



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Marcus G. Jones
Chief of Police

**HB 1111 Criminal Law – Criminal Law – Reckless Endangerment – Use of Motor Vehicle
House Judiciary Committee**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY: Montgomery County Police Captain Stacey Flynn, Director of the Policy and
Planning Division; Department Legislative Liaison**

March 05, 2024

Good afternoon, Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Judiciary Committee members. Thank you for listening to our testimony today.

My name is Captain Stacey Flynn. I serve as the Director of the Policy & Planning Division and the Legislative Liaison for the Montgomery County Department of Police. We are grateful to Delegate Wims for sponsoring HB 1111, Reckless Endangerment – Use of Motor Vehicles.

*Many years ago, as a patrol officer, I encountered a woman using her Saturn car as a **weapon** in a busy Gaithersburg intersection, repeatedly ramming a Honda Civic in which her cheating boyfriend was seated. While the Reckless Endangerment law precluded us from charging her, this bill seeks to amend that law, removing the exclusion of motor vehicle use from reckless endangerment offenses.*

Current charging options for similar incidents are to under-charge, utilizing only traffic offenses, or, dare I say, over-charge, utilizing felonious assault and attempted murder charges that can generate ten or more years in jail. This fix provides a reasonable middle-ground option, when appropriate, for a misdemeanor offense punishable by up to 5 years in jail, or a fine of up to \$5000, or both.

*On behalf of Montgomery County Police Chief Marcus Jones, I urge the Committee to **adopt a favorable report** on HB 1111. Thank you.*