

HOUSE BILL 122

E4

5lr1668

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Young**

Requested: November 1, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Police Accountability – Police Officer Complainant**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a police officer to file a complaint of police misconduct with
4 a police accountability board; and generally relating to police accountability.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Public Safety
7 Section 3–102 and 3–113
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Public Safety**

13 3–102.

14 (a) Each county shall have a police accountability board to:

15 (1) hold quarterly meetings with heads of law enforcement agencies and
16 otherwise work with law enforcement agencies and the county government to improve
17 matters of policing;

18 (2) appoint civilian members to charging committees and trial boards;

19 (3) receive complaints of police misconduct filed by members of the public

20 **AND POLICE OFFICERS;** and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(4) (i) on a quarterly basis, review outcomes of disciplinary matters considered by charging committees; and

(ii) on or before December 31 each year, submit a report to the governing body of the county that:

1. identifies any trends in the disciplinary process of police officers in the county; and

2. makes recommendations on changes to policy that would improve police accountability in the county.

(b) (1) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the local governing body shall:

1. establish the membership of a police accountability board;

2. establish the budget and staff for a police accountability board;

3. appoint a chair of the police accountability board who has relevant experience to the position; and

4. establish the procedures for record keeping by a police accountability board.

(ii) An active police officer may not be a member of a police accountability board.

(2) To the extent practicable, the membership of a police accountability board shall reflect the racial, gender, and cultural diversity of the county.

(c) (1) A complaint of police misconduct filed with a police accountability board shall include:

(i) the name of the police officer accused of misconduct;

(ii) a description of the facts on which the complaint is based; and

(iii) contact information of the complainant or a person filing on behalf of the complainant for investigative follow-up.

(2) A complaint need not be notarized.

(d) A complaint of police misconduct filed with a police accountability board shall be forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency within 3 days after receipt by the board.

1 3-113.

2 (a) The investigating unit of a law enforcement agency shall immediately review
3 a complaint [by a member of the public] alleging police officer misconduct.

4 (b) An administrative charging committee shall review and make a determination
5 or ask for further review within 30 days after completion of the investigating unit's review.

6 (c) The process of review by the investigating unit through disposition by the
7 administrative charging committee shall be completed within 1 year and 1 day after the
8 filing of a complaint [by a citizen].

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2025.