an outcome of mismanaged cases (training to communicate with *minorities* (sic)), or of psychological traits (unconscious bias).
- Is the University conscious in how it participates in producing racism and police brutality in Baltimore? A factor, for example, is the fear of students towards Baltimore, or the lack of a plan to start a process of truth-telling and racial reconciliation between Hopkins and the city (as COPS promote for a community-oriented policing).

In contrast with a community-oriented approach defined by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), University leaders have talked on trainings on racism focusing on *unconscious* bias of police officers. In contrast, COPS distinguishes between bias reduction, and racial reconciliation, which are both organic parts of the model. In that sense, *Hopkins* and *non-Hopkins* Baltimoreans misperceptions (sic) about each other should be addressed.

Furthermore, trainings in themselves are not enough, they require organizational transformation as well, e.g. at the level of operations, organizational culture, and organizational climate, among others. Consequently, I advise to incorporate trainings into a major plan of trainings and organizational transformation, which should be goal oriented, and an organic part of a major project of Public Safety and Security at Hopkins. With such a plan, we can discuss about the goals and which are the best means to achieve them. Without such a plan, the criteria of discussion and for incorporating new advices become arbitrary.

### **Lack of knowledge about participatory procedures**

Hopkins has not shown any innovative way of engaging communities, students, faculties, and other members of the Hopkins community.

Are there other ways to engage community members that are different from “listening”, “forums” and “corporative social responsibility”? See, for example, workshops, work meetings, discussion groups, focus groups, collective interviews, SWOT analysis, problem tree (problem-solving mechanism of participation), cost-benefit analysis, etc.

**Lack of an institutional and comprehensive public safety project with clear vision, mission, goals, and orientations that are successfully incorporated to the operations of the Public Safety and Security unit.**

### **Erratic and mismanagement of spoken / written information**

Examples:

- 4 or 3 community members in the VP Search Committee?

- Will the Hopkins private police patrol be only inside campus, without affecting its neighbors unless they accept the “service” (*sic*)? No, because they will patrol the streets adjacent to campuses, including its inhabitants.
- Neighborhood patrols, what are them?
- Which alternatives to policing were studied? There is no report on such alternatives, including its cost-benefit analysis. The only alternative that seems has been studied was to hire BPD officers.
- Use of ambiguous concepts: community-oriented, community members, community representatives.

**SB0276 ML written testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lizzappi, Malcolm

Position: FAV

Dear Representatives,

I am deeply moved by bill SB0276 to Repeal Hopkins Police. I am a strong believer that less guns means that our communities will be safer. In the areas where the proposed Johns Hopkins police would work, there is already an exorbitant amount of officers per capita. If this police force is to be created, it will further increase the number of individuals with lethal weaponry in the neighborhood, which only further makes civilians unsafe. We do not need more guns. We do not need another Freddie Gray. We do not need another Tyrone West. We do not need another police force in this area. The community needs investment not policing. Policing is not the resource that the Hopkins community needs to be safe. I kindly ask that you support gun control by supporting bill SB0276.

Kindest Regards,  
Malcolm Lizzappi  
Medical Student at JHUSOM

# **SB0276 Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Mack, Daphne

Position: FAV

This is my (Daphne Mack's) testimony in support of bill SB0276 to repeal Hopkins Police. I live very close to Johns Hopkins University and many of my friends live in the Middle East neighborhood. This area is already heavily policed and JHU security has a large presence there. It is in the community's best interest to repeal the Hopkins Police, as faculty, students, and community members have stated our opposition (but have yet to be acknowledged by the JHU administration). If the Hopkins administration cannot put in the effort to deeply listen to those who will be affected by their police, then we cannot expect accountability from them either, especially since the police force would be answering to that same administration. History has shown that police reform is ineffectual. Six years of reform efforts have been implemented throughout the country in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and too many more. Yet these reforms did not save Freddie Gray, Alton Sterling, Korryn Gains, Walter Scott, Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform did not help those lost lives and continuing to expand Hopkin's security measures is certainly not worth another life lost in the community.

We want John Hopkins University to reallocate the funds that were intended for JHPD and place it in the hands of the community, more specifically meaning the residents of Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHPD, the University should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has only created 1,500 new job (20% of what was promised). Reinvesting in the community is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

**testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: MacKinney, Lukas

Position: FAV

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.



# Written Testimony SB2076.pdf

Uploaded by: Mahesh, Smitha

Position: FAV

**Bill Number: SB0276**

**Position: Favorable**

**Testimony by: Smitha Mahesh**

My name is Smitha Mahesh, and I am a senior at Johns Hopkins University and I am writing this testimony to express that I strongly support repealing the Johns Hopkins University Police Department.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, I remember how emotionally exhausting my sophomore year was at Johns Hopkins University. That year was the heart of the Garland-Sit In, protesting the JHU private police force. That year, I recognized how I, a brown woman, a student of a powerful institution, a privileged university with a historically damaged relationship with the Baltimore community, was unheard, and excluded in decisions that impacted my safety and livelihood, as well the safety and wellbeing of my brothers and sisters of marginalized communities.

Years later, we have seen in numerous efforts of the Black Lives Matter movement reminding us repeatedly how the system of policing is fatally flawed and has historically failed to protect and uplift Black and Brown lives. We have seen the injustice caused to Freddie Gray, Breonna Taylor, Tyrone West, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Elijah McClain, Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Oscar Grant, Philando Castile, Trayvon Martin, and so many more.

History has shown us that even a government-sanctioned police force has historically failed to protect and uplift Black lives due to the infiltration of White Supremacy, hatred, and other forms of evil in positions of authority and power. And I want to emphasize a private-police force sanctioned by a university would do no better. In fact, let us NEVER forget the injustice and cruel death caused to Tyrone West, a Black man beaten to death by more than 10 officers, which includes Morgan State police officer David Lewis.

In short, I strongly support repealing the Johns Hopkins University private police force. With the passage of the repeal bill, I would feel safer and included in the community, and hopefully members of marginalized communities would feel safer and included as well. By repealing the Johns Hopkins University Police Department, we can put our time, energy, and investment into what matters most – uplifting the people, organizations, and businesses of Baltimore. We need to be conscious of JHU's historically damaging relationship with Baltimore and put our energy into REMEDYING that relationship, paying reparations, and bringing justice into our communities that have been marginalized. We don't need a private police force because we already have a lot of powerful tools within Baltimore to keep our community safe and strong: organizations like Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition or Communities United have invested their time and energy working with the community and keeping community members safe and feeling supported through the toughest of times. Grassroots organizers and community leaders (from Baltimore Ceasefire to Safe Streets) have dedicated their lives combating gun violence and have the tools to keep our community united towards a promising future. Lastly, many local businesses are committed to uplifting Baltimoreans with jobs, scholarships, and other economic opportunities.

**Repeal the JHU Police Department / Private Police Force PERMANENTLY!**

# **HopkinsPoliceTestimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Matchette, Peter

Position: FAV

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the Abell neighborhood that is in close proximity to the Johns Hopkins Homewood campus. I am writing to support SB0276/HB0336 and the repeal of the Hopkins private police department.

Baltimore currently has among the highest per-capita spending on policing in the nation, and is routinely ranked as one of the most over-policed cities in the country. At a time when police accountability, both within Maryland and nationwide, is at the forefront of our conversations about racial and economic justice, adding additional police to an already over-policed city moves us in the wrong direction.

Johns Hopkins delayed the implementation of their private police force following the black lives matter protests that occurred this summer. This should be interpreted as an admission by Johns Hopkins that this private police force would add to the police violence epidemic affecting our country - a cynical move to buy time until things die down and they are no longer being scrutinized.

Currently the Baltimore Police Department is under a consent decree for its continued civil rights abuses and consistent use of excessive force in dealing with the Black residents of Baltimore. Why are we do believe that an even less accountable police force, controlled by one of the richest organizations in the city that is also in the business of buying up huge swaths of the city in lower-income majority Black neighborhoods will fare any better? What assurances do we have that this armed private police force will not be used to advance the financial interests of Johns Hopkins?

My neighborhood is already filled with various security personnel controlled by Johns Hopkins - from the friendly folks who stand on the corners to the Campus Patrol (who have been increasingly sneaking Baltimore City Sheriffs into their cars). These security personnel already project a sense of power and ownership by Johns Hopkins and work to make my neighborhood feel surveilled and unwelcoming to residents who don't look like they belong here. I do not want unaccountable, armed police with full arrest and kill powers in my neighborhood. I do not want Johns Hopkins to have a paramilitary organization that they can use to intimidate the residents of neighborhoods they are trying to buy up.

Repealing this bill is essential in moving Baltimore forward into an era of greater Police accountability and to start undoing the long segregationist history of this city.

— Peter Matchette

# **SB0276 Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: McCandlish, Georgia

Position: FAV

Hello,

I am writing in support of SB0276 to repeal JHU's Private Police initiative. I am a resident of Better Waverly and a small business Tattoo studio owner in Remington and I am strongly against the establishment of a private, armed police department operated by Johns Hopkins and for the good of the community I live in and the community I work in for the reason listed below.

- 1) The area that the private police will be deployed is already heavily attended to and surveilled by Hopkins security officers. There is absolutely no need to have a more heavily armed presence in these neighborhoods.
- 2) The presence of police in these neighborhoods *and those of Middle East Baltimore* will serve to make the Black and non-white residents and business patrons of these neighborhoods significantly more unsafe with negative public health outcomes (Study: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5388955/>). As a business owner near the Homewood campus with a clientele that is approximately 60% African American the presence of additional police will directly detract from my livelihood and ability to cultivate a safe environment for my clients.
- 3) JHU has shown no accountability towards any of the communities that it has garnered feedback from after over 6100 community members stated their opposition to the police force AND their own community of students - both graduate and undergraduate - protested this initiative. In fact, they employed the Baltimore City Police to arrest and remove their own students from the campus.
- 4) Washington University in St Louis, my alma mater, which does have a private Washington University Police Department, deployed their department against myself and 6 other undergraduates engaging in nonviolent student protest over inequitable administrative decisions. Their department arrested us and immediately turned us over to St Louis County Police to file criminal proceedings after charging us with trespassing on **the campus we attended school**, washing their hands of the situation and taking no disciplinary or restorative steps with us at the university level. University private police **will** be deployed against their own students only to create **more work for BPD** and waste **more City resources** by criminalizing their students and staff rather than establishing protocols of accountability within their institution.
- 5) **The money that JHUPD will inevitably drain from Baltimore's budget directly or indirectly will be better spent investing in community directed public health and safety initiatives.** JHU is the largest land-owning entity in Baltimore yet pays zero property taxes - withholding from the city budget a possible additional **114 million dollars** that could go to integrated, non-policing public health and safety. Why allow them to take more from us?

Sincerely,  
Georgia McCandlish.

# **SB0276 Written Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: McKeague, Madelyn

Position: FAV

January 19, 2021

**TO:** Senator William C. Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
**FROM:** The Anti-Racist Coalition at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health  
**RE:** SB0276, Repealing the Johns Hopkins Private Police Force

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The Anti-Racist Coalition (ARC) at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health strongly supports SB0276 because the existence of more police in Baltimore is harmful to the surrounding community and to Johns Hopkins itself.

ARC was formed by women of color in the wake of nationwide protests and uprisings against police violence and killings during the summer of 2020. The group is committed to the actual implementation of anti-racist practices rather than a theoretical understanding of racism. We find this to be particularly resonant at Johns Hopkins University, an institution that prides itself on its academic reputation despite its perverse history with the greater Baltimore community. We cannot stand idle as our school continues to harm our city.

Police violence is a public health crisis and has been identified as such by the American Public Health Association, the American Medical Association, and the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.<sup>1, 2, 3</sup> There are numerous studies that capture the effects of policing and its disproportionate impact on people who are Black, Latine, Indigenous, and people with disabilities or mental illnesses. We know that just 5% of all arrests in the U.S. are for serious violent offenses; we know that one in a thousand Black men are expected to be killed by the police; we know that interactions with the police is linked to trauma, anxiety, and suicide in young people.<sup>4, 5, 6</sup> But more importantly, we know the stories of people directly impacted by police violence and we know that more police will never be the answer to a safer Baltimore.

The creation of a Johns Hopkins police force is not supported by the community. Over 6,000 students, faculty, staff, and community members signed a petition to oppose the police force, including the NAACP and ACLU of Maryland.<sup>7</sup> The Middle East neighborhood, which has been previously harmed by displacement from Johns Hopkins' East Baltimore Development Initiative and broken promises from the Minority Inclusion Agreement, is already heavily policed by Baltimore Police existing Johns Hopkins' security. Adding even more police would contribute to the ongoing harm faced by residents, faculty, and students.

Reform is not a feasible option. In the years after Freddie Gray's death, Baltimore City attempted to reform its police force. None of reforms took hold; there are more homicides and significantly more spending due to police overtime in comparison to 2014.<sup>8</sup> Campus police are no exception. The Johns Hopkins' proposed accountability board was disbanded merely two months after it was announced. University-affiliated police officers in Baltimore were implicated in the murder of Tyrone West. Police systems and policing are built upon the foundations of anti-Blackness, white supremacy, and the legacy of slavery; there is no such thing as a non-violent police force and there is no way to reform a system intended and designed to kill Black lives.<sup>9</sup>



Just as ARC was formed in the light of a national reckoning, Johns Hopkins called for a two-year pause on the development of its private police force in hopes for a more palatable time to police Baltimore. We call on you to put an end to it altogether and vote for SB0276.

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<sup>1</sup> Addressing Law Enforcement Violence as a Public Health Issue. American Public Health Association. 13 November 2018. <https://www.apha.org/policies-and-advocacy/public-health-policy-statements/policy-database/2019/01/29/law-enforcement-violence>

<sup>2</sup> Ehrenfeld, JM, Harris, PA. Police brutality must stop. American Medical Association. 29 May 2020. <https://www.ama-assn.org/about/leadership/police-brutality-must-stop>

<sup>3</sup> MacKenzie, EJ, Cooper, LA. Racism: A Public Health Crisis. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. 31 May 2020. <https://www.jhsph.edu/about/dean-mackenzie/viewpoint/racism-a-public-health-crisis.html>

<sup>4</sup> Sawyer, W. Ten key facts about policing: Highlights from our work. Prison Policy Initiative. 5 June 2020. <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2020/06/05/policingfacts/>

<sup>5</sup> Edwards F, Lee H, Esposito M. Risk of being killed by police use of force in the United States by age, race–ethnicity, and sex. PNAS. 2019;116(34):16793-16798. doi:10.1073/pnas.1821204116

<sup>6</sup> DeVlyder JE, Jun H-J, Fedina L, et al. Association of Exposure to Police Violence With Prevalence of Mental Health Symptoms Among Urban Residents in the United States. JAMA Netw Open. 2018;1(7):e184945. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2018.4945

<sup>7</sup> No JHU Private Police Petition Signatories. 29 June 2020.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13twmkewdH7IFe1Xd7Z1pwy7hCRxSKSYJ/view>

<sup>8</sup> Woods, B, Soderberg, B. Police ‘reform’ doesn’t work. Baltimore proves it. The Eagle. 18 June 2020.

