



*Offices of the State's Attorney for  
Baltimore City & Prince George's County  
Legislative, Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs*



# 2024

*Joint*

*Legislative*

**PRIORITIES**

*Aisha N.*  
BRAVEBOY

State's Attorney for Prince George's County



*Ivan J.*  
BATES

State's Attorney for Baltimore City

## Offices of the State's Attorney for

*Baltimore City & Prince George's County, MD*

# *Legislative* PRIORITIES

### Priority One: Public Safety Enhancements

#### **MD Crim. Law Title 9, Subtitle 8—"Criminal Organizations":**

Organized crime has rapidly evolved in Maryland over the past several years. This evolution includes "criminal organizations" comprised of crews which are smaller in number and do not operate within the traditional vertical command structure that has been identified historically with crime families or gangs. Often, these crews include adults who recruit and encourage juvenile participants.

The proposed amendments address substantial deficiencies by first establishing clarity in the law. Furthermore, it broadens the authority of State's Attorney's Offices, allowing them to indict groups or individuals who are involved in or benefit from crime-focused partnerships, even if they were not present for the underlying act. Lastly, it will increase the penalty for first and subsequent offenses.

#### **Domestic Violence Registry:**

Establish a statewide registry that would enable the centralized storage and public accessibility of specific information regarding convictions of qualifying felony offenses associated with domestic or intimate partner violence.

#### **Sacred & Religious Places Act of 2024:**

Establishing the statutory definition for "Sacred Places"; and imposing penalty enhancements when a crime is committed in a "Sacred Place".

## Offices of the State's Attorney for

*Baltimore City & Prince George's County, MD*

# *Legislative* PRIORITIES

### Priority One: Public Safety Enhancements

---

#### **The Pava Marie LaPere Act:**

Prohibiting an incarcerated individual who is serving a sentence for First-Degree Rape or First-Degree Sexual Offense as First-Degree Sexual Offense existed prior to a certain date from being entitled to diminution of the incarcerated individual's term of confinement; and generally relating to the diminution of an incarcerated individual's term of confinement.

# Offices of the State's Attorney for

*Baltimore City & Prince George's County, MD*

## *Legislative* PRIORITIES

### Priority Two: Juvenile Justice Reform

#### **Modification of Juvenile Interrogation Act:**

Modifying certain provisions of the “**Juvenile Interrogation Act**”; making the statutory requirement for a consultation with an Attorney to be solely in person when a juvenile is taken into custody, interrogated, or charged with a criminal offense.

#### **Juvenile Dispositions:**

- Increasing the probationary period of a misdemeanor involving a juvenile illegally wear, carry, and/or transporting a firearm or knowingly and willfully taking a motor vehicle without the owner's lawful custody, control, or consent from 6 to 18 months; while also increasing the probationary period of those found guilty of violent felonies from 2-years to 4-years maximum. Ensuring that a juvenile charged with any auto-related crime (auto theft or unauthorized use of a motor vehicle) or the illegal wear, carry and/or transportation of a handgun, be brought before a juvenile magistrate within 24-hours of the arrest (excluding weekends and holidays) to decide on whether the juvenile should be afforded direct services, sent home on GPS home monitoring or detained for the charges.
- Making changes to Md. Code § 3-9A-19.6 that grants authority to judges to impose penalties for technical violations, including failure to comply with court-ordered treatment or non-compliance with other conditions of probation.

#### **GPS Home Monitoring/House Arrest:**

In conjunction with Mayor Brandon Scott's legislation around home monitoring, any juvenile found to have violated or breached the contract or perimeter of their home monitoring agreement, the Department of Juvenile Services shall have 24- hours to notify the courts, the prosecutor's office, and defense counsel.

## Offices of the State's Attorney for

*Baltimore City & Prince George's County, MD*

# *Legislative* PRIORITIES

### Priority Three: Criminal Justice Reform

---

#### **Postconviction Review: Sentence Modification**

This legislation will provide limited discretion to State's Attorneys for the purposes of filing a motion to modify a sentence during any period of active incarceration. It also establishes the factors that the court should consider, including (1) the inmate's disciplinary record and record of rehabilitation and maturity while incarcerated; (2) evidence that reflects whether age, time served, or diminished physical condition has reduced the inmate's risk for future violence; and (3) evidence reflecting a change in circumstances since the original conviction and sentencing such that the inmate's continued incarceration is no longer in the interest of justice.

## Offices of the State's Attorney for

### *Baltimore City & Prince George's County, MD*

# *Legislative* PRIORITIES

## Priority Four: Restorative Justice Programs & Community Resources

### **Emerging Adults Program:**

'This \$500,000 budget request will fund the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office's Emerging Adult Program. This program is focused on individuals aged 18-26 years old, who are currently incarcerated or serving out sentences in the community. Working with partners such as Listening is Key/Ever Forward, the Community Public Awareness Council, a variety of law enforcement agencies, and behavioral health agencies, along with the Building Trades Union and the business community, the program establishes key re-entry programs for our young adults. These include mentorship, counseling, job training and work placement. The Emerging Adult Program begins when the young adult is sentenced and continues through any period of incarceration and parole or probation to reduce recidivism and promote successful re-entry into the community. This program is estimated to cost approximately \$10,000 per person.

### **Victim Compensation Fund:**

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board is a remedial body designed to provide aid and assistance to victims of crime in Maryland. This program will assist in the funeral costs in cases of homicide with a maximum award of \$5,000. However, most funeral homes do not accept this program because it takes nearly a year in a lot of cases to pay these funds out to the funeral. Legislation that streamline and expedite this process for families will help them during their time of loss by allowing them to use funeral homes of their choice without the concern of the financial assistance that they qualify for not being accepted.



*Offices of the State's Attorney for  
Baltimore City & Prince George's County  
Legislative, Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs*



# 2024

*Joint*

## *Legislative*

## PRIORITIES

- *Public Safety Enhancements*
- *Juvenile Justice Reform*
- *Criminal Justice Reform*
- *Restorative Justice Programs & Community Resources*

*Aisha N.*  
BRAVEBOY

State's Attorney for Prince George's County



*Ivan J.*  
BATES

State's Attorney for Baltimore City