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**TO:** The Honorable Will Smith Jr.  
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee

**FROM:** Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer  
Chief Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

**RE:** SB185 Maryland State Police Gun Center – Firearms Surrendered Under  
Final Protective Orders (**Support**)

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We write to urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to favorably report Senate Bill 185, Senator Beidle's bill to require the Maryland State Police Gun Center ("MSP Gun Center") to track, screen, and vet all firearms surrendered under a final protective order issued under MD FAMILY LAW § 4-501.

Under current law, the MSP Gun Center already maintains a statewide database to track information on crimes committed with firearms. This commonsense legislation merely adds tracking firearms surrendered under a final protective order in the case of domestic violence to the list of firearms so tracked. The bill further requires law enforcement agencies throughout the State to report to the MSP Gun Center the following information with respect to firearms surrendered under a final protective order: (1) the number and types of firearms; (2) the jurisdictions from whence the firearms are surrendered; and (3) information regarding the individual who surrendered the firearm's age, residence, and any other information requested by the MSP Gun Center.

The Attorney General is a strong proponent of protecting domestic violence victims from their perpetrators and this bill will assist in doing so. For all of the foregoing reasons, we urge a favorable report on SB 185.

cc: Members of the Committee

This bill letter is a statement of the Office of Attorney General's policy position on the referenced pending legislation. For a legal or constitutional analysis of the bill, Members of the House and Senate should consult with the Counsel to the General Assembly, Sandy Brantley. She can be reached at 410-946-5600 or sbrantley@oag.state.md.us