[https://theeagle.com/opinion/columnists/police-reform-doesnt-work-baltimore-proves-it/article\\_ea969f0d-9bd2-5728-b166-9a0f6f4adf99.html](https://theeagle.com/opinion/columnists/police-reform-doesnt-work-baltimore-proves-it/article_ea969f0d-9bd2-5728-b166-9a0f6f4adf99.html)

<sup>9</sup> Kaba, M. Yes, We Mean Literally Abolish the Police. The New York Times. 12 June 2020.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/12/opinion/sunday/floyd-abolish-defund-police.html>

# **JWM testimony SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Modell, Joshua

Position: FAV

As a faculty member of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, I write in strong support of repealing the Johns Hopkins police force. The creation of the police force has been met with widespread condemnation among faculty, students and the local residents of East Baltimore. The people of Baltimore do not need more policing, they need jobs, educational opportunities, access to healthcare, and initiatives to improve relations with Johns Hopkins. The police force will work counter to all of these objectives while sowing new levels of distrust and generating optics that will embarrass the University and the city. I live in Baltimore City and work at the Hopkins East Baltimore campus, and I fully support this repeal.

Sincerely,  
Joshua W. Modell  
Assistant Professor  
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

# **SB0276 to Repeal Hopkins Police.pdf**

Uploaded by: Morgan, Cameron

Position: FAV

## **SB0276 to Repeal Hopkins Police**

I believe the motion to repeal Hopkins Police in the area is vital to the community and to the lives of the neighborhood which the aim to effect.

The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence. In that same neighborhood, over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.

Moreover, research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.

In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.

The community in East Baltimore want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Sincerely,  
Cameron Morgan

**SB0276\_testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Otter, Justin

Position: FAV

My name is Justin Otter and I am a graduate student worker at Johns Hopkins University. I am writing to provide testimony strongly in support of SB0276. As a student, I know the addition of more police on and around the Johns Hopkins campus would not make me any safer and would only make these spaces more dangerous, especially for students and community members of color. A private Johns Hopkins police force would be totally unaccountable to the community they claim to serve, as they would be funded and run by a private institution without community oversight of control. Even worse, arming these officers with deadly weapons makes them a much greater threat and will surely result in tragedy. Community safety is deeply important, but this police force will not serve the community and will only make the people of Baltimore less safe. I stand with community organizers supporting this bill and JHU sit-in, and I strongly support the passage of SB0276.

# **Repeal of AuhtORIZATION of Hopkins police.pdf**

Uploaded by: Pappas-Brown, Valeria

Position: FAV



January 18, 2021

Dear Maryland State Legislature,

Today, I am writing you in the support of the bills that will repeal the ability of Johns Hopkins University to establish a private police force. The bills are SB0276 and HB0336. It is concerning that Hopkins wants to establish an extra police force to patrol its campuses. Johns Hopkins has an endowment of over 6 billion dollars, but acts like a corporation, in asking Maryland taxpayers especially those in Baltimore City to help foot the bill for their private police and bear the brunt of it. Johns Hopkins is a place where this public money would be better used for education and support of the East Baltimore community in which they have disenfranchised since its founding. This police force would target those people that are living alongside of Johns Hopkins, which the majority are poor and black. Many students of color are opposed to this police force because it is another way to racially profile them and the communities that Hopkin's calls home. Over 100 faculty also have signed a letter to the administration opposing this police force. Their concern is that Baltimore's institutions especially the police are amid a credibility crisis. If the summer of 2021 and the peaceful protests against police brutality have taught us anything, it is that in cities like Baltimore, we do not need more police but more restorative practices, so we can truly say "Black Lives Matter" and mean it. Johns Hopkins already has an extensive public safety force like any university and should not be treated differently than other institutions. I demand that Johns Hopkins be unequivocally prohibited from establishing a police force now and in the future.

Sincerely,

*Valeria Pappas-Brown*  
Valeria Pappas-Brown

903 South Clinton Street

Baltimore, MD 21224

**SB0276 Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Parry, Alexander

Position: FAV

To Whom It May Concern:

As a doctoral student at Johns Hopkins University and a member of the Baltimore community, I unequivocally endorse Bill SB0276 to repeal the legislation enabling Johns Hopkins to establish its own private police force. Black students, faculty, and staff at Johns Hopkins have consistently expressed concerns about the ways armed police would threaten their own safety and exacerbate existing tensions between the university and the city of Baltimore. Campus police will not make the university or its surroundings safer but will continue its harmful legacy of prioritizing its own wealth and reputation over the needs of its Black members, patients, and neighbors.

Johns Hopkins has refused to reckon with the public outcry against policing extending from the Garland Hall Sit-In to the Black Lives Matter movement and has once again raised the fears of a small yet vocal minority of students, parents, and wealthy donors over its ethical obligations to Baltimore. The university has also showcased its willingness to use campus security to suppress political opposition to its policies and initiatives. Johns Hopkins does not need any more control over its students and employees or the city of Baltimore, let alone over the lives of marginalized individuals on and off campus.

The Maryland General Assembly can and should reject the efforts of Johns Hopkins to form its own private police force on behalf of the many stakeholders the university and state government have previously chosen to ignore.

Sincerely,

Alexander Parry  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Department of the History of Medicine  
Johns Hopkins University

# **hopkins police repeal.pdf**

Uploaded by: Pathare, Rohan

Position: FAV

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

**jhupolice.pdf**

Uploaded by: perzan, steven

Position: FAV

I am a resident of Baltimore city. I support Senator Jill Carter's SB0276, which would repeal the legislation giving Johns Hopkins University permission to found its own private, armed police department. I also believe we should give Michael Harrison the chance to do the plan we hired him to do.

My reasoning is as follows:

1. There is no evidence that this police force will be effective in reducing crime and making Baltimore safer. There is overwhelming evidence that armed police create violence, particularly against Black citizens. This has been made even more public this year with the deaths, at police hands, of Black citizens such as Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, etc. The problems with American policing far predate these tragedies and the answer is not more policing.
3. Baltimore community members strongly oppose the police force, a fact which Hopkins has consistently ignored. I do not want us to drive further wedges between (majority-white) Hopkins and the (majority-Black) Baltimore community by pushing through this immensely unpopular initiative.
4. More specific to university policing: We do not want avoidable tragedies such as the shooting of a University of Chicago student by a U of C police officer in 2018 (<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/breaking/ct-met-university-of-chicago-police-shooting-20180404-story.html>).

We are in a long-overdue moment of national reckoning about race and policing. Let's take the opportunity to move forward rather than doubling down on militant violence.

**SB 0276 testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Pierson, Lola

Position: FAV



I am strongly in favor of SB0276. I have lived and worked in close proximity to Hopkins campus for over a decade. I absolutely oppose the creation of a private police force. I believe a private Hopkins police presence will create many more problems than it solves and will make students, faculty, staff, and citizens less safe.

# **My Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Quesada, Agustina

Position: FAV

## SBO276

My name is Agustina Quesada. I reside at 3628 Keswick Road, Baltimore, MD, 21211 and call Baltimore my home. I graduated from Johns Hopkins in May 2019 with a bachelor's in physics and then worked at the University as a mechanical engineer for a year.

I am writing in support of [SB0276](#), to repeal the ability of Johns Hopkins University to create their own private police force.

Below I will discuss my reasons for the support of this bill:

1. The undemocratic nature of the process in which the original bill was established and the force was planned.
2. Reasons for the disapproval of the force.

### **1. Johns Hopkins has a troubling history of subverting democracy, and their lobbying for the creation of their own police force is no exception.**

#### **(i) The police force faces overwhelming opposition.**

The University spent \$581,000 on lobbying in Annapolis during the push for the bill and donated \$16,000 to Mayor Pugh's campaign. Mayor Pugh has been sentenced to prison for fraud, tax evasion, and conspiracy, and Cheryl Glenn, one of the two sponsors of the bill, pleaded guilty to bribery and fraud. The bill came as a surprise to many. The University decided it wanted a police force and has stuck to their unilateral decision.

Over the next few years, the administration willfully ignored the rallies and pleas to end the planning of the force from hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and Baltimore residents. President Ronald Daniels refused to meet with several student groups on the subject. Below are some details which illuminate the scale of the opposition.

Due to a lack of response from the University, on April 3, 2019, students and community members began an occupation of the administrative building which lasted for 35 days. Over the course of the sit-in, hundreds participated in rallies against the police force. On April 3, over 250 people attended a "West Wednesday" rally near the Homewood campus to protest the private police. "West Wednesday" is a rally that occurs every Wednesday since 2013, demanding justice for the killing of Tyrone West by Morgan State University Police Officer David Lewis. There were 3 more well-attended West Wednesday rallies in conjunction with the JHU Sit-In. These are just a few of the many rallies that have been held to oppose the private police.

The sit-in was only able to last so long due to the vast opposition of the police force by students, staff, faculty, and community members, and their support of the JHU Sit-in. Several faculty members attended sit-in events, talks, and rallies. As of then, 49 community associations opposed the creation of the police force. UNITE HERE Local 7, the union representing dining workers at Homewood campus, issued a [statement](#) in opposition. A Student Government Association (SGA) referendum found that (as of May 2019), 73.5% of the 2070 undergraduates polled opposed the

private police. Subsequently, the SGA issued a [resolution](#) in opposition to the police. Many student groups oppose the private police force, including the [African Students Association](#) and [13 groups](#) of the Johns Hopkins Inter-Asian Council. A [letter](#) signed by over 100 faculty members condemned the creation process, calling it “undemocratic.” During the May 23, 2019 graduation, 32 graduating seniors refused to shake the President’s hand.

The sentiment against Baltimore university private police forces is not unique to Hopkins. Many MICA students supported the sit-in, and on May 15, 2019, the president issued a campus-wide email stating that the College has no intention of pursuing their own police force: “For MICA, our community-based approach to campus safety has been the right strategy; we will continue to engage our students, faculty, staff, and neighbors to ensure its effectiveness.”

A description of the communications that occurred during the JHU Sit-In illustrates the University’s lack of commitment to transparency and democracy. One of the demands of the JHU Sit-In was for a meeting with President Daniels which would be broadcasted live for anyone interested to see. President Daniels said that he would only meet if everyone left the building, however his refusal to meet with previously meant that he had [established distrust](#), and so the JHU Sit-In rejected his caveat of vacating the building as a condition of negotiation. On May 6, Daniels offered a meeting for [less than 24 hours in advance](#). It was [such a short notice](#) that the JHU Sit-In was unable to organize to respond as a group and attend. No such open meeting happened until July 24, 2019, after continual pressure from the JHU Sit-In. This meeting was open only to students, with the administration explicitly barring community members from attending. During the meeting, the administration [refused](#) to consider the decision of establishing a private police force. As President Daniels told two students during the sit-in on April 3, to him democracy means “accepting the decision that was already made.” Even if that decision was made undemocratically, it seems. Despite assurances that there will be more meetings, there has yet to be another meeting with the JHU Sit-In.

In June 2020, [81 student groups](#) signed a statement of solidarity in opposition to the police force. The Hopkins Grad Union also issued a [statement](#) in opposition. On June 20, 2019, 503 alumni signed a [letter](#) condemning the private police force. As of June 28, 2020, 382 faculty signed a [petition](#) opposing the force, along with 2,322 alumni, 347 staff, 970 undergrads, 954 graduate students, post-docs, and trainees, and 1,007 Baltimore residents. As of June 30, 2020, there were a total of [6152](#) signatures on that petition. And during the new school year, a new organization formed: the Coalition Against Policing by Hopkins, which includes mostly students unaffiliated with the JHU Sit-In. All of this demonstrates the continual opposition to the police force since the bill was enacted.

**(ii) The University claims that it has made a great effort at engaging the community to guide its decision. This is misleading.**

The following an excerpt a friend who attended the meetings wrote:

Many heard about the plans to form a private police force for the first time shortly after the first bill was introduced to the Summer 2018 regular session on March 5, 2018. There were no prior community engagement attempts. Had it not been for the immediate resistance from the community, which was enough to halt the state legislature’s

deliberations, the bill would have taken effect as of October 1, 2018. It was only after the first bill was halted that the administration decided to engage in the necessary formalities to be able to claim that they received input from the community.

In the public discussion series, forums, and meetings, community members were not given a platform. They were not allowed to steer the conversation and were given very limited time at the end of each event to voice concerns. They were discouraged from making statements that were not phrased as questions, and the administration constantly filibustered in order to take up most of the time. Despite the fact that nearly all community members who voiced their opinions opposed the police force, it was clear that the administration only intended to make the claim that differing viewpoints had been heard and had no real plans to reconsider public safety initiatives.

Part of these attempts at community engagement consisted of a 3-part discussion series titled “The Challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing,” during which experts were invited to be panelists in moderated discussions followed by a short Q&A session. In the first session about the landscape of university policing, it was rightfully pointed out that every panelist had significant experience in law enforcement and was in support of the proposed police force. One of panelists was Cedric Alexander, Public Safety Director of DeKalb County, Georgia. He argued that “racial profiling begins at the top;” if a chief is tolerant of profiling, then that attitude will trickle down. He argued that a top-down approach is how police departments can achieve greater transparency. However, residents of his county say he’s failed to fix a police department sorely in need of reform. After the 2014 police murder of Kevin Davis, a Black man who had called 911 himself, DCPD conducted an internal investigation for 38 days. It was only after protesters staged a sit-in outside the local courthouse that Alexander handed over the probe to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Critics say he has mishandled numerous responses to police shootings and disregarded community concerns. He failed to enact crisis training reform until after Anthony Hill, a veteran with bipolar disorder, was killed by a DCPD officer in 2015. Serving as an analyst for CNN, Alexander has condemned the Baltimore uprising and defended BPD’s handling of the Freddie Gray case.

