

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1415
Public Safety – Law Enforcement Officers – Identification
House Judiciary Committee | March 10, 2026

Chair Bartlett and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I write today in strong support of House Bill 1415, which would require law enforcement officers to wear visible identification on duty and direct the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop a uniform statewide policy.

When residents interact with police, they deserve to know who is serving them. Visible identification deters misconduct, gives the public a meaningful path to file complaints, and signals that officers stand behind their conduct. It also protects good officers—clear identification makes it easier to exonerate those who are falsely or mistakenly accused.

Identification requirements currently vary widely across Maryland's law enforcement agencies. HB 1415 corrects this inconsistency. By establishing a model policy through the Police Training and Standards Commission, the bill ensures that every Marylander—regardless of jurisdiction—can expect the same basic level of transparency from the officers who serve them.

House Bill 1415 is a commonsense, low-cost measure with real benefits for accountability and community trust. I urge a favorable vote.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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