



SHEILA DIXON  
Mayor

# BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III  
Police Commissioner

March 23, 2009

TO: The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 400 City Hall  
**Attn. Karen Randle**

FROM: Deborah A. Owens, Deputy Commissioner, Administrative Bureau <sup>DAO</sup>  
James H. Green, Deputy Legal Counsel <sup>JHG</sup>

RE: City Council Bill No. 09-0096R-Legislative Oversight-Departments of  
City Government

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed City Council Bill No. 08-0096R-Legislative Oversight-Departments of City Government. The resolution requests that all City agencies report to the City Council to ensure that the agencies are operating in line with the stated missions, that there is no duplication of services provided, that the number of employees is consistent with the delivery of services, and to monitor the expenditures of funds to make sure that the agencies are on task to their Fiscal Year 2009 and 2010 operating budget targets.

In keeping with the overall commitment to reducing violent crime and strengthening public trust, the BPD continues to work to achieve its goals of targeted enforcement, community engagement, and building strong partnerships. In 2008 and continuing into this year, the BPD has achieved a number of these goals while at the same time efficiently and resourcefully deploying resources.

The BPD is pleased to provide the following information to the City Council's Budget and Appropriations Committee.

## Calendar Year 2008 and Fiscal 2009 Highlights/Accomplishments:

- In 2008, Baltimore City experienced the lowest homicide rate in 20 years.

- In 2008, shootings in Baltimore City dropped by 10 % for a total of 65 fewer victims.
- In 2008, the number of incidents of excessive force reported to internal affairs was down 13% compared with 2007 and the number of incidents of discourtesy was down 21% compared with 2007.
- Currently in 2009, violent crime is down 14% and overall crime is down 13%.
- In 2008, the Department reduced overtime spending by over \$5 million.
- Currently, this fiscal year's overtime spending is down 30%.

- Additionally, the Department has made non-labor cuts in the following areas:

Travel	\$55,500	
Advertising	\$300,000	
Rental Vehicles	\$160,000	(reduction of 21 vehicles, downsize 50)
Cell Phones / Pagers	\$175,000	(reduction of 278 phones and 38 pagers)
Wright Express Gas Cards	\$330,000	(deactivated 349 gas cards)

- The Department has increased the ratio between hiring and attrition. In 2008, the agency hired 286 police officers and lost 222 to attrition.
- The Department has assigned 130 more officers to operational roles, increasing sworn operations to almost 84% and reduced contractual employees by 34 positions.
- The Department has seen a 50% drop in Medical usage from 2003 to 2008

**Fiscal Year 2009 Mid-Year Update and Commitment to Fiscal Responsibility:**

Based on expenditures through December 2008 the Baltimore Police Department projects our general fund spending to be \$323.7 million, \$5.9 million over the adjusted budget of \$317.8 million. It should be noted that this time last year the Department was projecting a \$20 million deficit.

The Department remains committed to ensuring its overall dedication to public safety while at the same time recognizing its responsibility to marshal the City's financial resources. The BPD will continue to work diligently to monitor

spending and budget targets throughout the fiscal year. This will be accomplished through regular meetings with the Department of Finance, the BPD internal budget stat process, and bi-weekly CitiStat review. The Department believes that the current strategies are working and that they will continue to provide clear and measurable benefits to the citizens of Baltimore.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this resolution.

cc: Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Police Commissioner, BPD  
Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Sheryl Goldstein, MOCJ