



**Brandon M. Scott**  
Mayor



**Michael S. Harrison**  
Police Commissioner

## BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: The Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Erin C. Murphy, Esq., Director of Government Affairs, Baltimore Police Dept.

RE: House Bill 0859 Criminal Law- Private Home Monitoring Notification

DATE: March 3, 2023

### **POSITION: SUPPORT**

Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Moon, and members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore Police Department **supports** House Bill 0859.

House Bill 0859 provides that upon determination that a defendant subject to private home detention monitoring under the provisions of Section 5-201(b) of the Criminal Procedure Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland has been missing for 24 hours, the private home detention monitoring agency responsible for monitoring shall on the NEXT business day notify the court that ordered private home detention monitoring as a condition of the defendant's pre-trial release. If the court that ordered private home monitoring is not open for business when notification is required, the private home detention monitoring agency shall notify the designated duty judge of the county where the court is located.

Currently, pursuant to Section 20-401 of the Business Occupations & Professions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the notification that is required in these circumstances is the next business day. This bill will ensure that there is a quicker notification time should a defendant abscond over a time period that courts are not in session.

Overall, the Baltimore Police Department believes this bill would greatly assist in the prevention of crimes and contribute to our ability to provide for the public safety. Therefore, the Baltimore Police Department respectfully requests a **favorable** report on House 0859.