

HON. STACY A. MAYER
CIRCUIT COURT
JUDGE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
CHAIR

HON. RICHARD SANDY
CIRCUIT COURT
JUDGE
FREDERICK COUNTY
VICE-CHAIR



KELLEY O'CONNOR
ASSISTANT STATE COURT
ADMINISTRATOR
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
P: (410) 260-1560

SUZANNE PELZ, ESQ.
SNR. GOVT. RELATIONS AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
P: (410)260-1523

MARYLAND JUDICIAL COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Environment and Transportation Committee
FROM: Legislative Committee
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.
410-260-1523
RE: House Bill 1227
Montgomery County – Vehicle Control and Monitoring Systems –
Distribution of Contested Traffic Fines, Application, and
Implementation MC 8-25
DATE: February 18, 2025
(2/21)
POSITION: Oppose

The Maryland Judiciary opposes House Bill 1227. House Bill 1227 amends the procedures for collecting and distributing fines associated with monitoring systems, under Transportation Article § 7-302, to include provisions specific to Montgomery County.

The Judiciary has no position on the policy aims of the legislation but has operational concerns. In order to advise an alleged liable person of proper payment procedures, as described under this proposed legislation, the District Court will be required to revise the prescribed citations for all monitoring systems (with the exception of video toll citations). This revision can be completed with existing resources; but, may create confusion for the citation recipients. This is because not all systems are implemented in Montgomery County and those that are, issue citations with content applicable to all 24 jurisdictions, statewide. For example, there are no active stop sign monitoring systems authorized in Montgomery County. Stop sign monitoring systems are only authorized for use in Prince George's County. Further, there are no active noise abatement monitoring system

programs, bus lane monitoring system programs, or vehicle height monitoring programs in Montgomery County.

In addition, the District Court is only currently involved in monitoring citations when the defendant does not prepay the citation and requests a hearing to contest the citation. The agency issuing the citation is responsible for the collection of fines for a prepaid citation. The District Court has no record of a citation until it is contested and is only responsible for the collection of fines on the day of trial.

cc. Montgomery County Delegation.
Judicial Council
Legislative Committee
Kelley O'Connor