

FREDERICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HEADQUARTERS FREDERICK COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

110 Airport Drive East
Frederick, Md. 21701
301-600-1046
301-600-1527 (Fax)
301-600-7655 (TTY)



CHARLES A. JENKINS
SHERIFF

JUDICIAL OPERATIONS

100 W. Patrick Street
Frederick, Md. 21701
301-600-2162
301-600-3690 (Fax)

DETENTION CENTER/ CENTRAL BOOKING

7300 Marcie's Choice Lane
Frederick, Md. 21704
301-600-2550 (D.C.)
301-600-2566 (D.C. Fax)
301-600-1790 (C.B.)
301-600-1791 (C.B. Fax)

WORK RELEASE CENTER

7281 Marcie's Choice Lane
Frederick, Md. 21704
301-600-1727
301-600-3404 (Fax)

TO: Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Sheriff Charles A. Jenkins

REF: House Bill 0854 Sex Offender Registration Locations

DATE: March 25, 2024

I am writing in opposition to House Bill 0854. The bill is entitled, **Sex Offender Registration – Local Law Enforcement – Registration Locations**. The purpose of the bill is to require a certain local law enforcement unit to designate multiple locations geographically distributed throughout a certain county, where a certain registrant can register as required under certain provisions of law, and generally relating to the sex offender registry.

After a review of the legislation, several concerns were expressed as to the purpose of the bill, which on the surface merely makes it more convenient for a sex offender to register as required. My chief concern is that this bill creates a burdensome situation for a number of agencies including the Frederick County Sheriff's Office. The Frederick County Sheriff's Office has only one physical location (The Frederick County Law Enforcement Center) for offenders to come in and register as required. There is no practical way to believe that we could establish multiple locations as the bill would require without a tremendous logistical and cost burden. This would also create a burden for our staff (2 persons in the Sex Offender Registry Unit) to attempt to schedule and meet offenders at multiple locations. This bill makes no practical sense for those smaller law enforcement agencies that work out of a single location.

It is the responsibility of the convicted offender to follow the laws in place which includes ensuring they are present for appointments at the times and locations designated. There are many options for transportation and in Frederick County, this includes fare-free public transit. Again, this bill is unnecessary as it shifts responsibility and burden from convicted offenders to Law Enforcement Agencies and taxpayers.

