



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Bill: 21-0083R

Investigative Hearing - Baltimore City Sheriff's Office - Eviction Procedures

Sponsor: *Councilmember Burnett*

Introduced: *December 6, 2021*

Purpose:

For the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office, the Department of Housing and Community Development, concerned citizens, and other interested parties to appear before the City Council to inform the Council about the current procedure followed by the Sheriff's Office during the eviction process, any recurring problems that need to be addressed, any improvements that can be made to facilitate communication of the Sheriff's Office's ability to appear at a residence on a designated day and time, and any efforts to improve general eviction procedures.

Agency Reports

City Solicitor	
Office of the City Administrator	
Baltimore City Sheriff's Office	
Department of Housing and Community Development	

Analysis

Background

Eviction proceedings have increased due to financial difficulties created by the COVID pandemic. The eviction process in Maryland is a legal procedure that must go through the Maryland district court. If a warrant of restitution is granted, a landlord must contact the sheriff to schedule an eviction. Landlords must notify tenants. During the eviction process the landlord takes possession of the property and removes tenant's possessions from off of the property. A representative from the Office of the Sheriff must be present. Attached is an outline of eviction procedures followed by the Office of the Sheriff.

Bill 21-0083R invites agency representatives to inform the Council about:

- Current procedures followed by the Office of the Sheriff during the eviction process;
- Any recurring problems that need to be addressed;
- Any improvements that can be made to facilitate communication of the sheriff's office's ability to appear at a residence on a designated day and time;
- Any efforts to improve general eviction procedures.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Not Available

Information Source(s): Reporting Agencies, Bill 21-0083R; Baltimore City Code, Housing and Urban Development; Article 13, Section 8A; Public Local Law; State of Maryland Law; Baltimore City Office of the Sheriff

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