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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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HB 238

Public Safety – Police Accountability – Time Limit for Filing Administrative Charges

SUPPORT

HB 238 clarifies when a law enforcement agency is required to file administrative charges arising out of an investigation of alleged police misconduct. 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.

It is important to note that both the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) support HB 238.