

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III Police Commissioner

October 2, 2008

TO:

The Honorable President and Members

of the Baltimore City Council

c/o Karen Randle Room 400 City Hall

FROM:

James H. Green, Deputy Legal Counsel

Baltimore Police Department

RE:

City Council Resolution No. 08-0047R-Informational Hearing-Criminals-

Revocation of Federally Subsidized Housing Assistance

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) is pleased to address City Council Resolution No. 08-0047R-Informational Hearing-Criminals-Revocation of Federally Subsidized Housing Assistance. This resolution requests that the BPD, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Housing Authority for Baltimore City, and State's Attorney for Baltimore City discuss with the Council the status of intergovernmental and interagency collaboration to keep federally subsidized housing free of persons who commit crimes, engage in criminal activity, or associate with criminals or persons with criminal intent.

As discussed in the joint response of Commissioner Graziano and State's Attorney Jessamy, the Property Based Crimes Solutions (PBCS) program is the central enforcement mechanism for overall nuisance enforcement in Baltimore including that which is the subject of this resolution. The BPD works closely with the PBCS program to identify housing locations and persons living in those locations who are public safety concerns. Once a location is identified as being as being the source of ongoing criminal activity, the department provides all necessary reporting (arrest, incident reporting, and search and seizure warrants) to PCBS to determine the most appropriate course of action. It is essential to the overall public safety of the City and most importantly the residents receiving housing assistance, that enforcement and landlord accountably in this area is maintained.



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The BPD is very pleased to share additional information with the Council on this issue. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

cc: Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Police Commissioner, BPD Ronald Levitan, Acting Chief of Legal Affairs, BPD Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison Sheryl Goldstein, MOCJ