Another panelist was Leonard Hamm, who argued that an advantage of university police departments is the increased transparency that results from “better relationships with the community.” Ironically, Leonard Hamm was Director of Public Safety at Baltimore’s Coppin State University when 18 year-old Lavar Douglas was killed by Coppin State campus police in 2016. It was only after the NYT drew attention to the case in a five-part podcast that he finally released the name of the officer who killed Douglas, two years after the shooting.

Another panelist was Maureen Rush, the superintendent of Penn Police which Hopkins also considers an excellent model and plans to emulate. Her own campus officers unionized against body cameras, which had been demanded by all Black student groups on campus, and stipulated in their new contract that they must be able to review all body camera footage.

In the short Q&A session that followed, the vast majority of those asking questions were opposed to the police force. Community members raised the issue that Johns Hopkins

Hospital has not put resources into the community for over 40 years, that Hopkins still avoids taxes, and that private police forces across the nation lack accountability. A University of Chicago alum noted that 93% of people stopped by their campus police were Black. A University of Pennsylvania alum brought up a 2004 report on racial profiling and mentioned the fact that a majority of suspects identified by Homewood crime alerts are Black males between the ages of 17 to 23. Others mentioned the University's role in gentrification and creating crime and poverty in Baltimore, while refusing to pay workers a living wage.

The second session took place on November 9, 2018. One panelist, Nancy La Vigne, Vice President for Justice Policy at the Urban Institute, talked about cultural pathologies within police departments. She stressed that the communities she is primarily concerned about are over-policed minority communities, and the need to consider that “the legacy of white supremacy [and] genocide is carried with an officer in blue.” According to another panelist Christy Lopez, Distinguished Visitor From Practice at Georgetown Law School, “even policing that is constitutional or lawful is an intrusion on peoples’ lives.” She continued to say, “police are not the primary driver of bringing down violence or creating safety” and that “policing is actually a small component of these major sets of issues.” The major theme raised was how Hopkins can create an accountable police force given the power of the Fraternal Order of Police and Maryland police. The last panelist, Vesla Weaver, Associate Professor of Political Science and Sociology at JHU, read out three excerpts from accounts of Black residents who had been traumatized by police encounters since they were children. When asked about community engagement, all panelists agreed that representation in research is “woefully biased” and La Vigne noted that the people who could be present at the venue at 11am were not representative of the community. Lopez stressed the need for “front-end accountability” as opposed to “rear-end” accountability mechanisms such as review boards, which work after harm was done and police departments are on the defensive. Once again, most questions at the end were critical of private policing. One community member asked about the Maryland Law Enforcement Officer’s Bill of Rights, and Lopez responded that due to the very aberrational Bill of Rights, it is “impossible” for police officers to be held accountable. While the second session still did not provide an adequate platform for community members to control public discourse, the panelists were both skeptical and critical of model efforts to achieve accountability.

The university held open forums, one in the Homewood area and one in East Baltimore. The first forum in the Homewood area was held on November 13, 2018. Despite stating that the forum was an opportunity to “hear directly from neighbors, students, faculty and staff about their experiences, recommendations and concerns related to the proposed campus police department,” the majority of the talking was done by then Vice President of Security Melissa Hyatt, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Daniel Ennis, Special Advisor to the Office of the Vice President Jeanne Hitchcock, and President Daniels. For an hour and a half, Ennis, Hitchcock, Daniels, and Hyatt spent the so-called forum justifying their plans to the audience, citing an easily disproved uptick in crime and alluding to active shooter threats. After their presentation, a community resident immediately pointed out that less than 30 minutes for questions remained, challenging the panel on how they can justifiably call this an “open forum.” The resident complained that they did not come there to be lectured at by the administration the entire time. Hitchcock conceded this point and by the end, after others had raised the same complaints, remarked “I don’t think we heard a lot from community today.” Despite this concern, and their description of the event as a place to hear “experiences, recommendations and concerns,” the panelists repeatedly requested

that community members only ask questions rather than make statements, and even after some residents made comments rather than pose questions anyway, the panelists responded and took up even more time. Only one person made a statement in support of the police force, while the rest were critical.

The second forum in East Baltimore was held on November 26, 2018 and drew a large turnout from the community. At start of the forum, Hitchcock said they were shortening the administration's opening remarks to emphasize how they are listening to feedback. During his opening remarks, Daniels stressed that the university is trying to create a public service, despite Hopkins being a private institution. Daniels stated that "we're going to" have legislation introduced authorizing private police, betraying their intentions to solicit feedback but without expecting to reconsider the initiative. Daniels once again talked about crime rates, the number of shootings in Baltimore, an incident where an affiliate was tackled near the East Baltimore campus, and again evoked other universities having police forces as a reason for Hopkins to have one, claiming that Hopkins is behind peer institutions. Daniels argued that a "silent majority" supports the police force but cannot be vocal about it. Daniels promised to pursue accountability mechanisms and to keep the police force at 100 officers across all campuses. After half an hour of opening remarks from Daniels and Hyatt, the first question was about what accountability mechanisms look like. Daniels admitted to not being aware of a student shot by campus cops during a mental health episode at the University of Chicago. (The student later joined the JHU Sit-In via a video call on the 300<sup>th</sup> West Wednesday Rally during the escalation to a lockdown on May 1, 2019). Hyatt answered that there would be an internal investigation, a criminal investigation, and perhaps a third-party investigation. Another neighborhood resident mentioned the police killing of Sam DuBose by University of Cincinnati police, after which the cop who killed him received a settlement from the university. Overall, the overwhelming sentiment was again the community's lack of trust in Hopkins, to which Daniels took personal offense, claiming that "we are the community" and that "we're not talking about blind trust."

In a joint meeting with the Harwood Community Association and the Abell Improvement Association, Vice President of Security Melissa Hyatt gave a 45-minute presentation on the logistics of a Johns Hopkins Police Department. Hyatt had not expected to hear any opposition and was brought back into the room to hear a 10-minute counter-presentation from a member of Students Against Private Police. In the presentation, SAPP members raised concerns about racial profiling, accountability, and numerous police killings by campus police officers that resulted in no accountability for the killers. Afterwards, both community organizations voted to oppose the police force.

These forums were not recorded and there were no meeting minutes. They occurred during normal working hours, making it hard for community members to attend. Most of the other meetings were held behind closed doors, also with no form of recording. Recording of open meetings was denied. However flawed, President Daniels made no efforts to maintain these channels once the bill was passed.

In addition, The JHU Government and Community Affairs office focuses mainly on government affairs and is understaffed. There should be an office dedicated to community affairs alone. According to the JHU Sit-In, residents have been [ignored](#) by this office.

The President, Provost, CEO of JH Hospital, and community engagement liaisons spend more time working with those who have power rather than engaging with people who are vulnerable to the decisions that will be made.

It was announced at a search committee meeting for the Vice President of Security that the private police will begin patrolling in East Baltimore and later extend its patrol area because undisclosed “community leaders” are supported. There was a meeting the night before in East Baltimore, and this was not mentioned.

**(iii) The University enjoys an authoritarian structure of decision making. It has lost its focus as an institution of education and operates as a corporation buying real estate. Such an institution is incapable of making democratic decisions.**

Financial and administrative authority is centralized under President Daniels and his highly-paid advisers. Major decisions are made in his cabinet, composed of 12 vice presidents, an acting vice president, a vice provost, a secretary, and three senior advisers. Of the vice presidents, only the provost has significant classroom and research experience. The Board of Trustees has 36 members that are almost all from outside academia. The Faculty Budget Advisory Committee has members hand-picked by administrators. In some universities there are faculty senates so faculty has some leverage on university decisions. Johns Hopkins does not have such a structure in place.

It is astonishing that one of the leading schools of public health refuses to take a public health approach to violence. The administration is a corporation out of touch with its faculty. As I heard from a faculty member, there is a lot of intimidation and fear of retaliation among faculty. As an example, Johns Hopkins threatened faculty who attended the Sit-In.

## **2. Some reasons for opposing the private police force:**

**(i) The failure of police departments across the country has been highlighted by the massive BLM protests. Reforms over the past six years have proved ineffectual, and a model for a responsible and safe police force just does not exist.**

Establishing a private police force strengthens Hopkins’ relationship with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD), which experienced one of the largest police corruption cases in US history.

**(ii) Existing campus university police face the same problems that are being highlighted in these protests and pose a particular threat towards Black students and community members.**

I have already mentioned the case of Tyrone West, and I would like to bring your attention to these additional cases which display the failures of policing:

Coppin State University:

- In 2016, Lavar Douglas, a Black teen, was shot and killed by a campus officer.



University of Alabama:

- In 2012, Gilbert Collar, a naked student who on psychedelic drugs, was shot and killed by campus officer, who had access to pepper spray and a baton.

Portland State University:

- In 2018, Jason Washington, a Black US postal worker and Navy veteran who was attempting to break up a fight, was at fatally shot at 9 times by two campus officers.

University of Cincinnati:

- In 2015, Sam Dubose, an unarmed Black man, was shot and killed at a traffic stop by a campus officer. A grand jury indicted the officer on charges of murder and manslaughter.

Yale:

- In 2015, [Tahj Blow](#), a Black student who was leaving the library, was held at gunpoint because the officers thought he was a suspect from a tweet.
- In 2018, [Lolade Siyonbola](#), a Black graduate student, was taking a nap in her dorm common room when a White Ph.D student woke her up and called the police on her.
- In 2019, [a campus police officer](#) was one of the two officers who shot an unarmed Black woman who was in the car a mile from campus.

Georgia Tech:

- In 2018, [Scout Schultz](#), a student with clinical depression, was shot and killed by a campus officer.

Colorado University:

- In 2017, Jeremy Holmes, a mentally ill student, was shot and killed by a campus officer.

University of Chicago:

- In 2018, Charles Thomas, a Black student, was shot at by a campus officer.

South Dakota State University:

- In 2018, [two campus officers](#) arrested a teen for walking across campus. The officer handcuffed her and restrained her face-down. As a result, her wrists her dislocated.

American University:

- In 2019, [a Black student](#) was dragged by multiple campus police officers out of her dorm under false claims.

University of the Incarnate Word:

- In 2013, [a campus officer](#) killed a student.

University of Utah:

- In 2018, [Lauren McCluskey](#), a student, warned campus police of her ex-boyfriend more than 20 times before he murdered her. He had been seen on campus, but nothing was done.

Drexel University:

- In 2011, [a campus officer](#) used his police car to ram an unarmed fleeing suspect into a wall. The university police chief told the Philadelphia police not to investigate the incident and ruled it an accident.

Temple University:

- In 2016, [two campus officers](#) fatally tortured one of their girlfriends.
- From 2015-2017, 2.2% of drug-related incidents (including alcohol) resulted in arrests by on campus, while on the streets, [50%](#) of drug-related incidents resulted in arrests by campus police.

University of Pennsylvania:

- From 2012-2015, [seven cases](#) of excessive force and violation of civil rights have been filed against campus police.

University of California:

- From 2015 to the present, [73%](#) of people from traffic stops made by UCPD were Black. The University operates in a primarily Black neighborhood, so most of the stops made were of the neighbors themselves. In addition, Black drivers stopped by UCPD are [cited at twice the rate](#) and searched at five times the rate in comparison to White drivers. From April 2018 to April 2020, [96%](#) of people stopped in the field by UCPD were Black.
- In 2010, UCPD placed a Black student in a [chokehold](#) and pinned him down for being “unruly” in the library’s silent level.
- In 2006, a UCLA student, [Mostafa Tabatabaiejad](#), was tased by campus police for refusing to show his ID.

These are not exceptions to a rule. These are just a very small amount of the total cases that result from university policing, and they should be warning enough that the mere presence of an armed police force on a university campus is dangerous. The *Interim Study* conducted by Johns Hopkins conveniently leaves out the problems with policing. Issues can be found in the police departments of all institutions that Johns Hopkins has identifies as peers. In addition, given the issues of transparency the institution already harbors, investigations into the misconduct of private police officers are likely to be even less transparent than those concerning public police officers. Suggesting that JHU could implement a “safe” and indiscriminatory police force is willfully naïve.

Police with weapons on campus will increase fear, especially for minority students. We need mental health responders and violence interrupters, not police. (See Section (vi).)

**(iii) Johns Hopkins Security is already discriminatory and so is the University as a whole.**

As I hope will be brought up in further detail by other testimonies, Black and Brown students and Baltimoreans are already disproportionately targeted by Johns Hopkins security and BPD. Private police on campus are likely to exacerbate the racial profiling that already occurs, with even more dangerous and potentially fatal consequences.

In 2011, a White student called security on a Black student in the library. Security officers responded. Lester Spence, a JHU professor of political science and Africana studies correctly [said](#), “That security force did what they were tasked to do. So, even if we have a police force that was properly trained, there’s that issue that can’t really be reconciled.”

Discrimination is an institutional problem as well. In Fall 2015, over 200 student protesters surrounded President Daniels, demanding that the administration respond to structural racism and inequality on campus.

**(iv) The University does not have the trust of the community... how they can possibly be creating a police force that will be welcomed by it?**

President Daniels is a Board Member of the East Baltimore Development Initiative (EBDI). Hitchcock, who was present for the November 26, 2018 forum in East Baltimore, is the Board Chair. JHU has been involved in the EBDI since 2001. The EBDI forcibly displaced 800 Black families in East Baltimore and has the intention of removing 750 houses in 88 acres of land in the Middle East neighborhood. On January 13, 2020, the EBDI disgustingly [held](#) a "demolition celebration to commemorate tearing down the remaining blight in the northwest area of Eager park," which was met by protests. Their actions have directly resulted in homelessness and disrupted whatever stability the former residents might have had.

In the Minority Inclusion Agreement signed in April 2002, the EBDI and its founders promised 8,000 new jobs and the establishment of a community reinvestment fund. As of today, both of these promises have been broken. As of 2019, JHU has created only about 1,500 jobs, 20% of that promise. The funds allocated for JHPD should be going toward their unfulfilled promise.

One wonders why JHU planned to initially deploy their armed police force in the Middle East neighborhood.

The University is no friend to its workers as well, with a [large history](#) of crushing unions. Also, a troubling history of suing patients.

Establishing a private police force would continue Hopkins' legacy of exploiting Baltimore citizens, further damaging the tense relationship between Hopkins and Baltimore communities. The borders of Johns Hopkins are ill-defined and expanding, as the institution continues to gentrify the city. A police force accountable to a private entity rather than community members will impact those living, working, and traveling in and around Hopkins properties.

