



# Randallstown

**P.O. Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133**

## State RICO Legislation

**Feb 2, 2023**

**Immediate Release**

**Contact: Ryan Coleman, President**

[randallstownnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:randallstownnaacp@gmail.com)

Carjackings are on the rise in cities across the country and juvenile offenders are more and more a part of this unsettling trend. As of Aug. 13, 2022, there have been 412 carjackings in Baltimore city, according to the most recent data. This is compared to 272 over the same time period the year before. As of Aug. 18, 2022, there have been 65 carjackings in Baltimore County, compared to 64 at the same time in 2021.

Carjackings are being driven by the need to commit additional robberies, shootings and murders. It also is being driven by the secondary market to sell catalytic converters, airbags and etc. These crimes are being committed and organized by gangs and organized crime entities.

Therefore, we need additional tools to make Maryland safe. Many states have enacted racketeering laws to prosecute organized crime, as well as otherwise legitimate businesses that participate in criminal activity. Racketeering laws allow state prosecutors to bring all of an organization's different criminal acts together in one single prosecution. These states, called Little RICO Acts, are often patterned on the federal RICO laws.

**The Randallstown NAACP supports the effort for legislation to create the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) state law.**