

HON. AISHA N. BRAVEBOY



STATE'S ATTORNEY
FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

As State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy is the top law enforcement officer in the County, responsible for the safety and security of over 900,000 citizens. Her motto for the Office under her administration, is that "Crime is personal...personal to the victim, personal to the community and personal to the State's Attorney's Office."

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Braveboy has been at the forefront with effective solutions to prevent the spread of the virus and support the community. She was the first in the State to lead the nation in implementing 'Operation Safe Release', which was a proactive way of reducing the spread of the coronavirus in the jail. Through this initiative, her Office and criminal justice partners have safely and judiciously reduced the inmate population to prevent a public health crisis in the facility and community. In addition, Ms. Braveboy continues to work with non-profits and County agencies to ensure that victims of abuse and domestic violence receive the resources and support they need during the pandemic.

During Maryland's 2020 legislative session, Ms. Braveboy and her team worked with lawmakers in Annapolis to ensure that two of her priority pieces of legislation were successfully passed. The 2nd Lt. Richard Collins III Law will ensure that individuals who commit a hate crime are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The Assault in the First Degree - Suffocation or Strangulation Law makes strangulation a first-degree felony. Since taking office Ms. Braveboy is ushering in significant changes in how individuals and cases are handled to ensure not only that justice is administered in Prince George's County, but that it is done fairly.

Ms. Braveboy has created a number of new units in her office to better address criminal justice needs. The Public Integrity Unit focuses on police misconduct, excessive use of force and corruption cases. The Conviction and Sentencing Integrity Unit, the only one of its kind in the State, reviews cases where there are questions or doubts about a sentence that has been handed down. This Unit has focused a lot of attention recently on individuals who were convicted of serious crimes while a juvenile, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment or similar lengthy terms, and who have now served a significant period of time in jail. There are a number of significant legal obstacles to securing release for these individuals, but the Braveboy Administration has been pursuing a variety of ways to effect a change in sentence. These include participation in reentry court, supervised release to programs specializing in reentry, and accelerated parole consideration, as well as sentence review by the original judge or their successor.

She has also reorganized her juvenile justice unit and created community partnerships to end the school to prison pipeline, one of her major priorities. As promised during her campaign, under Ms. Braveboy's administration, the Juvenile Unit was transformed and appropriately renamed the Youth Justice Unit. Ms. Braveboy has inspired and promoted a unique prosecutorial perspective in which the focus is placed upon identifying and addressing the underlying catalysts and motivations for the youth's actions. Instead of "punishing" the youth, the unit is rehabilitating youth offenders and affording them the support and mentorship that they need in order to address their delinquent behaviors. Through in-house programs like Teen Court and community-based diversion programs and in partnership with the Prince George's County Public Schools, the Youth Justice Unit has begun to identify the appropriate offenders. These young offenders are then matched up with programs to not only rehabilitate but to also provide the youth offender with the tools to become and remain productive members of the County.

In addition, Ms. Braveboy is expanding diversion opportunities. She has doubled the number of participants in the Back-On-Track program, which focuses on giving first-time felony drug offenders a second chance. She has also created the Drive Focused, Sober and Safe campaign and increased participation in the monthly Community in The Courthouse sessions.

Prior to being elected as State's Attorney, Ms. Braveboy served as the Manager of Government Affairs for Children's National Health System. Ms. Braveboy was also Of Counsel with Gabriel J. Christian and Associates, where she represented clients in criminal and civil matters. In addition, Ms. Braveboy, for over 17 years, served as General Counsel for the Community Public Awareness Council (C-PAC), a community-based juvenile diversionary program that has successfully diverted over 4,000 students from the criminal justice system.

In 2006, Ms. Braveboy was elected to represent the 25th Legislative District in the Maryland General Assembly. As a Delegate, Ms. Braveboy was appointed by the Speaker of the House to serve as Chair of the Consumer Protection Subcommittee. She was elected by her peers to serve as Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland, where she guided the 44-member organization on a wide range of policy issues including parity for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, reducing mass incarceration, enhancing tools to prosecute rapists, increasing opportunities for women and minority-owned businesses and reducing health disparities in our State.

In 2006, Ms. Braveboy was elected to represent the 25th Legislative District in the Maryland General Assembly. As a Delegate, Ms. Braveboy was appointed by the Speaker of the House to serve as Chair of the Consumer Protection Subcommittee. She was elected by her peers to serve as Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland, where she guided the 44-member organization on a wide range of policy issues including parity for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, reducing mass incarceration, enhancing tools to prosecute rapists, increasing opportunities for women and minority-owned businesses and reducing health disparities in our State.

Ms. Braveboy graduated from the University of Maryland College Park, where she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government and Politics. She also received her Juris Doctorate from Howard University School of Law. Ms. Braveboy is a member of the Sanctuary at Kingdom Square and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

-