**(v) The University claims that it does not have enough funding. Where will the funds for the private police come from?**

In addition to the funding that is needed to complete the multi-million EBDI promise, JHU has been taking extreme measures during the pandemic. They [freezed](#) their employees' retirement account contributions in a decision that involved no meaningful faculty votes, no consulting of any institutions of faculty governance, and no mention of alternatives or explanations; yet another example of their issues with transparency. The financial problem is, the university set nothing aside in anticipation of risks, despite the Johns Hopkins Hospital having a 20 year-old Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response. Rather, Hopkins has continually engaged in new expensive building and gentrification projects. They have lost sight of their role as an institution of education and have become a corporation operating on margins. Adding another expensive project—an unwanted police force, is tipping over their already precarious stability.

**(vi) Violence Interruption has shown to be much more effective at reducing crime.**

The solution to police violence is not reform but an abolition of policing in all its forms. There are numerous alternatives to policing which will better ensure the safety of students and community members.

[Violence interruption](#) views gun violence through an epidemiological lens and prevents it with public health approaches. Baltimore's Safe Streets program has proven to be effective at reducing crime. A [2012 study](#) from Johns Hopkins showed:

- 56% reductions in killings in Cherry Hill
- 26% reduction in McElderry Park
- 34% in shootings in Ellwood Park
- Reductions across all 4 communities
- 276 conflict mediations
- Reductions spread to surrounding communities
- Norms on violence changed; people in program site were much less likely to accept the use of a gun to settle a dispute; 4 times more likely to show little or no support for gun use.

In 2019, Safe Streets mediated more than [1,800](#) conflicts, and Cherry Hill saw 395 days without homicide. Cherry Hill was one of the most successful locations because it was integrated with mental health care, having an office in the Family Health Centers of Baltimore.

An [excerpt](#) from the Baltimore Sun:

The workers go “beyond the call of duty” to help the neighborhood by constantly walking around and talking with people. He also said the workers make sure kids are addressing trauma, in hopes of stopping the cycle of violence. Safe Streets team members, as well as Reisinger and City Councilman Zeke Cohen, spent one morning this week greeting students at a local elementary school, right at the edge of the street that saw the fatal shootings, to make sure teachers and counselors were talking with the kids. “You need people you can trust and talk with,” said Aaron Hannah, a pastor and longtime Cherry Hill resident. “Homicides don’t get resolved in crowds, they get resolved with intimate conversations.”

The university has contributed \$2 million to another violence interruption program called ROCA, and it should consider expanding on this rather than creating an unwanted, undemocratic, and dangerous police presence. In addition, they could put their funds toward creating a team of mental health first responders, because police are often the first ones sent to mental health situations, when they are entirely unequipped for them. They could be putting funds towards having responders to rape victims as well, a massive problem on campus. (Not to mention, the JHU OIE has numerous [issues](#).) Even just investing in the community instead of destroying it will help reduce crime as people gain more stable livelihoods.

**(vi) Lastly, A private police presence is likely to discourage students from exercising their freedom of expression, such as participating in protests.**

Just two examples:

- In 2013, UCPD [trampled](#), hit, and threw students and community members at a peaceful sit-in.
- In 2011, a UC Davis officer used [pepper spray](#) on peaceful sitting student protestors.

There is much more to say, but I have limited time. In addition to the decision being undemocratic and dangerous, Johns Hopkins is not an institution that can be trusted with a police force.

**Thank you for your consideration.**

**SB076\_RJS.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rachel, Strodel

Position: FAV

## Written Testimony in Support of SB0276

January 19, 2020

Dear Senator William C. Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

My name is Rachel Strodel and I am a second-year medical student at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and resident of the 46<sup>th</sup> district. I'm writing to express my complete and enthusiastic support for SB076, a bill to repeal the Johns Hopkins private police authority, and to demand you do everything you can to ensure it passes.

As an undergraduate, I attended Yale University, where I saw first-hand how unsafe private police forces are. During my freshman year, in Jan 2015, Tahj Blow of the class of 2016 was [approached by a Yale police officer with his gun drawn](#) and ordered to the ground. After Blow was released, a suspect was arrested. The university and the police acknowledged that “the student who was detained endured a deeply troubling experience,” yet an internal investigation by the university did not find that the officer did anything wrong.

A year after I graduated, while investigating a robbery off Yale's campus, Hamden and Yale police officers fired [16 shots at Paul Witherspoon and Stephanie Washington](#), two unarmed Black community members, for “exit[ing] the vehicle in an abrupt manner.” New Haven PD officers were also present. The Hamden PD officer was arrested on one felony charge and two misdemeanor charges; the Yale police officer was not charged.

Hopkins often points out that its peer institutions—such as Yale—have private police forces, so why shouldn't they? In just four years, the Yale Police gave me plenty of examples for why private police are a dangerous idea—especially in Baltimore, one of the most over-policed cities in the country. Do I need to remind you that in our own state Tyrone West was choked to death by a Morgan State Police Officer just 8 years ago?

The senate voted 42-2 to pass the original bill allowing the JHU private police. For those in office at the time: did the [\\$581,000](#) Hopkins paid in 2019 to lobby for this legislation cloud your moral compass? If so, you have a second chance now to stand up for what's right for your constituents, including the [6,000+ students, faculty, staff, and residents](#) who have been speaking out against this bill.

Finally—Senator Bill Ferguson, as your constituent, I promise that you will never get my vote again if you do not act to repeal the private police—nor will I let my classmates, colleagues, and neighbors forget your record on this issue.

Thank you for your time and take care,

**Rachel Strodel**

M.D. Candidate, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, 2023

B.S. Yale University, 2018

# **In Support of SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rastogi, Neetika

Position: FAV



## Testimony in Favor of SB0276

I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. My name is Neetika Rastogi, and I am a junior at Johns Hopkins University. Much of my time at Hopkins has been spent learning why the establishment and maintenance of a police department at Johns Hopkins University would be a threat to the public safety of Baltimore residents:

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

The fight against establishing a police department at Johns Hopkins University is one that has gone on for far too long. This legislation presents an opportunity to hear the calls of many citizens, families, and Hopkins affiliates that see the University's calls for a police department as a threat to community-centered public safety.

# **Testimony for MGA SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ratnayake, Kushan

Position: FAV

## Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0276

I am a JHU alum (BA and MSE) and I am submitting this testimony to urge you to SUPPORT SB0276, Johns Hopkins University – Police Department – Repeal.

The Johns Hopkins (JH) private police department is not supported by our communities. The resistance to the police force has been overwhelming since it was first proposed in March 2018. Over 100 faculty members have penned a letter opposing it. At the height of the protest against the police department, community members staged a 35-day sit-in in which hundreds of students participated on a rolling basis, according to Homewood Faculty Assembly's Fact Finding Committee [report](#). The school's own Student Government Assembly voted to formally support the sit-in. A referendum in which over a third of undergraduate students participated found that over 70% were opposed. Following the uprising against police brutality throughout this summer, Johns Hopkins announced that they would be delaying the police force by two years. After that announcement a new petition garnered over 6,000 signatures from community members and neighboring organizations calling for JHU to abandon the police force altogether.

Baltimore is already heavily over-policed by a corrupt and unaccountable police department that regularly terrorizes our communities. Today the ACLU released a [report](#) on police violence and complaints of misconduct that found that there were 13,392 complaints of misconduct filed against 1,826 BPD officers and 22,884 use of force incidents from 2015-2019. The last thing we need is another police department, let alone one formed by Johns Hopkins, that would hire from BPD, as it has already done in the past. Several former BPD officers are now officers with JH Campus Safety & Security. Even the former VP for Security, Melissa Hyatt, was a BPD veteran for over 20 years. There are several problems with racial profiling already in JH's security department. They should focus on that before trying to create an armed private police force. The Garland Sit-in group has recently submitted evidence of violent, white supremacist beliefs espoused by two JH security officers which they made known on their public Facebook profiles. Their Office of Institutional Equity has not taken any transparent action regarding this. Their only response has been saying they could not disclose "personnel matters."

When white supremacists attacked the sit-in, JH security did nothing to prevent the attack and their Office of Institutional Equity did nothing over the course of a year to hold a JH security officer that attacked a student accountable (here is a [video](#) of the incident). You can read more about the failure of Hopkins security in the damning fact-finding report linked earlier (page 29). Having a private armed police force would disproportionately harm immigrants, people of color, gender and sexual minorities, the homeless, the disabled, and other marginalized groups. I personally know people who have been harassed and profiled by JH security, and they have shown that they are already incapable of addressing our grievances.

JH has a fraught relationship with the Middle East community as well. Over the years, JH has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JH has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of

what they promised. Instead, JH broke their promises while still forcibly removing 742 families from their homes. Instead of investing in more police, JH should invest in communities and proven public health based strategies for reducing crime, like their own School of Public Health's experts advise.

Thank you for reading and considering my testimony.

**Testimony\_2021\_SB0276\_DRichman.pdf**

Uploaded by: Richman, Daniel

Position: FAV

January 19, 2021

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 276**  
**Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal**

**To:** Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and the members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
**From:** Daniel Richman

My name is Dan Richman. I am a resident of Baltimore, Maryland, legislative District 46. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 276, the repeal of authorization for a Johns Hopkins University police department.

I work at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in East Baltimore and I live in a nearby neighborhood where I walk to work. I am one of many members of the Johns Hopkins community who do not want to see our own institution deploy a private police force. I am one of many members of Baltimore neighborhoods who do not want to see another police force on our streets.

The neighborhoods around Johns Hopkins already show what happens when people in charge prefer policing over other services. The Baltimore Police Department acts like an occupying army in these neighborhoods, unaccountable to the people it patrols. How then can we expect accountability from a private university that has repeatedly shown a callous, racist disregard for the people who live near it when it has wanted their land, money, or bodies?

“More police” is the wrong answer when the state considers it. We know we should prioritize housing, healthcare, jobs, and education, and we know that policing leads to violence and incarceration and only exacerbates the problems that segregation and exploitation cause. “More police” is an even more wrong answer when a private institution considers it.

I respectfully urge a favorable report for SB 276.

# **MGA 2021-SB0276 Repeal Hopkins Police Authorizatio**

Uploaded by: Richter, Ian

Position: FAV

Ian Richter  
2308 Hunter St  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
(410) 929-3412  
ian.richter@gmail.com

19 January, 2021

Esteemed Senators,

My name is Ian Richter. I am an alumnus of The Johns Hopkins University, and have lived at various locations in the neighborhoods surrounding the Homewood and Peabody campuses for more than eight years. At present, I run past the Homewood campus more days than not. Thus, I do not believe it is a stretch to say that I am the sort of person to whom a private police force controlled by the university is expected to appeal, and whom such a force would be expected to protect. On the contrary: I am repulsed by the idea of such a police force, and I do not want its protection.

What would such a force actually do, if created? A charitable observer might suggest that it would use violence and the threat of violence to protect the community surrounding Johns Hopkins from violence by outsiders. A realistic observer will notice that the previous formulation glosses over a few uncomfortable truths. Firstly, a privately-operated police force will not be accountable to the community in which it operates. If the Baltimore City Police, who are at least indirectly accountable to the citizens of Baltimore, have difficulty treating our citizens equitably, why should we expect a force with even less community oversight to be more responsive to community needs? We should not. A police force funded by The Johns Hopkins University will place the interests of the university above those of unaffiliated community members. Secondly, how exactly will members of the University-funded police determine who is a legitimate target for their violence? They will make snap judgements in the moment based on who "fits the profile" of someone who is affiliated with the university, and therefore enjoys its protection, versus someone with no affiliation, who therefore does not belong. It is likely that community members of color will bear the heaviest burden of suspicion, through no fault of their own. And this will happen, even if the individual officers all operate in good faith. The immense gap in power and privilege between the university and many of the community members living nearby provides ample opportunity for implicit bias to color an officer's judgement, despite that officer's best efforts to the contrary. And, yes, the same problems will plague any attempt to police the communities in which The Johns Hopkins University operates, regardless of who does the



policing. However, an organization that is more directly accountable to the citizenry will be more likely to address these issues of equity than one without any such incentive to do so. We should not hang our hopes for the security of the community as a whole on the benevolence of an institution that has, at best, only a partial interest in the welfare of its neighbors.

If a private police force does provide increased security for the university itself, it will do so at the cost of increased risk to the most vulnerable members of the neighboring communities - those most likely to be seen as not belonging near the immaculate marble and red brick of the university campus. There is no justice in that. We cannot, in good conscience, pile additional burdens on those least able to bear them for the marginal benefit of those who are already comfortable.

Thank you for your attention. I sincerely hope that you all will find the righteousness and clarity of thought to support Senator Carter's proposal to repeal the authorization for The Johns Hopkins University to establish a private police force.

Yours respectfully,  
Ian Richter

**SB0276 testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rock-Foster, Charlene

Position: FAV

I am testifying in favor of SB0276-Repeal of the JHU Private Police Department.

As a longtime resident of Baltimore City, Johns Hopkins has established a reputation of both being one of the larger anchor institutions and have a history of racism and overstepping boundaries in relation to the residents living here-from enrollment to eminent domain that displaced too many residents on the East Side of Baltimore. Having their own armed Private Police Department is by far the biggest overstepping of boundaries in a city wrought with systematic violence that also plays a part in the intra-community violence that has been pervasive for some years now. In April 2019, the students at Johns Hopkins University staged a sit-in that lasted 35 days in response against this prospective policy. They did so because Johns Hopkins Institution made a profit off the now cancelled ICE contract and know that armed private policing further profiles and stigmatizes Black and Brown residents and students. The Johns Hopkins staffing population in large were opposed to the prospective policy, with over 90 faculty members coming out. I, along with many residents signed and submitted petitions. I am also aware of the precedent of several Morgan State University armed officers involved in the high-profile death of Tyrone West over a traffic stop, casting strong doubts of an educational/health institution being involved in the implementation of public safety policy that includes more ammunition for violence.

Currently with the COVID-19 virus running rampant for almost a year now- taking lives, crippling businesses, and creating massive mental health issues- private policing should not and need not to be on Johns Hopkins' list of policies to implement. In addition, this nation is already in a place of reckoning with last summer's unrest around police homicide – Johns Hopkins need to be on the right side of the reckoning.

