

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

2024 YEAR END REPORT



POLICE
ACCOUNTABILITY
BOARD
Calvert County, Maryland

WILSON H. PARRAN
POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD CHAIR

EDWARD L. BAILOR
ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE CHAIR

PURPOSE



**POLICE
ACCOUNTABILITY
BOARD**
Calvert County, Maryland

To present an annual End of Year report to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the Citizens of Calvert County, highlighting identified trends and recommended policy changes aimed at improving Police Accountability in Calvert County.

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD (PAB)



Wilson H. Parran

District 2

Chairperson with Relevant Experience

Minority Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2025

Susan P. Justice

District 2

Vice Chairperson

Female Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2026

Brian Cedar

District 2

Retired Sworn Law Enforcement Officer

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2025

Alphonso W. Hawkins

District 2

Retired Sworn Law Enforcement Officer

Minority Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2026

Quentin U. Jones Jr.

District 2

Minority Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2027

Lisa M. Barony

District 1

Female Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2026

Dawn S. Lister

District 1

Female Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2027

Leslie Parker

District 1

Mental Health Practitioner

Female Representative

Minority Representative

Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2025

Suzanne Benedict

District 3

Female Representative

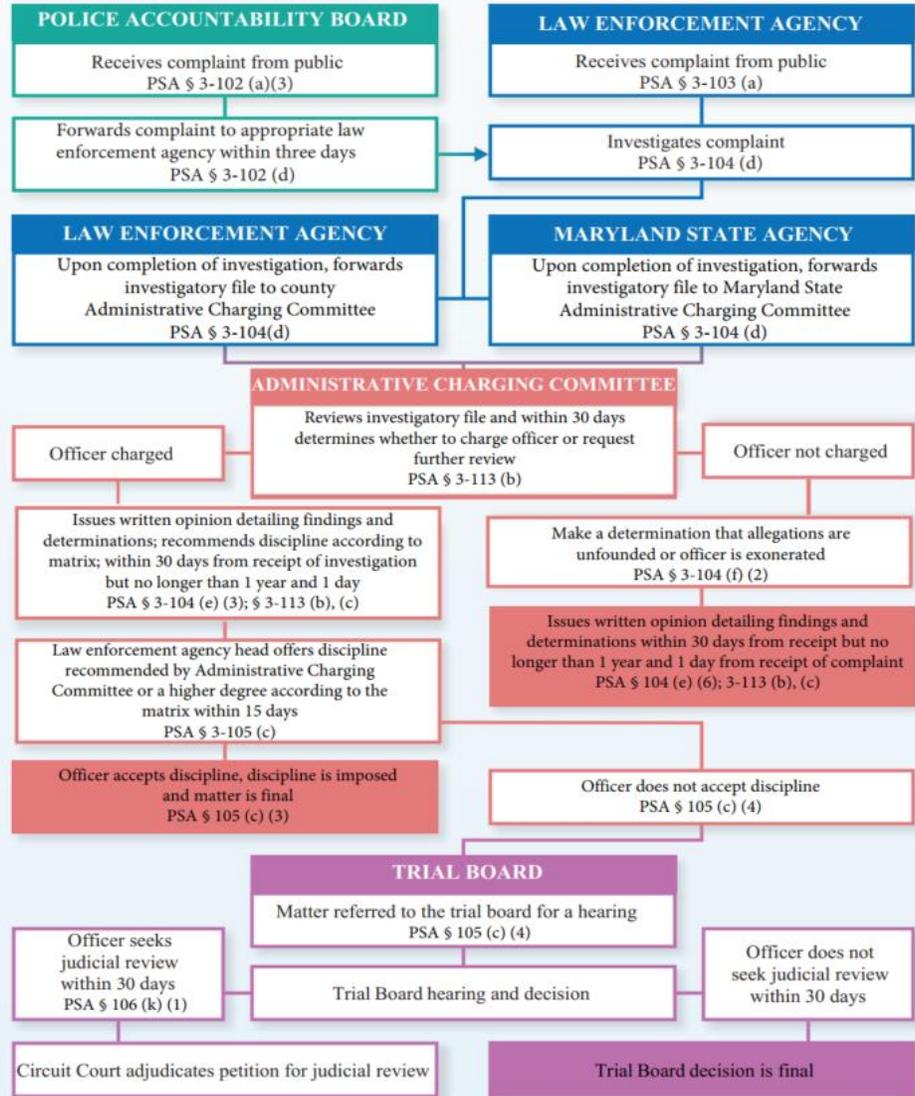
Three-Year Term of Service

Term Expiration: June 2027



MARYLAND
POLICE AND
CORRECTIONAL
TRAINING
COMMISSIONS

POLICE MISCONDUCT COMPLAINT PROCESS



Disposition by the Administrative Charging Committee shall be completed within 1 year and 1 day after filing of a complaint by a citizen PSA 3-113 (c)



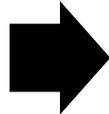
**POLICE
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Calvert County, Maryland

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES



POLICE
ACCOUNTABILITY
