



# BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



**BEARNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG**  
Mayor

**MICHAEL S. HARRISON**  
Police Commissioner

September 16, 2019

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 400, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**RE: City Council Bill #19-0409**  
**Transparency and Oversight in Claims and Litigation**

Dear Council President Scott and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 19-0409. This legislation is for the purpose of requiring the Baltimore City Department of Law to post on its website certain claims against Baltimore City regarding police misconduct and unlawful discrimination; requiring the Baltimore City Department of Law to report to the City Council on certain litigation involving Baltimore City; prohibiting the Baltimore City Department of Law from approving certain settlement agreements that require claimants to waive certain rights; prohibiting the Board of Estimates from approving for execution certain settlement agreements that require claimants to waive certain rights; defining certain terms; and generally relating to improved transparency and oversight of claims against Baltimore City.

The BPD takes no position on City Council bill 19-0409 but defers to the Baltimore City Department of Law. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wirzberger, Esq.  
Director of Government Affairs

cc: Natwana Austin, Executive Secretary of the Baltimore City Council  
Dominic McAlily, Legislative Assistant, Office of the Council President  
Nick Blendy, Deputy Director, MOGR  
Matt Stegmand, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Eric Melancon, BPD Chief of Staff  
Andrew Smullian, BPD Deputy Chief of Staff  
Deputy Commissioner Michael Sullivan  
Deputy Commissioner Brian Nadeau  
Dan Beck, BPD Chief of Legal Affairs  
Justin Conroy, Chief Solicitor