

Police Training Commission - regulatory authority

Uploaded by: Lisae C Jordan

Position: FAV



Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

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Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 389
Lisae C. Jordan, Executive Director & Counsel
February 10, 2022

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State’s seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), a statewide legal services provider for survivors of sexual assault. MCASA represents the unified voice and combined energy of all of its members working to eliminate sexual violence. We urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to report favorably on Senate Bill 389.

Senate Bill 389 – Maryland Police Training & Standards Commission

This bill strengthens the authority and responsibility of the Police Training and Standards Commission. Critically, it maintains current requirements and mandates that police receive entrance level training and training every three years on:

(I)THE CRIMINAL LAWS CONCERNING RAPE AND SEXUAL OFFENSES, INCLUDING THE SEXUALABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND RELATED EVIDENTIARY PROCEDURES;

(II)THE CRIMINAL LAWS CONCERNING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING SERVICES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO VICTIMS AND THE RIGHTS AND APPROPRIATE TREATMENT OF VICTIMS;

(III)THE CONTACT WITH AND TREATMENT OF VICTIMS OF CRIMES AND DELINQUENT ACTS;

(IV)THE NOTICES, SERVICES, SUPPORT, AND RIGHTS AVAILABLE TO VICTIMS AND VICTIMS’REPRESENTATIVES UNDER STATE LAW;

MCASA also fully supports and urges enactment of mandated training in the recognition and prevention of discrimination. This is critical for fair and just application of criminal laws, including laws regarding sexual violence. Sexual violence disproportionately affects women: 91% of the victims of rape and sexual assault are female, and 9% are male. (Rennison, C. A. (2002). Rape and sexual assault: Reporting to police and medical attention, 1992-2000 [NCJ 194530]. Retrieved from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics). Sexual violence and trafficking also disproportionately affect Black women. The US Department of Justice found that African American girls and women 12 years and older experienced higher rates of rape and sexual assault than White, Asian, and Latina girls and women from 2005-2010. U.S. DOJ Bureau of Justice Statistics, “Female Victims of Sexual Violence, 1994-2010,” 201. 40% of confirmed sex trafficking survivors in the U.S. are Black. Banks, Duren and Kyckelhahn, Tracey, “ Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 2008-2010”, The Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2011. Our law enforcement officers must have the training and tools to recognize and combat the discrimination and racism that contributes to these crimes.

**The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the
Judicial Proceedings Committee to
report favorably on Senate Bill 389**

JacksonSB389Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Michael Jackson

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TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 389

PUBLIC SAFETY – MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 10, 2022

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 389 is a piece of legislation that makes multiple changes to the work and administrative processes of the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission. As you all know, the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission sets the basic standards for the institutions that offer police and security training. Additionally, it creates the curriculum for police training schools along with the corresponding requirements for attendance and eligibility. Made up of twenty-four members, the Governor appoints eight members to three-year terms. Two senators are appointed by the Senate President, and two delegates by the House Speaker with twelve members serving ex officio.

The legislation makes changes to multiple facets of the commission. Chiefly among the changes are designating the Secretary of the State Police as the permanent chair of the commission, allowing non-Gubernatorial appointed members of the commission to designate representatives to attend meetings on their behalf, and multiple enhanced entry-level and in-service training requirements. Among the entry level and in-service training enhancements are requirements to supplement training in criminal laws related to rape and sexual abuse, human trafficking, and evidentiary procedures. Additionally, new training would be required in the areas of de-escalation in the use of force, the prevention of profiling, and in the recognition and prevention of discrimination based on race, color, religion or creed, national origin or ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, and citizenship status.

As someone who spent the majority of his professional career in law enforcement, ensuring that law enforcement professionals receive the most thorough and effective training possible is something that is very important to me. This legislation will help to provide officers with the tools necessary to do their jobs effectively and to ensure the successful performance of their duties.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 389.

SB 389_MNADV_FWA.pdf

Uploaded by: Melanie Shapiro

Position: FWA



BILL NO: Senate Bill 389
TITLE: Public Safety – Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission
COMMITTEE: Judicial Proceedings
HEARING DATE: February 10, 2022
POSITION: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens. **MNADV urges the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee to issue a favorable report with amendments on SB 389.**

Senate Bill 389 requires entrance level training and additional trainings every three years on laws and services for victims of rape and sexual offenses, human trafficking, and generally contact and treatment of victims and services available to them. The bill also includes training conducted on use of force, de-escalation and the recognition and prevention of discrimination. MNADV supports these training efforts.

In a 2015 survey, 88% of victims of domestic violence or sexual assault reported that police “sometimes” or “often” do not believe victims or blamed victims for the violence.¹ In that same survey, 83% of the those surveyed thought police “sometimes” or “often” do not take allegations of sexual assault and domestic violence seriously.² Over 80% believed that police-community relations with marginalized communities influenced survivors’ willingness to call the police.³

MNADV would request that the bill be amended to include the following language on page 9 after line 6, “THE CRIMINAL LAWS CONCERNING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, INCLUDING SERVICES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO VICTIMS AND THE RIGHTS OF AND APPROPRIATE TREATMENT OF VICTIMS.”

For the above stated reasons, the **Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence urges a favorable report with amendments on SB 389.**

¹ ACLU, [Responses from the Field: Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Policing](#), 2015.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*