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Calvert County, Maryland

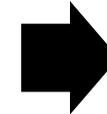
The PAB receives complaints of police misconduct filed by the public and forwards those complaints to the law enforcement agency (LEA) for investigation.



The PAB appoints two members to the Administrative Charging Committee and one member to the Trial Board.

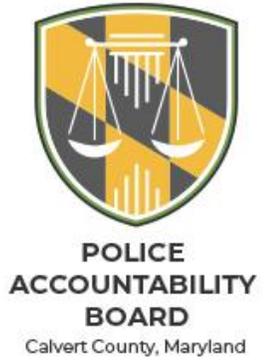


At least quarterly, the PAB conducts reviews on the outcomes of disciplinary matters and meets with heads of the LEA to recommend improvements to policing.



By Dec. 31, the PAB submits a yearly progress report to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE (ACC)



Edward Bailor
BOCC Appointment
Chairperson
Three-Year Term of Service
Term Expiration: February 2027

Susan Justice
Vice Chair of ACC
PAB Representative

Scott Deacon
PAB Appointed
Three-Year Term of Service
Term Expiration: August 2025

Stacy Stump
BOCC Appointed
Three-Year Term of Service
Term Expiration: June 2025

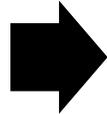
Alexsa Billups
PAB Appointed
Three-Year Term of Service
Term Expiration: August 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES



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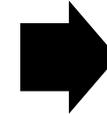
The ACC meets at least monthly to review the findings of an LEA investigation into a complaint of police misconduct.



The ACC reviews the investigation files and may request information or action from the LEA that conducted the investigation, including requiring additional investigation and the issuance of subpoenas.



The ACC then determines whether to administratively charge the involved police officer(s) who is the subject of the investigation.



If the police officer is charged, the ACC recommends discipline in accordance with the LEA's adopted disciplinary matrix.

THE TRIAL BOARD



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- Retired Judge Larry Lamson was appointed by the BOCC for a three-year term.
- Stephanie Diehl was appointed by the PAB.
- A police officer of equal rank to the police officer accused of misconduct is appointed by the head of the law enforcement agency to serve on a trial board.

