



THE NATIONAL
GREAT BLACKS
IN WAX MUSEUM Inc

Honorable Guy Guzzone

Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Oliver Community is described both as a “neighborhood that has seen better days and as one that is getting a second chance.” With a total crime estimate of 9,297 crimes per 100K people, this area has a violent crime rate of almost seven-times the national average and a property crime rate of almost three-times the national average.

The Community Safety Works grant funds awarded the Museum has allowed it to implement the following Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies aimed at creating a positive neighborhood culture that would reduce the social motives for crime:

Control Access: 8-foot fencing around the front exterior of 5 vacant houses

Encourage Natural LED architectural façade and fence lighting equipped with electronic sensors to

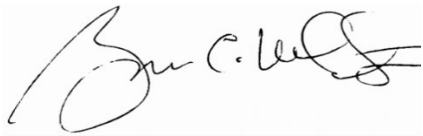
Surveillance: prevent crime and accentuate architectural details

Maintain Image: Decorative screening attached to fencing and vacant houses.

Future funding by the Community Safety Works could assist us in preventing crime through the following: 1) installation of a 24" deep canopy system with lighting and signage to attract visitors to main entry point; 2) Touchless Security Turnstiles; and 3) installation of two sets of accessible anodized Aluminum Doors to create secure vestibules.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum was founded in 1983 by Drs. Elmer P. and Joanne M. Martin

