



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Prince George's County, Maryland
Administrative and Executive Office

John D.B. Carr
Sheriff

Senator William "Bill" Folden
414 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Folden,

I am writing this letter to express my support for Senate Bill 44, the Safe Communities Act of 2024, which would prohibit the earning of diminution credits to reduce the term of confinement of an incarcerated individual who is serving a sentence for first or second-degree murder in a state or local correctional facility.

As you know, in August of 2002, the Office of the Sheriff for Prince George's County lost two deputy sheriffs in the line of duty when they were shot and killed by an individual they were attempting to serve with a court ordered psychiatric order. Ultimately, their killer was sentenced to 30 years in prison for the murders, but was recently released after having only served some 22 years of that sentence.

If this bill were to become law, it would not bring back Sergeant James V. Arnaud or Deputy First Class Elizabeth L. Magruder, but it would give survivors of similar crimes the peace of mind of knowing that the perpetrators of those crimes will serve their full sentences before being released.

Our agency will never forget our fallen heroes or how they died, and I applaud this effort to prohibit the earning of diminution credits for those incarcerated for first or second-degree murder.

Please let me know if I may be of assistance to you as this bill works its way through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

John D.B. Carr
Sheriff for Prince George's County