

*Jesus Is Lord!*



**FROM THE HEART CHURCH MINISTRIES, INC.®**

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**Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor**



**Senate Bill 565**  
February 5, 2025

Dear House Judiciary Committee:

Grace, mercy and peace be unto you from God our Father and from Jesus Christ our Lord.

My name is Bishop John A. Cherry, II, Pastor of From the Heart Church Ministries, Inc.®, the Episcopal Pastor of From the Heart Church Ministries Worldwide®, and the Headmaster of From the Heart Christian School. I am writing in support of **Senate Bill 565 Motor Vehicles—Accidents—Required Testing for Impaired Driving (Matèò’s Law)**.

Matèò Green was born and raised at From the Heart. As a child he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and was actively involved in the life of the church, having served in the Children’s Choir, Young People’s Choir, Special Services Ministry, and the Multimedia Ministry. He was involved in scouting, advancing from a Cub Scout to earning his Boy Scout Eagle Award, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. He was immensely proud of this accomplishment. Matèò is loved and missed dearly by his family, friends, classmates, and church family.

In April 2024, Matèò succumbed to injuries he suffered in a singular vehicle crash, in which the driver of vehicle was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was not tested at the scene of the crash, as the officer did not determine that there were “reasonable grounds” for testing. The driver has remained free as a result.

Under the current Maryland law, the officer needs to “believe there is reasonable grounds” for testing. The proposed law change, “Matèò’s Law,” would replace the current section and will require both breath and blood alcohol testing if a person is involved in a motor vehicle accident that results in the death of, or life-threatening injury to another person.

The passing of this bill will make clear the protocol for testing at the scene of vehicular accidents. It is our hope that by initiating immediate testing, breath and blood alcohol, at the scene of the accident, the justice process will move more swiftly for families suffering this type of loss.

I am in favor of Mateo’s Law and encourage your vote in favor of this bill. Our prayer is that God will lead, guide and direct your path and that you will *“prosper and be in good health, even as your soul prospers.” (III John 2)*

In Christian Service,

Bishop John A. Cherry, II – Pastor

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