Charlene Rock-Foster

Baltimore City Resident

# **SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: roman, dani

Position: FAV

Dear:

**Sen. Bill Ferguson, District 46,  
Sen. William C. Smith, District 20,  
Sen Antonio Hayes, District 40,  
Sen Corey McCray, District 45,  
Sen. Charles Sydnor, District 44**

I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. Will you join the community, and support and vote for SB0276?

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
  2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
  3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
  4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
  5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
  6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.
- Will you stand with the people of East Baltimore and support SB0276? We look forward to publicly discussing your response.

**Written testimony in FAVOR of SB0276-updated.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ross, Sarah

Position: FAV

Written testimony in FAVOR of SB0276 (19 Jan. 2021)

I write to urge the legislature to vote for Sen. Jill Carter’s bill SB0276, which will REPEAL the permission allowing the creation of the Johns Hopkins Private Police.

I write as a member of two communities: firstly, as a Baltimore resident; and secondly, a Johns Hopkins University (JHU) instructor and student. These two communities are often pitted against one another with dire and long-lasting consequences for both groups. Recent revelations about the university’s founder underscored<sup>1</sup> what many lifelong Baltimoreans have known—namely, that the history of JHU in Baltimore is a series of seeing human beings, material resources, and popular and political attention be diverted away from the city and non-affiliate folks, towards the school and those it considers worthy. JHU added to this history in the spring session of 2019 when—through a combination of force, PR campaigning, and implicit favors—it pushed the private police bill through the Maryland state legislature. JHU did this despite the numerous forms of statistical evidence showing that increased policing (especially private policing) does not correspond to any rise in safety or security for those under its radar;<sup>2</sup> despite community outcry, which was siloed into dead-end town halls and hollow meetings; and despite the objections of those in and outside of the Baltimore and Maryland governments which called attention to the appalling double-standard which the university played into as they fast-tracked their bill. All this was done while JHU praised, through the other side of its mouth, the racial justice work by Black Lives Matter in response to police violence upon Black civilians.

Repealing their bill is vital to a healthier, safer community. Such a community would include everyone across Baltimore, working towards breaking down the bubble which allows JHU students, faculty, and affiliates to be tourists in a city they feel no responsibility toward. The danger of a private police force, as community members and outside allies have detailed, falls unequally on Black and brown people who make up a far larger percentage of the non-affiliate population than the university’s.<sup>3</sup> There is no angle from which adding further armed police, with

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<sup>1</sup> See, among others, <https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-ci-hopkins-slavery-reaction-20201211-hs5okaao2zbcpkldqailuzl774-story.html>.

<sup>2</sup> See, among others, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128710382263>; <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11292-014-9210-y>; and essays (and further quantitative data citations) in *Policing the Planet*, edited by Jordan T. Camp and Christina Heatherton (2016), especially Ch. 5 on the Baltimore Uprising and Chs. 14 and 16 on so-called “community policing” as red herrings. UPDATE: On further lack of accountability, see also the report published 19 Jan. 2021 on records of police misconduct complaints filed against the BPD in the last 5 years alone:

<https://www.aclu-md.org/en/publications/chasing-justice-addressing-police-violence-and-corruption-maryland>.

<sup>3</sup> See, among others, <https://www.asanet.org/sites/default/files/savvy/images/press/docs/pdf/ASARaceCrime.pdf>; and <https://www.pnas.org/content/116/34/16793>.

so little accountability and so great a likelihood for predictable, unjust, and atrocious results for the very people who suffer most often, would solve any of the problems it purports to address. The university, of course, can dredge up individual speakers on behalf the police force, because there are real problems both inside the university and across the city. But JHU has not invested either time, research, or sincere energy into any other solutions—solutions which could moot the enormous and obvious harm that such an armed, private force introduces simply by existing.

To treat each other truly as good neighbors, rather than as competitors for finite goods and mayoral or gubernatorial support, JHU must not be allowed to erect further walls which criminalize any mixing or sharing between us all. In the past several years, Baltimore has demonstrated the need for radical, compassionate, innovative solutions to healing the scars that armed violence and over-policing both have left on the city. Our collective will, resources, and focus needs to be on working together for such creative care.

In short, the JHU private police bill must be repealed, for everyone's good.

*“That time  
we all heard it,  
cool and clear,  
cutting across the hot grit of the day.  
The major Voice.  
The adult Voice  
forgoing Rolling River,  
forgoing tearful tale of bale and barge  
and other symptoms of an old despond.  
Warning, in music-words  
devout and large,  
that **we are each other's  
harvest:  
we are each other's  
business:  
we are each other's  
magnitude and bond.**”*

—Gwendolen Brooks, “Paul Robeson”

Thank you.



# Repeal SB0276.pdf

Uploaded by: Routh, Sallie

Position: FAV

I am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. Will you join the community, and support and vote for SB0276?

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Will you stand with the people of East Baltimore and support SB0276? We look forward to publicly discussing your response.

**Bill SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sanders, Jessica

Position: FAV

## SB0276 to Repeal Hopkins Police

I, Jessica Sanders, am writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police. Will you join the community, and support and vote for SB0276?

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

**sb0276 first repeal police testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Saxton, Stephanie

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

My name is Stephanie Saxton and I am a PhD student at Johns Hopkins University and constituent of Maryland's 43<sup>rd</sup> district. I also attended Johns Hopkins as an undergraduate and have a unique vantage point having spent so much time on this campus. While the university claims to need a police force to protect someone like me, the majority of students and my colleagues agree: a private police force would make the university more dangerous, not less<sup>1</sup>. As a queer student, I worry about myself and my friends who would face especially violent police response—like in the case of Scout Shultz, a transgender student who was shot and killed by Georgia Tech police. As a white student, I must speak out against the suggestion that Black peers and Baltimore city residents are a danger to me. Any undergraduate, particularly women undergraduates, will tell you that we were not warned about especially dangerous neighborhoods, but especially dangerous fraternities. The data shows, the greatest threat to undergraduates are their own peers.<sup>2</sup> However, gender violence is not an issue that will be solved by private police force but exacerbated by it. Universities with their own police forces have not prevented harms between students but profiled their Black neighbors. A police force beholden to the interests of a predominantly white and wealthy institution will exercise very predictable violence against a predominantly Black and working-class city. I ask that the members of the assembly pass SB0276 in order to repeal a bill that will most certainly cause harm to Baltimore. The police force is not yet established, and it is not too late to act.

Thank you,

Stephanie Saxton  
PhD student in Political Science  
Johns Hopkins University

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<sup>1</sup> According to democratic votes held in the Graduate Representative Organization, Teachers and Researchers United and undergraduate student government referendum. All of which are more comprehensive surveys of student opinion than anything the university will present to you.

<sup>2</sup> The overwhelming majority of crimes at JHU—by an astronomical longshot—are sexual assault and harassment.

# **SB0276 to Repeal Hopkins Police.pdf**

Uploaded by: Schuler, Michael

Position: FAV

Hello, my name is Michael Schuler and I'm writing to encourage support for SB027 in order to repeal the Hopkins' private police. First, the area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence. The petition found [here](#) shows that over 6,152 community members stated opposition to the police force. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another. The university should take the funds that were allocated for JHPD and more and invest them into communities such as the people within the communities like the residents of the middle east that live near the medical campus. The Minority Inclusion Agreement promised 2002 and promised 8,000 jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.



# **SB0276 Testimony .pdf**

Uploaded by: Schwartzkopf, Hannah

Position: FAV

I am opposed to the creation of armed, privatized university police of Johns Hopkins as a resident of Baltimore city. I believe such an organization would put black students and neighbors in danger. In a letter published September 2nd, 2020, JD McCormick, former member of the Johns Hopkins Police Accountability Board, outlined multiple failures by the Board to address any concerns had by students, faculty, and the public, and I see no reason why a reinstated board would be anymore effective. Hopkin's proposed method to address the issue of systemic racism in policing has already proven ineffective. The only way to prevent the danger the Johns Hopkins Police poses to the community is not to create them in the first place.

**support-for-bill.pdf**

Uploaded by: Seyler, Allison

Position: FAV

I am writing to support SB0276, the bill before you now, that aims to repeal Hopkins' private police. As a Baltimore City resident and human being committed to abolition, divestment, and anti-racism, I believe any efforts to establish a private police force should be halted.

We are at a moment in time where we have the opportunity to find alternatives to policing, keeping our communities safe is not something a private police force would achieve; scientific and sociological studies have in fact proved the opposite, these forces put Black and Brown people in our communities in more danger. One only needs to look to the Morgan State campus and learn a deeply traumatic and devastating lesson from the murder of Tyrone West by campus police. The Baltimore community (including Hopkins students, staff, faculty, Baltimore residents and neighbors) has long stood in opposition to the Hopkins private police force and a repeal of the authority granted to Hopkins to establish this force should be heard and passed. It cannot be taken for granted that over 6,152 community members have time and again stated our opposition to the police force, yet the administration has continued to pursue this effort. We need help from our elected officials to fight them. We need you to repeal their authority to create the private police.

If Hopkins is truly committed to Baltimore and to repairing their reputation, rebuilding trust, and working towards reconciliation with a city they have so harmed, they need to implement and follow through on old and new commitments to the neighborhoods around their campuses, ones that offer gainful employment, community reinvestment funds, and building opportunity so that all of the circumstances that lead to higher crime rates are effectively fought against.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing your discussion and response.

# **Hopkins testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Shah, Tazkia

Position: FAV

From the desk of Tazkia Shah  
Johns Hopkins University Public Health Studies Class of 2019

I am writing in support of SB0276 to repeal the Johns Hopkins Private Police Dept. Johns Hopkins as an institution has cut the head off its body, here being the student and Baltimorean body. When the university won't listen to the overwhelming 75% of its student body that rejects the private police force, and the surrounding Charles Village and Middle East communities that are predominantly Black and being actively gentrified by Hopkins every day, it has lost touch with what those making up the body want and deserve.

At a time where all eyes and ears are on the Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Hopkins has profited and prided themselves on the cutting-edge work that is leading the fight against the novel coronavirus pandemic, Hopkins itself chooses to ignore its own world-renown Center for Gun Policy Research. Faculty and academics at the Center have pumped out paper after paper, op-ed after op-ed on the dangers of increasing police and gun presence on college campuses, in BIPOC and low-income communities, and in American society. And yet Hopkins turns away from the very research that they laud so happily every other day of the year.

A college that recently discovered its namesake owned enslaved people well past the Emancipation Proclamation, it has barely committed to reckoning with its past and acknowledging that anti-Blackness is NOT a thing of Hopkins' past, it happens every day. Current Black students, staff, and faculty have reported countless encounters with current unarmed security forces that profile, harass, and stalk them as they simply exist while being Black.

Hopkins continues to buy up low-income housing and take housing meant for burgeoning Black families and communities off the market, without doing anything with the housing units, and contributing to the very housing insecurity that it will spend millions of dollars researching.

At the root of the Hopkins private police force efforts is anti-Blackness, plain and simple. After the cold-blooded murder of George Floyd at the hands of cops in May 2020, Hopkins put out statement after statement voicing concern for its Black student and faculty body. And yet when push comes to shove, quite literally, we see that the administrative head is so far cut off from the body. But unlike the historical quote that indicates it would prevent the body from growing, Hopkins students, faculty, staff, alumni, and most importantly, Baltimorean neighbors, have only grown in voice, in anger, in indignation. And rightfully so.

**Rebecca Shin\_Testimony SB276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Shin, Rebecca

Position: FAV

January 21, 2021

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: SUPPORT of Senate Bill 276 (Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal)**

To the Committee Chair Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Rebecca Shin and I've been a resident of Baltimore City for the past eight years since coming here for undergraduate at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA). In that time I've seen the city change dramatically, along with the rest of the state and country, and in that time I've also learned of the history of Baltimore and struggles of its people. We see that in the current moment, as well as in years past, that over-funded and militarized police departments are used against unarmed, everyday citizens all throughout the United States, and specifically to murder and perpetuate violence against Black people, as well as those from other marginalized identities. I don't know why anything else needs to be said. I simply do not believe policing is a solution by any means to furthering a society that needs proper physical and mental healthcare systems and material support, in fact it is the complete opposite and creates more violence and unnecessary death. I believe that my taxpayer money and all state resources should go to networks that help someone else in my city live another day, especially in the midst of a pandemic, someone who needs housing, food, healthcare, and more. It sickens me to see it instead used to purchase weapons that are used against the impoverished and vulnerable.

I submit this testimony in full support of bill SB0276 to repeal the Johns Hopkins University Police Force, and demand that further steps will be taken towards building a future for Maryland residents that is free from fear of cruelty and surveillance from the police.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Shin



**Sindler - SB0276 Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sindler, Clinton

Position: FAV

Representatives and Senators of the Maryland General Assembly,

My name is CJ Sindler, and I am a life-long resident of Baltimore City, Maryland, and I currently reside in Maryland's 40<sup>th</sup> legislative district. My home is located in the neighborhood of Hampden, and I frequently drive through the adjacent campus of Johns Hopkins and the surrounding neighborhoods. I notice the dozens of fluorescent windbreakers of Johns Hopkins security patrolling the streets; the flashing lights of their campus police patrol cars making rounds. And I do not feel safer because of them. Rather I feel fear for my fellow citizens of Baltimore.

I fear for the citizens of neighborhoods just beyond the "protection" of the Hopkins' private police, because it is those citizens this police force has been specifically created to stand against. Why else then would a private police force be necessary, other than to carry out a specific agenda focused on the desires of a private entity? Despite Johns Hopkins' claims that the police force was created to protect, Hopkins has already shown what happens to neighborhoods adjacent to their protection bubbles. Just look at what happened to the community of Middle East that borders Hopkins' East Baltimore Campus. Black and brown citizens were pushed out using eminent domain and city-backed redevelopment campaigns after the neighborhoods were deemed "blighted". Increased police presence under private control will give Johns Hopkins the tools it needs to inflate crime statistics in nearby areas. Later these numbers will be used to fuel Hopkins specific vision of what a redeveloped Baltimore would look like.

To put it simply, the fact that a large institutional entity like Johns Hopkins has been given the authority to have its own private police force sets a very dangerous precedent, because it adds directed intent to policing. Furthermore, it opens the door to other powerful institutions and corporations to do the same. Who will create the next private police force to push their agenda on the citizens of Baltimore? A private Under Armor police pushing the Port Covington redevelopment plan in South Baltimore? Or maybe it will be an Amazon police force carrying out Jeff Bezos' plans in Dundalk? Putting the enforcement of public law into private hands sets up a very slippery slope that affects the lives of citizens already targeted unfairly by ordinary law enforcement.

