

Chapter 802

(House Bill 739)

AN ACT concerning

Public Safety – SWAT Teams – ~~Reporting and Limitations~~ Standards

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to adopt a certain set of standards for the training and deployment of SWAT teams and of law enforcement officers not on a SWAT team who conduct no-knock warrant service in the State; ~~requiring each law enforcement agency to follow a certain set of standards; requiring, at certain intervals, a law enforcement agency that maintains a SWAT team to report certain information to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention using a certain format; requiring the Commission, in consultation with the Office, to develop a standardized format that certain law enforcement agencies shall use in reporting to the Office certain data relating to the deployment of SWAT teams; requiring the Office to analyze and summarize certain reports of law enforcement agencies and to submit a certain report of the analyses and summaries to the Governor, the General Assembly, and each law enforcement agency before a certain date each year; providing that, if a law enforcement agency fails to comply with the reporting provisions of this Act, the Office shall report the noncompliance to the Commission; requiring the Commission to contact a certain law enforcement agency and request that the agency comply with this Act under certain circumstances; providing that, if a certain law enforcement agency fails to comply with certain reporting provisions within a certain period after being contacted by the Commission, the Office and the Commission jointly shall make a certain report to the Governor and the Legislative Policy Committee of the General Assembly; defining certain terms a certain term; and generally relating to the deployment of SWAT teams.~~

~~BY adding to~~~~Article – Public Safety~~~~Section 3–801 through 3–803 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 8. SWAT Teams”~~~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~~~(2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,Article – Public SafetySection 3–201(a) and 3–207(a)(1)Annotated Code of Maryland(2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)BY adding toArticle – Public SafetySection 3–201(g) and 3–207(a)(24)Annotated Code of Maryland

(2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Safety

Section 3-207(a)(22) and (23)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

~~SUBTITLE 8. SWAT TEAMS.~~

~~3-801.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

~~(B) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ESTABLISHED UNDER § 3-202 OF THIS TITLE.~~

~~(C) “LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY” MEANS AN AGENCY THAT IS LISTED IN § 3-101(E) OF THIS TITLE.~~

~~(D) “LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER” MEANS A PERSON WHO, IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY, IS AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO MAKE ARRESTS AND WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~(E) “SWAT TEAM” MEANS AN AGENCY DESIGNATED UNIT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO ARE SELECTED, TRAINED, AND EQUIPPED TO WORK AS A COORDINATED TEAM TO RESOLVE CRITICAL INCIDENTS THAT ARE SO HAZARDOUS, COMPLEX, OR UNUSUAL THAT THEY MAY EXCEED THE CAPABILITIES OF FIRST RESPONDERS OR INVESTIGATIVE UNITS.~~

~~3-802.~~

~~(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT A SET OF STANDARDS FOR THE TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENT OF SWAT TEAMS IN THE STATE BASED ON BEST PRACTICES IN THE STATE AND NATIONWIDE.~~

~~(B) EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL FOLLOW THE STANDARDS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION.~~

~~3-803.~~

~~(A) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2018, AND ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT MAINTAINS A SWAT TEAM SHALL REPORT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION USING THE FORMAT DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION:~~

~~(1) THE NUMBER OF TIMES THE SWAT TEAM WAS DEPLOYED BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IN THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR;~~

