

DAVID NORKEN, ESQ.
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February 25, 2022

Re: HB-0991 **FAVORABLE**

Dear Judiciary Committee Members:

I am writing in support of HB 0991 which makes the Baltimore Civilian Review Board the Baltimore Police Accountability Board. This is a much-needed step to provide adequate funding and accountability. The funding is 2% of the Police Department budget. Thus, the Police Accountability Board will have adequate funding and subpoena power to do the necessary work of investigating, holding hearings and making recommendations on complaints of police misconduct. Most importantly, the complaints will be a matter of public record as will the recommendations of the Board. This is very important to maintain a continuing record to help identify and weed out officers guilty of a pattern of police misconduct. Overall, the bill is a major step forward in police accountability. It is true that the Board only makes recommendations. However, those recommendations must be considered and the public will be involved to ensure the Board is not ignored. I strongly support passage of this bill.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Norken". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

David Norken
Attorney at Law