And to drive home my point, I think lawmakers such as yourselves already understand the stressed nature of the relationship between the citizens of Baltimore and the Baltimore Police Department. How then is adding more police to the mixture supposed to help the situation? All it will do is add more incidents of minorities being unfairly targeted and killed by law enforcement. Make the right call and repeal the authority of Hopkins to have a private police force and stop this trend before it gets out of control.

CJ Sindler  
Social Studies Teacher, Dundalk High School

**SB0279\_Written Testimony\_Smith\_Anne\_D.pdf**

Uploaded by: Smith, Anne

Position: FAV

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 20201

To: Senator William C. Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

I write to you today to express my enthusiastic support for SB0276, a bill that would repeal provisions relating to the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins Police Department.

As a member of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health community, a member of the Baltimore community, and an individual who has previously been a victim of a crime, I understand that increasing the police presence in Baltimore will only serve to make the city a less safe and less equitable place to live. Police violence is an urgent public health crisis facing our country, which disproportionately targets individuals identifying as Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and people of color. Indeed, police violence is a leading cause of death for young men, particularly young Black men, who face a 1 in 1,000 lifetime chance of being killed by police.<sup>1</sup> For comparison, this is approximately 10 times higher than the risk of dying in a motor vehicle crash in our country, yet receives starkly less public health attention.<sup>2</sup>

Members of the Johns Hopkins community and other academic communities have demonstrated the harms of policing to the population.<sup>3</sup> In addition, they have demonstrated the importance of stronger and more integrated health systems, safe and stable housing, accessible food, and high-quality education to the health and wellbeing of the population. Establishing a private police force is not an evidence-based solution to violence in Baltimore; it is an attempt to exert power and control that is rooted in white supremacist methodologies. Already, the University has disbanded its accountability board for the private police, and has limited the avenues for individuals to provide feedback. As student, I have witnessed the myriad ways that racism and white supremacy continue to manifest at Hopkins, from micro-aggressions manifested by professors and staff, to differential targeting of students of color by university security, to the relatively low representation of American students of color within the student body. Allowing the university to establish a private police force would only increase racism manifested by the university, while making it a more dangerous place for students of color.

As you consider my testimony, I urge you to favorably support SB0276.

Sincerely,

Anne D. Smith, MPH

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<sup>1</sup> Edwards F, Lee H, Esposito M. Risk of being killed by police use of force in the United States by age, race-ethnicity, and sex. PNAS. 2019;116(34):16793-16798. doi:10.1073/pnas.1821204116

<sup>2</sup> National Highway Traffic Safety Information 2018 data. Available at: <https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> Jackson D, Fahmy C, Vaughn M, Testa A. Police Stops Among At-Risk Youth: Repercussions for Mental Health. Journal of Adolescent Health. 2019; 65(5): P627-632. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2019.05.027>

**aspiegel\_testimonySB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Spiegel, Alina

Position: FAV

## TESTIMONY REGARDING SB 0276

Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal

**To:** Chairman William C. Smith, Jr. and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**From:** Alina Spiegel, District 46 Constituent

**Date:** January 19th, 2021

I am a fourth year MD/PhD student at Johns Hopkins and a proud Baltimore City voter and resident, writing **in favor** of **SB 0276**. I write out of concern for the safety of my colleagues and classmates, as well as my neighbors who live adjacent to the East Baltimore campus. I am especially concerned for Black and brown community members. University police have killed students and community members across this country, and I cannot stay silent while we put our own community at risk.

I have been a victim of crime twice in Baltimore City, once in my own neighborhood. Both cases would have been outside the coverage of a Johns Hopkins police department, and in fact, many student incidents occur off campus, when we are traveling to and from home. Many Hopkins affiliates have suggested expanding the Johns Hopkins SafeRide program as an alternative that does not put our Black and brown community members at risk, while providing peace of mind as we travel to and from our homes. Yet, Johns Hopkins instead decreased the scope of this program in 2019 due to funding limitations, while continuing to pursue a much more expensive police force. This choice suggests to me that Johns Hopkins is interested in protecting its property, and not its students and employees.

I am grateful to be a student at Johns Hopkins, and as a member of this institution, I think it is especially important to say something when we are about to do something harmful. Because our administration seems intent on pursuing this police force at all costs, I look to you, my representatives in the senate, to make a choice that values the people of Baltimore City over the interests of a wealthy institution--even when that institution is my own.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alina Spiegel

103 N. Chester St.  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
484-347-8700

# **In Support of SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Stoltzfus, Marie

Position: FAV

I am a student on the Johns Hopkins Medical Campus, writing to support SB0276 to repeal the proposed Hopkins' private police for the following reasons:

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. **How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force?** Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Will you stand with the people of East Baltimore and support SB0276? We look forward to publicly discussing your response.



**Viqueira\_Testimony\_Support\_SB0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Viqueira, Rachel

Position: FAV

**Testimony Concerning SB0276**  
**“Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal”**  
**Submitted to the Senate Judiciary Proceedings**  
**January 19, 2021**

**Position: Support**

My name is Rachel Viquiera, I am an alumnus of Johns Hopkins University, both at the undergraduate and Master’s level, and I currently live and work in Baltimore as an epidemiologist at the Maryland State Health Department. I have lived in the 46th district of Baltimore City for nearly 3 years. I speak on my own behalf today from the perspective of a public health professional and a citizen deeply concerned for the safety of my community as a result of this bill.

During my six-year tenure at JHU, I regularly witnessed the University demonize the communities surrounding the campuses. The university increasingly published misleading crime alerts and presented misleading statistics at orientations and meetings to justify heavy security presence. Actions like this distanced JHU affiliates from the Greater Baltimore Community, and continued a legacy of Hopkins’ abuse of the communities around its campuses.

I witnessed the administration instill this fear while simultaneously neglecting actual threats to community safety - suppressing reports of sexual assault, failing to provide mental health support, refusing to divest from fossil fuels, preventing employees from unionizing under terrible working conditions, remaining in partnership with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and calling dozens of police to arrest just 7 protestors rather than have a single, open conversation. I am not alone when I say that Johns Hopkins University is practiced in instilling fear of Baltimore within its walls. The University has historically used that fear to excuse its neglect of the communities within and surrounding its many campuses and it uses that fear today to continue its exploitation of those communities, unimpeded.

It is shameful the “The Community Safety and Strengthening Act” was ever passed, and Maryland now has an opportunity to right this wrong by repealing the legislation that enabled JHU’s private police force. We must not allow a private, unaccountable, institution to implement a police force. We cannot say that endangering the lives of our neighbors, without their consent, is an acceptable price to pay in exchange for the *appearance* of safety. None of this is strengthening communities.

**With that, I would like to reiterate the points my colleagues and neighbors have made:**

“1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.

2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.

3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.”

Community safety is a continuous, comprehensive process in partnership with the community. Real community safety develops self-determination, cultivates health, and reconciles the historical, harmful policies of the institution. Please support SB0276 to repeal JHU's private police force.

# **SB0276 Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Wang, Erin

Position: FAV

I am writing in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police.

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

**witness\_statement.pdf**

Uploaded by: Warner, Raven

Position: FAV

As a Baltimore resident who has previously lived in proximity to one of John Hopkins University's campuses, I can testify that the university's private police did not make me feel safer. A university should not have the power of a police force. They are a danger to the community.

# NeuroscienceTestimony\_SB0276.pdf

Uploaded by: Wei, Alan

Position: FAV



## TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 0276

Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal

**To:** Chairman William C. Smith, Jr. and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**From:** Concerned members of the Johns Hopkins University Department of Neuroscience

**Date:** January 19th, 2021

We are concerned members of the faculty, students, postdoctoral fellows, and staff in the Solomon Snyder Department of Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University, writing to **support SB 0276**, which would repeal provisions legalizing the formation of a Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD). We are writing in our personal capacities as employees and students who work and study on the East Baltimore and Homewood campuses of Johns Hopkins, and as constituents the JHPD is ostensibly designed to serve.

We oppose this police force because we fear for the safety of members of our department, our university, and the surrounding Baltimore community. Ample evidence shows that there are racial disparities in policing,<sup>1</sup> and that minorities - Black individuals in particular - are more likely to be subject to deadly police violence.<sup>2</sup> Our labs at Johns Hopkins are situated in or adjacent to neighborhoods where a majority of families are experiencing poverty, most residents are Black, and incarceration rates are already disproportionately high.<sup>3</sup> We oppose any measure that will jeopardize the safety of Black and brown people on or near our campuses by increasing their interactions with police. We are also concerned that deadly police encounters disproportionately impact individuals with severe mental illness.<sup>4</sup>

We believe that a JHPD sets a dangerous precedent for the privatization of policing. Events of the past year have made it painfully clear that police must be accountable to the public, and we reject the notion that any private university - even our own - is well-positioned to be a policing entity. Data released from the University of Chicago Police Department (UCPD), identified as a model for the JHPD, support allegations that UCPD engages in racial profiling.<sup>5</sup> Tyrone West was murdered by a Morgan State police officer in 2013.<sup>6</sup> He is one of many victims of excessive use of force by university police forces,<sup>7-13</sup> and we fear for the lives of our own employees and neighbors.

The Johns Hopkins University administration has not been responsive to the concerns of university members regarding the formation of a JHPD. 6,152 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members signed a faculty-led petition in 2020 stating our opposition to the formation of a JHPD.<sup>14</sup> This is the latest in a long line of petitions and surveys showing overwhelming opposition in the past two years.<sup>15-17</sup> University members have also suggested numerous alternative measures that do make us feel more safe, such as an expansion of the Hopkins SafeRide program that was curtailed in 2019 due to funding limitations, but our concerns and suggestions have not been acknowledged. The Johns Hopkins University administration has shown that it will not be accountable to its own employees and students on the issue of policing, and even less accountable to the residents of Baltimore City and the State of Maryland. We therefore look to you, our elected representatives, to protect the safety of our community.

Out of concern for our safety, and in particular, the safety of our Black and brown community members and neighbors, we urge you to vote in favor of **SB 0276**.

Signed,

**Faculty:**

Jay Baraban, District 11  
Jeremiah Cohen, District 11  
Charles Connor, District 7  
Gul Dolen, District 45  
Sascha du Lac, District 3  
Mohamed Farah  
Christopher R. Fetsch, District 43  
Austin Graves, District 11  
Lindsay Hayes, District 46

Alex L. Kolodkin, District 43  
Hyungbae Kwon  
Hey-Kyoung Lee, District 43  
Brady Maher, District 42B  
Cynthia Moss, District 41  
Kristina Nielsen, District 42A  
Daniel O'Connor, District 41  
Michele Pucak, District 42a

**Postdoctoral Fellows:**

Alexei Bygrave, District 40  
Zuying Chai  
Minhyeok Chang, District 11  
Huei-Ying Chen, District 43  
Alexis Chidi, District 46  
Varun Chokshi, District 40  
Marjan Gharagozloo, District 43  
Bryce Grier, District 43

Ravikrishnan Jayakumar, District 43  
Steven Jerjian, District 46  
Su-Jeong Kim, District 41  
Matthew Lewis, District 43  
Kenichiro Nagahama  
William Olson, District 45  
Jessica Queen, District 45  
Elizabeth Sypek, District 12

**Graduate Students:**

Jessie Benedict, District 3  
Sara Brooke, District 43  
Thomas Burnett, District 43  
Cody Call, District 43  
Matilde Castro, District 43  
Sheridan Cavalier, District 41  
Michelle Chan-Cortes, District 46  
Abel Corver, District 43  
Raina Daleo, District 43  
Mingyuan Dong, District 43  
Jacob Elsey, District 43  
Taylor Evans, District 40  
Gabrielle Ewall, District 46  
Jenna Glatzer, District 45  
Cooper Grossman, District 46  
Emily Han, District 46

Jared Hinkle, District 3  
Michael Hopkins, District 45  
Hsin-Yi Hung, District 40  
Consuelo Jimenez-Ornelas, District 40  
Sarah Kruessel, District 46  
Lisa Nicole Learman, District 45  
Simon Locke  
Kate Maximov, District 46  
Gian C. Molina-Castro, District 40  
Charles Morgan, District 46  
Erik Nelson, District 46  
Trinh Nguyen, District 44B  
Pel Ozel  
Yasmin Padovan Hernandez, District 43  
Rebekka Paisner, District 43  
Anthony Ramnauth, District 45

Holly Robinson, District 43  
Lionel Rodriguez, District 46  
Norah Sadowski, District 31B  
Caitlin Seluzicki, District 46  
Alina Spiegel, District 46  
Emma Spikol, District 43  
Sriram Sudarsanam

Elissa Sutlief, District 41  
Ahmad Taha, District 46  
Matthew Tran, District 46  
Charlie Walters, District 43  
Alan Wei, District 45  
Kurt Weir, District 46  
Isis Wyche, District 40

**Staff:**

Marissa Brooks, District 45  
Juan Camilo Cortes, District 46  
Abigail McElroy, District 40  
Janice Nam, District 9A

Stephanie Page, District 42B  
Srinidhi Rao Sripathy Rao, District 43  
Beth Wood-Roig, District 1

1. Pierson, Emma, et al. "A large-scale analysis of racial disparities in police stops across the United States." *Nature human behaviour* (2020): 1-10.
2. Edwards, Frank, Hedwig Lee, and Michael Esposito. "Risk of being killed by police use of force in the United States by age, race–ethnicity, and sex." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116.34 (2019): 16793-16798.
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13. Orenstein, Natalie. "UCPD handcuffing of 11-year-old boy prompts criticism, campus response." *Berkeleyside*, July 3 2019.
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15. Arora, Ria. "SGA votes in opposition of Hopkins Police Force." *The Johns Hopkins News-Letter*, April 11 2019.
16. Reutter, Mark. "Johns Hopkins plan for a private police force splits communities and the student body." *Baltimore Brew*, February 20 2019.
17. Reed, Lillian. "101 Johns Hopkins faculty members continue calls for university to abandon private policing plan." *The Baltimore Sun*, January 27 2020.