TRIAL BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES



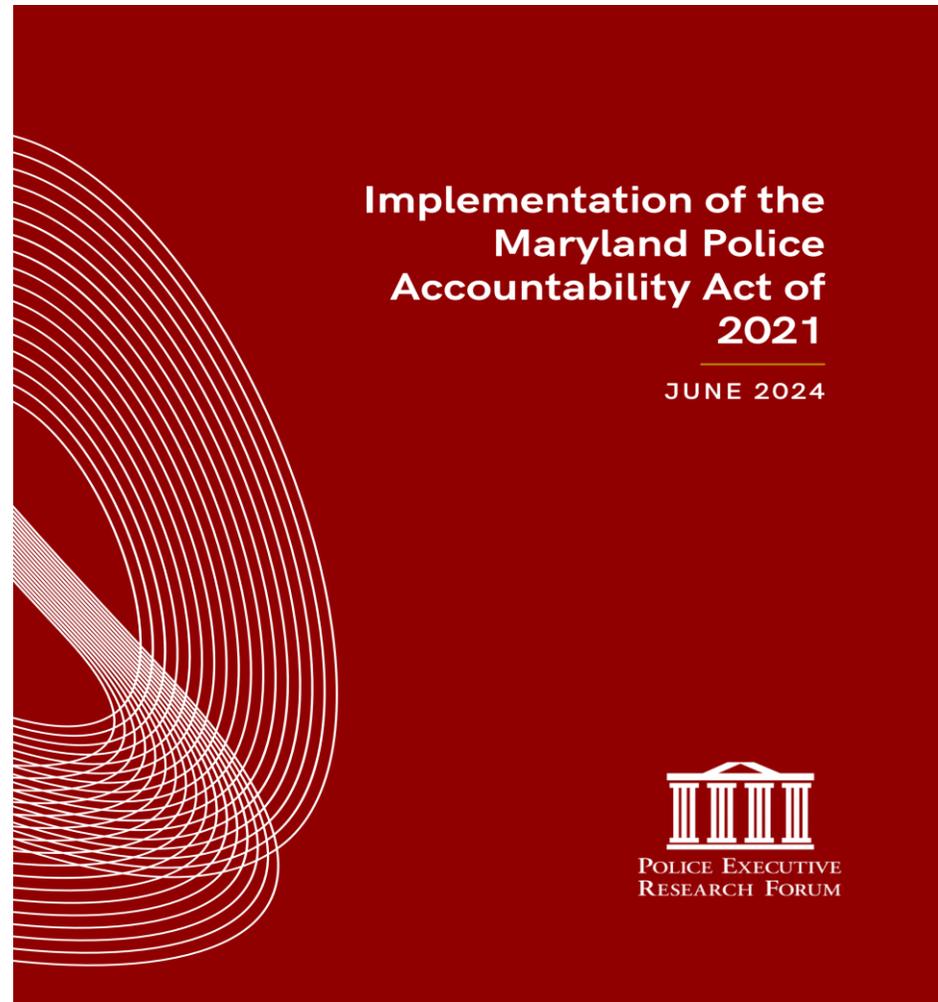
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- An officer appeals the ACC's disposition and does not accept the discipline recommended by ACC or the head of a law enforcement agency.
- The matter is then referred to a trial board for a hearing and decision.
- As of November 2024, there have been no trial boards held.

WORKING TOGETHER TOWARD IMPROVEMENTS



- We worked with local law enforcement to build trust and create internal and external processes.
- We met with state contractor PERF (Police Executive Research Forum). All PABs were invited to meet and discuss their processes to fully understand the legal requirements of the MPAA Implementation. We participated in the discussion along with approximately 150 law enforcement and PAB leaders to observe several live and recorded PAB meetings in order to create a report based on survey responses to the following subjects:
 - Aspects of the PAB role in jurisdictions – what works well, what does not.
 - The clarity of the PAB role in the accountability system.
 - Amount of information shared with they PAB from Law Enforcement Agencies and if it is adequate to meet associated requirements.
 - Receptiveness to Law Enforcement Agencies to PAB policy recommendations.
 - Training of PAB members.



Information contained in this report can be found by visiting <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/Implementation-of-the-MPAA-PERF-Final-Report.pdf>

NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS



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| <i>Jan. 1, 2023 – Dec. 15, 2023</i> | <i>Jan. 1, 2024 – Nov. 19, 2024</i> |
|--|--|
| 29 | 26 |
| <i>Cases Reviewed by the ACC</i> | <i>Cases Reviewed by the ACC</i> |
| 23 | 20 |
| <i>Complaints not Eligible for Review</i> | <i>Complaints not Eligible for Review</i> |
| 6 | 5 |
| <i>Cases Resulting in Administrative Charges</i> | <i>Cases Resulting in Administrative Charges</i> |
| 4 | 4 |
| <i>ACC Charged in Opposition to CCSO Findings</i> | <i>ACC Charged in Opposition to CCSO Findings</i> |
| 0 | 1 |
| <i>ACC Charged in Agreement with CCSO Findings</i> | <i>ACC Charged in Agreement with CCSO Findings</i> |
| 4 | 5 |

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE POLICING



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- During the ACC's review of investigation files, board members assess the types and frequency of complaints, examine the agency policies affected and determine disciplinary actions.
- This information is tracked to identify any systemic issues or behavior patterns that may require addressing through policy changes or the implementation of new policies.
- The PAB meets quarterly with heads of LEA to make policy recommendations and address any patterns of behaviors.
- Sheriff's Office has been in support of implementing suggested policy updates from the PAB and are supportive and cooperative during ACC investigations.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



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Feb. 28, 2024

No Contact Order

Recommendation: When there is an allegation of harassment of a civilian and a request for a no trespass order, a deputy should be instructed to make no contact. This instruction should include communication through electronic devices and written means.