~~(2) THE CITY OR TOWN, COUNTY, AND ZIP CODE OF THE LOCATION WHERE THE SWAT TEAM WAS DEPLOYED FOR EACH DEPLOYMENT;~~

~~(3) THE SPECIFIC REASONS FOR EACH DEPLOYMENT OF THE SWAT TEAM, INCLUDING THE ALLEGED CRIME COMMITTED BY A SUSPECT;~~

~~(4) THE LEGAL AUTHORITY, INCLUDING TYPE OF WARRANT, IF ANY, FOR EACH DEPLOYMENT OF THE SWAT TEAM; AND~~

~~(5) THE RESULT OF EACH DEPLOYMENT OF THE SWAT TEAM, INCLUDING:~~

~~(I) THE AGE, GENDER, AND RACE OF ANY INDIVIDUAL DETAINED AT THE DEPLOYMENT LOCATION, IF KNOWN;~~

~~(II) THE NUMBER OF ARRESTS MADE, IF ANY;~~

~~(III) WHETHER PROPERTY WAS SEIZED;~~

~~(IV) WHETHER A FORCIBLE ENTRY WAS MADE;~~

~~(V) WHETHER A WEAPON WAS DISCHARGED BY A SWAT TEAM MEMBER;~~

~~(VI) WHETHER A WEAPON WAS FOUND, USED, OR DISCHARGED BY A RESIDENT OR OCCUPANT OF THE DEPLOYMENT LOCATION;~~

~~(VII) WHETHER A PERSON OR DOMESTIC ANIMAL WAS INJURED OR KILLED BY A SWAT TEAM MEMBER;~~

~~(VIII) WHETHER A DOMESTIC ANIMAL WAS PRESENT AT THE DEPLOYMENT LOCATION; AND~~

~~(IX) WHETHER A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR POLICE K-9 WAS TARGETED, ASSAULTED, INJURED, OR KILLED BY A RESIDENT OR OCCUPANT OF THE DEPLOYMENT LOCATION.~~

~~(B) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION, SHALL DEVELOP A STANDARDIZED FORMAT THAT EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL USE TO REPORT DATA TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

~~(C) (1) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION SHALL ANALYZE AND SUMMARIZE THE REPORTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SUBMITTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

~~(2) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT OF THE ANALYSES AND SUMMARIES OF THE REPORTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO THE GOVERNOR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS PROVIDED IN § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, AND EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 EACH YEAR.~~

~~(D) (1) IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REPORTING PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION SHALL REPORT THE NONCOMPLIANCE TO THE COMMISSION.~~

~~(2) ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT OF NONCOMPLIANCE, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONTACT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND REQUEST THAT THE AGENCY COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRED REPORTING PROVISIONS.~~

~~(3) IF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRED REPORTING PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER BEING CONTACTED BY THE COMMISSION WITH A REQUEST TO COMPLY, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION AND THE COMMISSION JOINTLY SHALL REPORT THE NONCOMPLIANCE TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.~~

3-201.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(G) “SWAT TEAM” MEANS AN AGENCY-DESIGNATED UNIT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO ARE SELECTED, TRAINED, AND EQUIPPED TO WORK AS A COORDINATED TEAM TO RESOLVE CRITICAL INCIDENTS THAT ARE SO HAZARDOUS, COMPLEX, OR UNUSUAL THAT THEY MAY EXCEED THE CAPABILITIES OF FIRST RESPONDERS OR INVESTIGATIVE UNITS.

3-207.

(a) The Commission has the following powers and duties:

(1) to establish standards for the approval and continuation of approval of schools that conduct police entrance-level and in-service training courses required by the Commission, including State, regional, county, and municipal training schools;

(22) to require:

(i) a statement condemning motorcycle profiling to be included in existing written policies regarding other profiling; and

(ii) for entrance-level police training and for in-service level training conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study include, consistent with established law enforcement standards and federal and State constitutional provisions, training related to motorcycle profiling in conjunction with existing training regarding other profiling; [and]

(23) to perform any other act, including adopting regulations, that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the powers and duties of the Commission under this subtitle; AND

(24) TO CONSULT AND COOPERATE WITH COMMANDERS OF SWAT TEAMS TO DEVELOP STANDARDS FOR TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENT OF SWAT TEAMS AND OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF A SWAT TEAM WHO CONDUCT NO-KNOCK WARRANT SERVICE IN THE STATE BASED ON BEST PRACTICES IN THE STATE AND NATIONWIDE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 27, 2017.