**AW\_SB0276-testimony\_01-19-2021.pdf**

Uploaded by: Weisel, Aden

Position: FAV

To the Maryland Senate:

I am writing to you in support of Senate Bill 276 (SB0276), which would repeal Johns Hopkins University's (JHU) ability to form a private police force (JHUPD). I ask that you join the community by voting in support of SB0276 for the following reasons:

1. The area that private police will be deployed, especially the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#), which has not been acknowledged by JHU's administration. **We can't anticipate accountability of any future JHUPD if the administration will not listen to, or even acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of JHUPD.** JHU's actions have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, which does not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around their medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement. In 2002, this agreement promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, JHU compounded the damage of their broken promises by forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. Baltimore has proof of the harm that university policing brings. Seven years ago, Tyrone West was killed by a Morgan State University officer.
5. Research and history show that police reform is ineffective. We've seen six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and too many others. All of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, Alton Sterling, Korryn Gaines, Walter Scott, Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Additional attempts at reform will not save lives, just as it didn't save the aforementioned individuals and many, unnamed others.
6. We want JHU to place the funds that were intended for JHUPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past (ex. the 2002 Minority Inclusion Agreement). The safety that JHU claims to desire can only be achieved through the empowerment of the communities that JHU has devastated.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope that you will support SB0276 for the safety and prosperity of our Baltimore communities.

Sincerely,  
Aden Weisel

# **Dear Maryland Legislators.pdf**

Uploaded by: Wood-Doughty, Zach

Position: FAV

Dear Maryland Legislators,

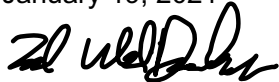
I am an instructor and PhD candidate at Johns Hopkins University. I am writing to you **in support of SB0276, to repeal Hopkins' private police**. Will you join the community, and support and vote for SB0276?

1. The area that private police will be deployed, the Middle East neighborhood, is already heavily policed, and Hopkins security is already a huge presence.
2. Over 6,152 community members stated our opposition to the police force in [this petition](#) which has still not been acknowledged by Hopkins administration. How can we expect the accountability of any future JHUPD if its administration will not even take accountability to deeply listen to, or acknowledge, community members who oppose the formation of the force? Johns Hopkins's actions, which have excluded dissenting voices, including the voices of those who would be most affected by JHUPD, do not bode well for an accountable police force.
3. Over the years, JHU has made many promises to the Middle East area around the medical campus, including the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. As of 2019, JHU has created about 1,500 new jobs—20% of what they promised. Instead, Hopkins broke their promises while still forcibly removing over 700 families from their homes.
4. In the death of Tyrone West, whose life was taken seven years ago by a Morgan State officer, we see the harm that University policing promises—in this case it was a Morgan State officer.
5. Research and history show that reform is ineffectual. We've had six years of reform efforts implemented in the wake of the 2014 killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Laquan McDonald, Tamir Rice, and way too many others. Yet, all of that reform didn't save Freddie Gray, or Alton Sterling, or Korryn Gaines, or Walter Scott, or Breonna Taylor, or George Floyd. Reform was not worth those lost lives and it certainly is not worth another.
6. We want the University to place the funds that were intended for JHPD, and more, in the hands of communities, such as residents of the Middle East near the medical campus. Instead of embarking on new projects like JHUPD, JHU should implement what they have already committed to and neglected to see through in the past: the Minority Inclusion Agreement, which in 2002 promised 8,000 new jobs and a community reinvestment fund in East Baltimore. This is what the safety Johns Hopkins claims to desire looks like.

Will you stand with the people of Baltimore and **support SB0276**?

Sincerely,

Zach Wood-Doughty  
January 19, 2021



**YYOON -- Testimony Supporting SB 0276.pdf**

Uploaded by: Yoon, Yasmin

Position: FAV



**TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SB 0276**  
**Senate Judiciary Proceeding**  
**Yasmin Yoon, alumna and Baltimore resident,**  
**Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences**  
**Tuesday, January 19th**

My name is Yasmin Yoon. I am an alumna at the Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, a Baltimore City resident in Charles Village, and a registered voter in Maryland's 43rd district. **I am testifying today to urge the committee to support SB 0276: the Johns Hopkins Private Police Force should be repealed.**

A greater police presence in the communities around Hopkins property would have a marked increase in danger for students of color and non-Hopkins community members, who would be actively surveilled, targeted, and arrested based on police profiling that they do not belong at Hopkins or are already criminals. In fact, the presence of more police could immediately lead to an increase in the crime rate, as a police presence leads to arrests for activities that previously were not seen as criminal by the community, such as drinking and disruptions of public order by college students.

Furthermore, the Police Accountability Board set up by Hopkins to oversee itself is already a joke. Johns Hopkins was able to pick its own people for the board, the board does not meet in public, and no meeting notes have yet to be published from it. The initial opposition to a Hopkins private police force argued that, as a private entity, Hopkins would have even less oversight than the Baltimore Police Department and those warnings are still prescient.

Finally, two years ago Hopkins rushed its private police force bill through the General Assembly on the basis of needing to address an urgent crime wave around the Hopkins Medical Campus. However, once the bill passed there has been nary a word about actually establishing a police force while crime itself has gone down. I can only believe then that crime was never the real reason for this drive towards a wholly novel in Maryland police force. Legislators need to take a step back now and re-examine Hopkins claims about its police force, what its purpose was for, and how Hopkins lied to them and the public from the start.

**For all these reasons, I support SB 0276.**

# Zanolini support for SB0276.pdf

Uploaded by: Zanolini, Sarah

Position: FAV

January 19, 2021

Dear Members of the Maryland Senate,

My name is Sarah Zanolini, and I'm a PhD student at Johns Hopkins University writing to strongly voice my support of SB0276, a bill introduced by Senator Jill Carter to repeal the institution of a private police force by Johns Hopkins University.

In the past year we've collectively witnessed a long-overdue national reckoning around policing in this country. We've seen videos of Black and Brown Americans enduring what can only be appropriately described as modern-day lynching at the hands of police. Such murders of innocent Americans by police are not new. They have been woven into the fabric of policing in this country since the reconstruction era, when southerners discontented with the loss of their human property were allowed to construct "separate but equal" laws to reinstitute themselves at the top of the white supremacy pyramid, using the language of "law abiding" and "law breaking" to encode racism without the overt racism of the past. Because we think of justice as blind, and law color-neutral, it is easy to forget that today in 2021, police officers are just as subject to conscious and unconscious racial biases as they were in 1921, and no amount of the "diversity training" tactics we've seen rolled out in recent years has lessened the actual threat posed by police to innocent bystanders – particularly when their skin is black or brown. If you have not recently, please look at the statistics gathered by the site Mapping Police Violence (<https://mappingpoliceviolence.org/>) to see my point.

In case you're still reading, I want to share one further thing with you to demonstrate the degree to which I am serious about this bill of repeal being passed. I am white (or more accurately, a white-passing person of mixed heritage). I am a transplant to Baltimore living next to Hopkins Homewood campus, and my departmental office is on the medical campus, meaning that on the surface, I am very much part of the demographic Hopkins thinks needs a private police force to feel "safe." Yet the idea of private police roaming around Hopkins makes me feel the opposite of safe. My father was white, and I never got to know him because when I was 4 years old he was murdered by police. Legally speaking, everything about his death was justified – he'd (unsuccessfully) robbed a store, he fled to avoid arrest, he might have had gun. When they finally caught him in a dead-end street police shot him: not once, not even one round, but 37 times, after which he was still deemed such a threat that they handcuffed his dead body to the steering wheel of his car. Every day since August 6, 1987, everyone in his family has not only had to carry the ache of his absence and our heartbreaking knowledge of the disjuncture between legal justice and moral justice, but also PTSD in our own interactions with police. It has taken me over 30 years of therapy and life-experience and intellectual knowledge that my white complexion and gender coding make me an unlikely accidental target, yet still I visibly shake in the presence of a police officer, my palms sweat, my body forces me to remember because I am in the presence of someone who can decide whether I live or die, even if I hold enough social privilege for some degree of accountability to maybe take place if I were to be killed. Who wants to remember of the most painful and painfully enduring facts of their family history while

walking to class? I've never felt unsafe in East Baltimore like I've felt unsafe in any space with a cop, ever, because the presence of that holstered gun is to me as indicative of its eventual use as one over the mantel in a Chekov play. I know this sounds hyperbolic, but for my entire adult life I've sought out these stories of other victims, tallied in my mind how frequently police "thought there was a gun" or "thought they were violent" and "thought force was justified." If our court system were known for wrongfully convicting the innocent so often, we would reform it. Yet at least one wrongful -mortal- sentence is passed against someone in this country nearly every day, and we do nothing.

If Hopkins wants to build safety in the Baltimore community, they have all of the tools to do so. Our Public Health and Education programs contain overwhelming numbers of faculty and students invested in this wonderful city, and the funds they have allocated for this force could be reinvested into community programs: after-school enrichment, hiring community mentors who know the struggles at-risk youth face because they were at-risk themselves, drug counseling and rehabilitation programs, job training for the unemployed, more scholarships for high school students, actually paying a fair share of taxes to support Baltimore City's own efforts to make these changes – I could go on and on with this list, but you get my point. It's hard not to see Hopkins continual support for private policing (something as unpopular with their own staff and students as it is with the city community at large) as another way white supremacy encodes Blackness as deviance, and its place in the community as protective as whiteness and white supremacy.

The answer is never more police – let alone police accountable to a corporate master, rather than the community they work within. If you arm them, they will shoot. Sometimes they will be justified, sometimes not. Is this the society we want to build? Is this the Baltimore we want to live in? Failing to pass SB0276 when you have this chance is to be complicit in someone's death and the devastation of their family. Maybe not immediately, but based on the odds, unquestionably someday.

Please, vote in support of Senator Carter's legislation to repeal the institution of a private police force by Johns Hopkins University.

Sincerely,

Sarah Zanolini  
PhD Student, Johns Hopkins History of Medicine

# **Hopkins police.pdf**

Uploaded by: Zinkevich, Daniel

Position: FAV

I do not want Hopkins University to have its own police force. Baltimore's problems will not be solved by throwing more police at them; we've tried this, and it doesn't work.

Furthermore, JHU does not require police at all. Campus security should suffice. The kinds of (non-white collar) crimes that happen on campus - petty theft and sexual assaults - are not typically prevented by police. At best they will take your statement and add it to a file somewhere. Check their clearance rate - the regular police can take a statement and do nothing just as well as a private police force.

I believe the real reason that the University wants armed police on campus is to brutalize and arrest protestors on campus exercising their first amendment rights.

If Hopkins were really concerned about crime, they would follow the advice from leaders at their own Health Policy school and invest in the mental and physical health of whole communities.

# No JHU PP.pdf

Uploaded by: Kate, Kate

Position: FWA

I am a resident of the area surrounding JHU. The security force as it exists now does not contribute to a safer environment, but does increase the amount of harassment that our unhoused neighbors face. We do NOT need more policing! We need less gentrification and submission to private interests over the public good!



# **BARS Letter - Repealing Hopkins Private Police (SB**

Uploaded by: So, Agatha

Position: FWA



January 21, 2021

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.

Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

2 East, Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: SUPPORT of Senate Bill 276**

**(Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal)**

Dear Committee Chair Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

We at the Baltimore Asian Resistance in Solidarity (BARS) are writing to you in support of SB0276, to repeal the Johns Hopkins University police department. We believe the Maryland Senate should act swiftly to bring this legislation to a vote and to repeal the establishment and maintenance of a Johns Hopkins University police department, including all applicable authorizations, powers, requirements, and prohibitions on the University, University police officers, the Baltimore Police Department, and the Department of Legislative Services.

Formed in response to police brutality against Michael Brown and Freddie Gray, Baltimore Asian Resistance in Solidarity (BARS) brings together Asians and Pacific Islanders of all backgrounds in Baltimore to work in solidarity with our neighbors and the communities we share: Black, Indigenous, all people of color, workers, LGBTQIA+, women, disabled folks, incarcerated people, immigrants and refugees. We represent an essential sub-population of the Johns Hopkins University community; justice-oriented Asian and Pacific Islander alum, students, staff, and faculty. However, our members, such as our South Asian members, have also been unfairly targeted by law enforcement in the name of anti-terrorism initiatives since 9/11. Because our liberation is tied together, we cannot support the creation of a private police force to further endanger and criminalize our Black and Brown neighbors, friends, and colleagues. **It is our obligation to support SB 276 and the repeal of the Johns Hopkins University police force.**



# BALTIMORE ASIAN RESISTANCE IN SOLIDARITY

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation and provide the following recommendations that we believe will strengthen it.

- **Ensure that Johns Hopkins University will not be permitted to establish a police force in the future.** Incidents of police brutality against residents in cities like Baltimore, continue to occur across the nation while the efforts toward police reform and accountability have been weak and ineffective. To date, Johns Hopkins has shown no meaningful acknowledgement of the petition from over 6,000 Baltimore city residents, University faculty and students, against the police force. Johns Hopkins University Administration must be held accountable to the steps it has taken to form a private armed police force. It is critical to ensure that once its established police force has been repealed, Johns Hopkins University will be prohibited from establishing a similar police force or department or granting certain police powers to certain employees in the future.
- **Expand the scope of the bill to include private institutions of higher education across the state.** Delegate Ivey has introduced legislation, HB0336, which would repeal the Hopkins Police and the Police Forces of Other Private Institutions of Higher Education, to ensure that private colleges and universities across the state will be prohibited from establishing or maintaining a private police force. Like in Baltimore city, Black and Brown residents, staff, and students across the state should feel safe and remain shielded from an unwarranted - or deadly - encounter with the police, whether they reside on campus or in the communities surrounding a university or college campus.

BARS respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about Baltimore Asian Resistance in Solidarity or this position, please contact [baltimoreasianresistanceinsolidarity@gmail.com](mailto:baltimoreasianresistanceinsolidarity@gmail.com).

Best regards,

Baltimore Asian Resistance in Solidarity

# **Opposition to SB 276 K. Cleary 1-19-21.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cleary, Kevin

Position: UNF

**Kevin D. Cleary**  
3601 Greenway, Unit 309  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218-2492

January 17, 2021

To Who It May Concern:

**RE: Opposition to S.B. 276 – Repeal of Johns Hopkins Police Department**

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Senate legislation that would repeal the enabling legislation for a Johns Hopkins Police Department.

I received my B.A. degree from JHU in 1979. I now live one block from the Homewood campus. My younger son is in his ninth year on the Homewood campus; first as an undergraduate and now as a doctoral candidate. My safety and the safety of my son depend on a well-trained, properly supervised police force for the campus. Given the reputation of Baltimore as a crime-ridden city and the continuing challenges of the Baltimore Police Department, I believe it is important for Hopkins, the City's largest employer, to be able to say that it is doing everything it can, including the establishment of a well-trained, properly supervised police force, to keep its students, faculty, staff, and immediate neighbors safe.