May 22, 2024

Welfare Check

CCSO: Policy 10-505, Warrantless Searches section B, Exigent Circumstances states:

- This exception to the warrant requirement generally relates to factual situations in which it appears that a person may be hurt or in need of immediate medical assistance. Examples include welfare checks and domestic violence situations where the crime is ongoing.
- This exception is based upon the need for immediate aid, not on the need for investigation or the seriousness of the offense. The reasonableness of a deputy's entry under this exception is a question of fact for the trial court. Deputies shall document specific facts warranting the necessity for immediate entry.
 1. Elements: There must be reasonable grounds to believe an emergency is at hand and that there is an immediate need for assistance for the protection of life or property and there must be some reasonable basis to associate the emergency with the area or placed to be searched.
 2. Scope: The search may extend only to those areas where it would be reasonable, in light of the nature of the emergency, to search

Recommendation: A review of the policy may be necessary to determine whether it should specify that when a welfare check is requested, a deputy should make contact with the individual for whom the check is requested.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



**POLICE
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- The MOU with the Office of State’s Attorney Robert H. Harvey Jr. was signed on Dec. 29, 2022. We review and update as needed.
- The MOU with the Calvert County Sheriff’s Office was signed on Aug. 23, 2023. We review and update as needed.
- Both MOU documents can be found on the county website under the Police Accountability Board page.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



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- A Police Accountability Community Outreach Presentation has been developed to educate the public about the roles, responsibilities, processes and partnership with law enforcement to improve matters of policing in Calvert County.
- This informative presentation is currently available to local community groups. The presentation is hosted by the Chairs of the PAB and ACC, who provide valuable insights and engage with the audience by answering their questions.
- Community Groups that have received the presentation include the Calvert County League of Women Voters, NAACP and Fraternal Order of Police.

ACHIEVEMENTS



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- The Calvert County PAB and ACC have become leaders in implementing this new legislation across the state. We provide guidance on the PAB and ACC processes to other counties referred to us by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission.
- In June 2024, three PAB members were reappointed.
- Initial training provided to PAB by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission on June 25, 2024.
- Follow up training for ACC was completed June 24, 2024.

GOALS FOR 2025



- Continue to foster an ongoing relationship, building trust and working with law enforcement, while appreciating that each law enforcement agency is unique.
- Create a system with the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission for regular progress reporting, monitoring and providing refresher training.
- Enhance police accountability by improving communication with other statewide PABs and by comparing implementations in different counties to identify similarities, differences and best practices.
- Establish goals to continue to build relationships between the community and law enforcement.
- Enhance PAB review of complaint data and develop a process to review trends within complaints.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

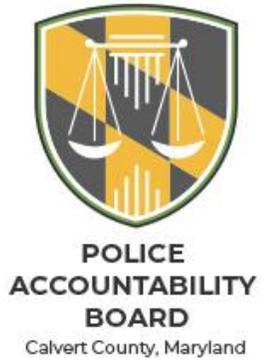
We would like to take a moment to recognize the county departments that have continued to play an important role in the implementation and success of PAB and ACC.

- Board of County Commissioners
- Calvert Broadcast
- Communications & Media Relations
- County Administrator's Office
- County Attorney's Office
- Human Resources
- Sheriff's Office
- Technology Services



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WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?



PAB@calvertcountymd.gov

Calvert PAB

www.calvertPAB.com

(and file a complaint of police misconduct)

Maryland General Assembly

www.mgaleg.maryland.gov Legislation - HB0670 (maryland.gov)

QUESTIONS?



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