

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CC# 20-0199R

September 15, 2020



City Council Health Committee

Chair, Councilman Kristerfer Burnett

Vice-Chair, Councilman Bill Henry

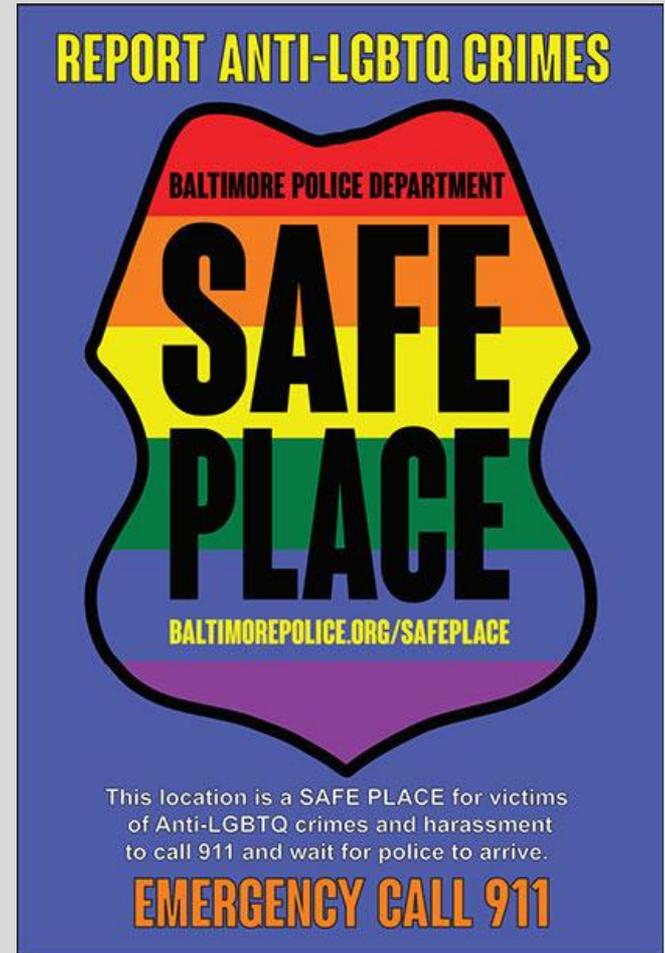


SAFE PLACE

SAFE PLACE program creates safe locations for individuals to visit if they feel they have been a victim of anti-LGBTQ crimes.

Signage is displayed by 60 businesses and organizations that work closely with the Baltimore Police Department in an effort to reduce anti-LGBTQ crimes and encourage the reporting of LGBTQ-related crimes.

These are also locations supporting safe and secure places for victims of anti-LGBTQ related crimes and harassment.



POLICY #720 HIGHLIGHTS

BPD updated Policy 720 as part of its efforts to update and modernize policies throughout the Consent Decree process:

- Significant feedback from local and national LGBTQ advocacy groups was solicited and incorporated into the final policy.
- Policy 720 is set to go into effect by the end of 2020, upon completion of the Department-wide training on Stops, Searches, Arrests & Fair and Impartial Policing.
- BPD's LGBT Advisory Council is written into the updated policy as a self-governing body that can not be removed by the BPD. BPD is required to meet with and support the Council.



POLICY #720 HIGHLIGHTS

- **BPD members must use names and pronouns as requested or clarified by the individual.**
- **Explicit instruction that an individual is not required to show proof of gender identity, and an explanation of the challenges that one may face in updating their identification to match their gender identity.**
- **An outright prohibition on discrimination based on actual or perceived gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.**
- **An explicit prohibition on conducting a search or weapons pat-down in order to touch, view, evaluate a person's anatomy, or assigning a gender to someone.**



POLICY #720 HIGHLIGHTS

- A provision stating that requests for a person to remove identity-related items (e.g., prosthetics, wigs, chest binders) shall be consistent with requirements for removal of similar items for cisgender persons, and that these items shall not be removed unless required for law enforcement purposes.
- Prohibition from using the presence of condoms as a basis for reasonable suspicion or probable cause of a prostitution-related offense.
- In the event of a search, the preference of the person being searched must be honored as to the gender of the member conducting the search, absent exigent circumstances. When no preference is expressed, the search shall be conducted by a member of the same gender identity as the person being searched.



POLICY #720 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Persons shall not be stopped, questioned or arrested for using gender-segregated restrooms based on their actual or perceived gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation.**
- **Information about a person's transgender status should only be documented when it is relevant and necessary to an investigation or law enforcement actions.**
- **The complete policy can be found at:
<https://www.baltimorepolice.org/720-draft-interactions-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queerquestioning-lgbtq-individuals>**

