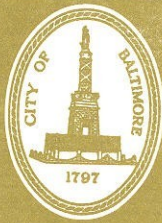


CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor  
101 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

November 9, 2011

Honorable President and Members  
of the City Council of Baltimore  
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 11-0305R-Informational Hearing –Tracking Police Involved  
Law Suits

Dear Madame President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 11-0305R for form and legal sufficiency. This resolution requests that the Police Department, the Law Department and the Department of Finance appear before the City Council to discuss the increasing amount of expenditures on legal claims against the Police Department and associated legal fees for services to defend employees of the Police Department against charges brought against individual officers, the Police Department, or the City by civilians or departmental personnel.

In general, a City Council resolution is “an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body’s official cognizance.” *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 545 A.2d 1296, 1303 (Md. 1988) (quoting *McQuillin Mun. Corp.* § 15:2 (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.)). Council Bill 11-0305R is an appropriate resolution to express the Council’s request that the Police Department, the Law Department and the Department of Finance appear at a City Council hearing to discuss the cost of Police litigation.

The Law Department approves Council Bill 11-0305R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Elena R. DiPietro  
Chief Solicitor

cc: Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison, Mayor’s Office  
George Nilson, City Solicitor  
Elena R. DiPietro, Assistant Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor  
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor  
Victor Tervalva, Assistant Solicitor

