

Testimony on Senate Bill – Favorable
SB001 Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Prohibition on Face Coverings

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

January 20, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jennifer Jarvis, and I am a native-born US citizen and resident of Baltimore City. I am writing in support of **SB001 Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Prohibition on Face Coverings**.

We live in a supposedly free country, where the rule of law is supposed to prevail and where all residents have certain rights, even if they are suspected of committing a crime. Therefore, there is absolutely no need for any law enforcement officer to wear a mask or face-covering at any time while on duty. Officers are supposed to be serving their communities, not hiding from us. If we entrust them with public safety, and if they are following the law, the constitution, and public engagement protocols, then they should not wish to hide their faces or obscure their identity. If you cover your face, barring illness of course, then you must have something to hide. Who is going to trust a police officer who refuses to show us their face or identify themselves?

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report** on **SB 001**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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