I also am writing as a former employee of the Washington-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) that as a civilian was detailed to Baltimore's City Hall from 2003 to 2007 to establish Operation Crime Watch in the wake of the Dawson Family Tragedy. I have crunched crime data and are very aware that too many of Baltimore's neighborhoods, including those near the Hopkins' campuses, are not safe. Eliminating the possibility of additional well-trained and properly-supervised officers will make the city less safe, not safer.

I have seen how officers and community residents can work together in the fight against crime. Just as we have seen many officers join in the nationwide call for racial justice and long-overdue police reform, our city can be safer if we allow officers and residents to build the bonds that eventually will help strengthen our neighborhoods."

I urge that Senate Bill 276 is defeated. Thank you for considering my letter.

Sincerely,

*Kevin D. Cleary*

Kevin D. Cleary

# **A. Harpool Opposition to SB276 Repeal of Johns Hop**

Uploaded by: Harpool, Adrian

Position: UNF

Dear Chairman Smith,

I have been a resident and/or business owner in the Baltimore Midtown Community since 1996 and have been active in civic and neighborhood affairs at various levels. My business is located in the 1700 block of Maryland Avenue which bridges the fringes of Hopkins' Homewood and Peabody campuses and give me a daily view of the Station North Arts District, a neighborhood in transition.

The decade I served on the board of the Midtown Community Benefits District, with two terms as its chairman while representing the Madison Park Neighborhood and where I recently completed terms as President, offered me a unique perspective on the challenges our community faces. Chief among these challenges has been public safety, which remains a paramount concern among residents and business owners alike.

When the prospect of Johns Hopkins University dedicating human and financial resources to support our goals of making the Midtown Community safer by addressing the issues of violent crime, theft and property damage through establishing a policing program was first proposed, I supported wholeheartedly. At that time in my role as Midtown CBD chair, I delivered testimony in the affirmative to this committee encouraging the passage of legislation to support that initiative. Today, in my role as a business owner, I find myself in opposition to SB 276 (Repeal of the Johns Hopkins Police Department) and efforts aimed at derailing a well-intentioned effort before it has hardly had time to leave the station.

As I stated in my remarks some two years ago, the need for every willing organization, institution and individual to lend their support to our otherwise under-resourced efforts to ensure the safety of persons and protect property in this community is critical. And while I am painfully aware of the recently reported history tarnishing the legacy of Johns Hopkins University's namesake and most notable benefactor, the recent efforts there to address systemic racism and reforms at the institution give me reasonable assurance that any policing program implemented by JHU will be guided with principles informed by and benefiting from our community input and oversight.

Therefore, I am asking that this committee allow the policing program at JHU the opportunity to demonstrate its value and effectiveness in our community while being monitored and objectively evaluated before it is dismantled without cause.

I thank you for this forum and hope that my comments along with like sentiments will be given full consideration in your deliberation and allow this program to render the support so sorely need by our community.

Respectfully,  
Adrian Harpool  
Principal  
Adrian Harpool Associates

# hopkinspd.pdf

Uploaded by: McKown, Arch

Position: UNF



January 19, 21

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Arch McKown. I'm the Safety Committee Chairperson of Patterson Park Neighborhood Association. I'm widely regarded by area neighborhood associations, community leaders, public safety employees and politicians here as a "go to person for community safety matters in the SE District of Baltimore." I've been in this role for several years. My family and I reside in Butcher's Hill Neighborhood and we are extremely active in the community here volunteering-wise.

I am writing to express my opposition to MD Senate Bill SB276, which would eliminate JHPD.

Our neighborhoods surrounding JHU medical campus are vibrant and growing with many families and employees of JHU. Quite a few employees walk or bike to work, or make the short drive and then park in the neighborhood.

A continued issue in this area is street robbery and car jacking. Often times, the victim is an employee of JHUMC who is simply commuting to work or doing an act like unloading groceries from their car after stopping at the market after work. Car jacking and armed robbery, incident-wise, dropped in 2020 due to Covid restrictions, but we continued to see dozens of instances in the vicinity of JHUMC. Once Covid restrictions are lifted, we expect to see armed street robberies and car jacking increase again in this vicinity, back to prior numbers.

Clearly, the SE District of BPD is undermanned to patrol this area. I know for a fact that often times, those posts (12 post and 21 post) are empty as the post officer must attend to another call or process a call. Obviously, a marked police presence results in decreased crime in that vicinity. This fact has been borne out in published studies looking at causation vs correlation.

We in the community are united against police brutality, institutional racism and we greatly support constitutional policing. I whole heartedly support all of those notions in theory and in practice. I also support the fact that a sworn police department will result in a safer environment for ALL individuals in the immediate vicinity of JHUMC. We need the JHUPD here.

I fully support implementation of the JHPD and I oppose MD Senate Bill SB276.

Thanks,

Arch C. McKown

**G. Patrick support testimony 1.17.21 PG (002).pdf**

Uploaded by: Patrick, Garrett

Position: UNF

My name is Garrett Patrick and I am a homeowner two blocks from the Johns Hopkins medical school campus. I've lived in Baltimore for six years and have been involved throughout the neighborhood, most recently serving on the board of the Patterson Park Neighborhood Association.

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I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Senate bill 276 eliminating the Johns Hopkins Police Department. Two years ago I attended each of the hearings on the initial bill, expressing the strong support of many of my neighbors. At that time, I brought testimony from a near unanimous group of my neighbors on the 200 block of N. Madeira street, as well as testimony from over 100 school of medicine students. As a diverse group of neighbors, we recognize the need for increased safety within our neighborhood.

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We have been no strangers to the crime that plagues the surrounding area. We are by now too-used to the all-too-common incidences of muggings and assaults. In just the past year, a man broke into several houses and threatened neighbors who saw him. More egregiously, one of my neighbors, a Hopkins employee, had his house where he and his family including two young daughters live, firebombed by a repeat offender. This offender was seen around the area numerous times before escalating to this, but with overstretched police forces, he would evade capture when we would call the police. Having the additional presence of the Johns Hopkins police force to cover this area could have stopped this before the escalation.

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Our block strongly believes in the effort of the JH police force to provide a community-driven and evidence-based police force that would provide a greater sense of safety to all of those in our neighborhood. We thank the committee for consideration.

Garrett Patrick

**Leon Purnell - SB276 Oppose- JHPD Repeal 01192021.**

Uploaded by: Purnell, Leon

Position: UNF

Oppose-SB276- Johns Hopkins University - Police Department - Repeal

January 21, 2021

My name is Leon Purnell. For more than 20 years I have served as the executive director of the Men and Families Center in East Baltimore, formerly known as the Men's Center. I've lived in Baltimore my whole life, and I know firsthand the challenges our city and its residents face from violent crime. I fully support the development of the Johns Hopkins Police Department.

I am testifying today against SB 276, the Johns Hopkins University - Police Department – Repeal. This legislation would take away the chance for a future Johns Hopkins Police Department before they even had the chance to get it off the ground.

As I said two years ago when I spoke in support of the Community Safety and Strengthening Act, we should all put ourselves in the shoes of a parent of a Hopkins student going to class, or a nurse going to work at the hospital, or a patient seeking care at their hospitals. I believe that even more today, as we see our front-line workers put their lives at risk day-in and day-out, working in hospitals and in the community.

Given the tragic levels of violence in our city, how could they not be worried? Every day violence touches our lives in new and terrible ways: at churches, in schools, and on neighborhood streets and parks. Why shouldn't Hopkins take steps to protect its campuses and community?

I attended some of the many community meetings and forums Johns Hopkins held on this issue. And I was pleased that Hopkins listened to its neighbors like me, as the final legislation directly addressed the concerns raised by the community. We knew then with all of the requirements in the legislation around community input, officer training, reporting, and local hiring, that it would take time to build this police department, one that was truly progressive and accountable to the community. But, I am confident that if we give them the time, Johns Hopkins will continue to listen to our neighborhoods and communities and set the highest standards for training, conduct, and accountability.

Everyone agrees that more must be done to stop the violence, and this law represents the hopes and hard work of many of us who live and work in this city. I strongly urge this committee to vote no on this bill.

Thank you.

# **Johns Hopkins Testimony - Opposition to SB 276 - R**

Uploaded by: Scott, Connor

Position: UNF

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Ron J. Daniels, President, Johns Hopkins University  
Kevin W. Sowers, President, Johns Hopkins Health System; Executive Vice President of  
Johns Hopkins Medicine  
Connor D. Scott, Acting Vice President for Security, Johns Hopkins University and Johns  
Hopkins Medicine

DATE: January 21, 2021

On behalf of Johns Hopkins University Johns Hopkins University and Medicine, we respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 276, Johns Hopkins University – Police Department – Repeal. The proposed legislation would prematurely prevent Johns Hopkins from advancing the important goal of reducing violent crime in Baltimore. It would take away a vital tool without offering a viable replacement. It would cast aside thousands of hours of legislative and community debate, discussion, and deliberation without providing a solution to the ongoing violence. In short, it would do nothing to improve the safety and security of our neighborhoods and would instead undermine a collaborative community effort to establish a model police department.

Two years ago, the Maryland legislature passed the Community Safety and Strengthening Act. This law was the result of countless hours of community input, exhaustive academic research, benchmarking and peer analysis, and extensive legislative deliberation and review, as detailed in the [\*Interim Study on Approaches to Improving Public Safety on and around Johns Hopkins University Campuses\*](#). The law embodied the shared goal of improving safety and reducing violent crime in Baltimore through a series of community-based approaches that include economic development grants and youth employment and mentoring. It also authorized Johns Hopkins to develop a small, accountable, and transparent university-based police department held to the strictest, most progressive and most reform-minded legal mandates in the state and across the country.

Among other provisions, the Community Safety and Strengthening Act requires Johns Hopkins to enter into a publicly available memorandum of understanding with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) regarding jurisdiction and operation. The law broadly restricts the operational jurisdiction of the university police department to areas on and immediately adjacent to its campuses, where it will share law enforcement responsibilities with and alleviate current demands upon the BPD. The university police department is required to comply with the Maryland Public Information Act and extensive reporting requirements to the city, state and general public that include and go far beyond any other police department's requirements in Maryland. And ten years after enactment of the legislation, an independent evaluation will provide a public review of the department and offer a recommendation to the General Assembly to extend or reauthorize the department.



## **Government and Community Affairs**

The community will have an unprecedented level of input and oversight of the department. A community Accountability Board will meet regularly to review policies and procedures of the department, there will be a public complaint process and an administrative hearing board, and the department will be subject to the Baltimore City Civilian Review Board.

Also central to the Community Safety and Strengthening Act are a series of non-law enforcement programs intended to combat violent crime and improve the city. These include a new Police Athletic League and matching grant dollars for law enforcement cadet programs, \$100,000 for the East Baltimore Historical Library, and \$1 million per year in summer employment opportunities for youth.

Individually, these steps reflect the seriousness with which Johns Hopkins views violent crime and our responsibility to aid in its reduction. Together, they represent a broad, creative and inclusive approach to helping make our neighborhoods safer for all who live, learn, work and receive patient care here.

Consistent with both the mandate of the legislature and our belief that the best path forward is arm-in-arm with our community and stakeholders, we decided in June to pause the implementation of the university police department in light of the shocking acts of police violence that called our nation to action and in anticipation of further policy reforms and direction from the Maryland General Assembly. We believed at the time, and we continue to believe, that moving forward while elected leaders in Baltimore and Maryland are embarking on a necessary and ambitious agenda of progressive police reform would have been premature and insensitive, and we proceeded with the caution and community-first approach that the General Assembly urges in the law itself.

In the meantime, we have not retreated from our commitment to take every step possible to address the challenge of violent crime in our community. We have continued to improve our existing security operations – through enhanced training, professional development, and oversight – while also developing and investing in non-police approaches to public safety, like the new \$6 million, 4-year JHU Innovation Fund for Community Safety to support community-led projects designed to reduce violence in the near term.

Our city leadership is a critical partner in this effort, and we continue to think about how we can leverage our resources and expertise to support the city's broader public safety agenda. This includes providing early financial support for the city's effort to bring Focused Deterrence, a nationally-recognized and evidence-based model for crime reduction, to Baltimore and serving as a founding member and lead sponsor of the Greater Baltimore Region Integrated Crisis System (GBRICS), a \$45 million, multi-hospital, regional collaboration to expand community based behavioral health crisis services in Baltimore City and Baltimore, Howard and Carroll Counties.

While those efforts continue to move forward, we remain wholly committed to establishing the Johns Hopkins Police Department, especially in light of the difficult reality of violent crime in and around our campus. Of the violent crime reported across Baltimore college and university campuses in 2019, Johns Hopkins alone accounted for 73% of aggravated assaults – 55% on the East Baltimore campus alone – and 37% of robberies.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Data collected from Annual Security Reports of Baltimore colleges and universities, including all three Johns Hopkins campuses

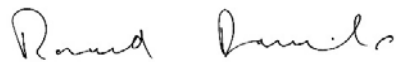
**Government and Community Affairs**

At the same time, we believe that we have an important opportunity to work with our new city and state leadership to develop meaningful and lasting reforms that will improve every law enforcement agency in Maryland – including the Johns Hopkins Police Department.

We look forward to continuing this work with the legislature and to the ongoing and critically important efforts to end the scourge of violent crime in our hometown.

We urge the committee to vote no on Senate Bill 276.

Signed,



Ronald J. Daniels  
President, Johns Hopkins University



Kevin W. Sowers  
President, Johns Hopkins Health System; Executive Vice President



Connor D. Scott  
Acting Vice President for Security, Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Medicine

cc: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

# **T. Scott – Opposition to SB 276 – Repeal of Johns**

Uploaded by: Scott, Todd

Position: UNF

January 18, 2021

To whom it may concern:

My name is Todd Scott. I live approximately two blocks north of Johns Hopkins Hospital in East Baltimore. I moved back to East Baltimore in 2016.

I oppose the Senate Bill that would eliminate the JHPD.

Baltimore City has reached another grave milestone at the end of 2020. For the sixth consecutive year, Baltimore has more than 300 homicides for the year. This is very sad. We must implement various strategies to prevent these horrific tragedies.

A Johns Hopkins Police Department would relieve the severely understaffed Baltimore City Police Department of its current duties overseeing the John Hopkins footprint. In addition, a relationship between the JHPD and the community can be formed to open a line of communication and build a bond.

In conclusion, I oppose the Senate Bill. Thank you.

Regards,

Todd Scott