

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 07-0574  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Baltimore City Police Department)

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2007

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Commission, Department of Real Estate, Police Department

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Naming the Baltimore City Police Department Headquarters to be**  
3 **the Bishop L. Robinson Headquarters**

4 FOR the purpose of naming the Baltimore City Police Department Headquarters, located at 601  
5 East Fayette Street, to be the Bishop L. Robinson Headquarters.

6 BY authority of

7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

8 Section 20-2

9 Baltimore City Code

10 (Edition 2000)

11 **Recitals**

12 Bishop L. Robinson, the first African American to serve as Police Commissioner  
13 of Baltimore City, has had a distinguished career of more than 50 years of service  
14 to the citizens of Baltimore and to the citizens of Maryland.

15 In 1951, he began his law enforcement career as a park police patrolman, and, in  
16 1953, he left the Police Department to work with the federal Bureau of Narcotics  
17 and Dangerous Drugs. After a year, he returned to become a detective on the  
18 fledgling narcotics squad. In 1967, he took a position with the training division  
19 and began a decade-long rise through the ranks that included command of the  
20 Eastern District, the patrol division, and the operations bureau, the Number 2  
21 position in the Police Department at that time. In 1984, he was appointed Police  
22 Commissioner, and, in 1987, he was appointed Secretary of Public Safety and  
23 Correctional Services for the State of Maryland, a position that he held for 10  
24 years. He also served as the Interim Secretary of Juvenile Justice from December  
25 15, 1999 to April 6, 2000, and then he served as the Secretary of Juvenile Justice  
26 from April 6, 2000, to January 15, 2003.

27 At the time he was appointed Police Commissioner, he recalled that he always  
28 tried to keep to four guiding principles in his life: prudence, integrity, morality,  
29 and God. And referring to a subject that became an issue years before his

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 appointment, he said that it was those principles, coupled with his experience and  
2 education, that brought him to the command of the police force — not color. He  
3 also said that Baltimore was “one city, one people” and that he would serve as  
4 Police Commissioner “to all the people”. And his actions as Police  
5 Commissioner show that he did just that. Baltimore and the State of Maryland are  
6 better places today because of Bishop L. Robinson’s contributions of service.

7 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
8 Baltimore City Police Department Headquarters, located at 601 East Fayette Street, is named the  
9 Bishop L. Robinson Headquarters.

10 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
11 after the date it is enacted.