



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William Smith Jr., Chair and
Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Natasha Mehu, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: February 21, 2024

RE: **SB 608 Public Safety – Police Accountability – Time Limit for Filing
Administrative Charges**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) SUPPORT SB 608 with the amendment offered by the sponsor.

This bill provides clarification as to when a law enforcement agency is required to file administrative charges arising out of an investigation of alleged police misconduct. With the sponsor amendment, administrative charges not required to be reviewed by the Administrative Charging Committee (ACC) would need to be filed within one year and a day from the time the law enforcement became aware of the incident. With respect to criminal charges, the one year and a day timeframe for administrative charges would begin once the investigating law enforcement agency determines the matter is not related to criminal activity, the final disposition of the charges, or the ACC or agency decline to file criminal charges. Further clarification of these time frames will ensure proper action by the agency and the ACC, and discipline of officers.

Therefore, MCPA and MSA SUPPORT SB 608 and urge the Committee to move the bill favorable with the amendments offered by the sponsor.