



# **BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

## **Mission Statement**

*The Budget and Appropriations Committee is responsible for ensuring taxpayer dollars are expended prudently and equitably. BA will exercise regular oversight of the funding and spending practices of City agencies, the City's budget, expenditures, loans, and other financial matters. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include all budgets & appropriations, taxation, financial services, consumer protection, audits, and the Comptroller's Office.*

**The Honorable Danielle McCray**

**CHAIR**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Tuesday, May 12, 2026**

**9:00 AM**

**CLARENCE "DU" BURNS COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

*26-0184*

*Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore  
City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000*

# City Council Committees

## **BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS**

Danielle McCray - Chair  
Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer – Vice Chair  
Sharon Green Middleton  
Paris Gray  
Antonio Glover

*Staff: Paroma Nandi  
(Paroma.Nandi@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mark Conway - Chair  
Zac Blanchard – Vice Chair  
Danielle McCray  
Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer  
Paris Gray  
Phylicia Porter  
Antonio Glover

*Staff: Ethan Navarre  
(Ethan.Navarre@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

James Torrence – Chair  
Odette Ramos – Vice Chair  
Zac Blanchard  
Jermaine Jones  
Antonio Glover

*Staff: Anthony Leva  
(Anthony.Leva@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**

Phylicia Porter - Chair  
Mark Conway - Vice Chair  
Mark Parker  
Ryan Dorsey  
James Torrence  
John Bullock  
Odette Ramos

*Staff: Marguerite Currin  
(Marguertie.Currin@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS**

Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer - Chair  
Antonio Glover – Vice Chair  
Ryan Dorsey  
Sharon Green Middleton  
Paris Gray

*Staff: Ethan Navarre  
(Ethan.Navarre@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION**

Ryan Dorsey – Chair  
Sharon Green Middleton – Vice Chair  
Mark Parker  
Paris Gray  
John Bullock  
Phylicia Porter  
Zac Blanchard

*Staff: Anthony Leva  
(Anthony.Leva@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **LABOR AND WORKFORCE**

Jermaine Jones – Chair  
James Torrence – Vice Chair  
Danielle McCray  
Ryan Dorsey  
Phylicia Porter

*Staff: Juliane Jemmott  
(Juliane.Jemmott@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **EDUCATION, YOUTH AND OLDER ADULT**

John Bullock – Chair  
Mark Parker – Vice Chair  
Sharon Green Middleton  
James Torrence  
Zac Blanchard  
Jermaine Jones  
Odette Ramos

*Staff: Juliane Jemmott  
(Juliane.Jemmott@baltimorecity.gov)*

## **CHARTER REVIEW SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

Ryan Dorsey - Chair  
John Bullock - Vice Chair  
Zac Blanchard  
Jermaine Jones  
Odette Ramos

*Staff: Ethan Navarre (Ethan.Navarre@baltimorecity.gov)*

**BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE****The Honorable Danielle McCray  
CHAIR****Bill Hearing***26-0184**Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000*

---

Purpose of providing a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 to the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – Service 882 (Deputy Sheriff Enforcement), to provide funding for the establishment of the Neighborhood Services Unit to improve neighborhood safety and cohesion by addressing persistent public nuisances and environmental factors that contribute to crime; and providing for a special effective date.

---

***REPORTING AGENCIES***

Baltimore City Sheriff's Office	Favorable
Department of Finance	Favorable
Law Department	Approved for Form & Legal Sufficiency

---

***BACKGROUND***

This grant is awarded by the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy to support the Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU) to improve neighborhood safety by addressing persistent public nuisances and environmental factors that contribute to crime.

---

***FISCAL NOTE***

An additional \$100,00 has been appropriated to the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office for Fiscal Year 2026. This supplemental funding, provided by a State of Maryland grant, will support Deputy Sheriff Enforcement (Service 882) to support the establishment of the Neighborhood Service Unit. This adjustment is necessary to incorporate unanticipated grant funding received from the State of Maryland.

---

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 26-0184  
(First Reader)**

---

Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)

Introduced and read first time: April 27, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

---

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation –**  
3 **Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the  
5 amount of \$100,000 to the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – Service 882 (Deputy Sheriff  
6 Enforcement), to provide funding for the establishment of the Neighborhood Services Unit to  
7 improve neighborhood safety and cohesion by addressing persistent public nuisances and  
8 environmental factors that contribute to crime; and providing for a special effective date.

9 BY authority of

10 Article VI - Board of Estimates  
11 Section 8(b)(2)(ii) and (c)  
12 Baltimore City Charter  
13 (1996 Edition)

14 **Recitals**

15 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the State of Maryland's  
16 Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy in excess of the revenue relied on by the  
17 Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year  
18 2026.

19 That grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty when the Ordinance of  
20 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated.

21 On April 15, 2026, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City  
22 Council.

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

**Council Bill 26-0184**

1       **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That  
2       \$100,000 shall be made available to the Baltimore City Sheriff’s Office – Service 882 (Deputy  
3       Sheriff Enforcement) as a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation for Fiscal Year  
4       2026, to provide funding for the establishment of the Neighborhood Services Unit to improve  
5       neighborhood safety and cohesion by addressing persistent public nuisances and environmental  
6       factors that contribute to crime. The source of revenue for this appropriation is a grant from the  
7       State of Maryland’s Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy in excess of the amount  
8       from this source that was relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required  
9       to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

10       **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is  
11       enacted.

# BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



## BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

26-0184

*Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore  
City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000*

# Agency Reports

# Baltimore City Sheriff's Office

Samuel Cogen, Sheriff

Main Office  
The Clarence Mitchell Courthouse  
100 N. Calvert Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
Phone: 410-396-1155  
Fax: 410-727-3507



District Court Office  
111 N. Calvert Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
Phone: 410-396-7412  
Fax: 410-396-7439

TO: The Honorable President of the Baltimore City Council  
Attn: Executive Secretary

FROM: Nicholas T.R. Blendy, Esq., Assistant Sheriff, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office (BCSO)

RE: City Council Bill #26-0184 – Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000

DATE: May 11, 2026

## POSITION: SUPPORT

Mr. President and Honorable Members of the Baltimore City Council:

The Baltimore City Sheriff's Office (BCSO) has reviewed City Council Bill (CCB) #26-0184 – Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000 and **supports** its passage, for the reasons explained below.

During the 2025 Legislative Session of the General Assembly of Maryland, the legislature passed and the Governor enacted House Bill 1293 (Chapter 515) – Baltimore City – Office of the Sheriff – Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU). This legislation—supported unanimously by the Baltimore City Senate and House Delegations—created and codified the first ever Neighborhood Services Unit within the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office (BCSO).

When the law took effect on October 1, 2025, the NSU came into existence, and began its official partnership with the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City (Liquor Board), focusing on collaboratively enforcing relevant provisions of the State's Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article against licensed and unlicensed sales of alcohol within Baltimore City, as part of a memorandum of understanding between the two entities. Additionally, the BCSO has memorandum of understanding with the Maryland Alcohol Tobacco and Cannabis Commission (MDATCC) to enforce provisions of underage sales of products subject to their jurisdiction within the City.

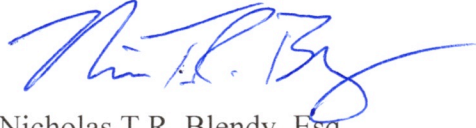
As the NSU took legal effect a quarter of the way into the current Fiscal Year, the BCSO sought funding mechanisms to help offset the costs on the existing budget, as part of its proactive efforts to identify and win funding to do important work for the residents of the City while not being solely reliant

on Mayor and City Council of Baltimore funds. Accordingly, the BCSO has applied for multiple highly competitive federal and state grants this fiscal year, and been very successful on several fronts, including a Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) grant award to provide operational funding for NSU that is the subject of this bill.

CCB #26-0184 is the mechanism by which the Mayor and City Council legally accepts and appropriates the \$100,000 in Maryland State GOCPP grant funds into the relevant Sheriff's Office budget service for the eligible work that NSU is doing in partnership with agency partners in and around the City of Baltimore, focusing on the types of nuisance crimes to improve behaviors and make every neighborhood in our city more livable.

For the foregoing reasons, the BCSO respectfully requests your **support** for CCB #26-0184.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nicholas T.R. Blendy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Nicholas T.R. Blendy, Esq.  
Assistant Sheriff



CITY OF BALTIMORE  
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

<b>TO</b>	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
<b>FROM</b>	Bob Cenname, Deputy Finance Director <i>bc</i>
<b>DATE</b>	May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
<b>SUBJECT</b>	26-0184 Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Sheriff’s Office – \$100,000

The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
City Hall, Room 400

**Position: Support**

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 26-0184 Supplementary State Grant Fund Operating Appropriation - Sheriff - \$100,000, the purpose of which is to increase the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation of State Funds by \$100,000 to Sheriff, Service 882: Deputy Sheriff Enforcement.

**Background**

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Policy. In Fiscal 2026, the Sheriff’s Office did not have an appropriation for unallocated State grant funds. However, the Sheriff’s Office received this grant for \$100,000 in State funds. This bill will make \$100,000 available to Sheriff-Service 882 (Deputy Sheriff Enforcement) to establish the Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU).

The Baltimore City Charter authorizes agency spending based on the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates. The Department of Finance recommends appropriation transfers and supplementary appropriations when an agency receives unanticipated revenue, such as grants, or implements new programs that could not have been anticipated at the time the budget was developed. This supplemental appropriation is required to meet the Charter requirements.

**Fiscal Impact**

The Sheriff requires supplemental appropriation due to an unanticipated grant. This supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 is necessary to accommodate these unbudgeted revenues. The grant from the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Policy will be used to cover these supplemental expenses.

**Conclusion**

This supplemental appropriation is required to authorize agency spending beyond the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates and is necessary due to new revenue.

**For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 26-0184.**

cc: Michael Mocksten  
Nina Themelis

---

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT,  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
EBONY M. THOMPSON,  
CITY SOLICITOR  
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET  
SUITE 101, CITY HALL  
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

---

May 7, 2026

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 26-0184 – Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore  
City Sheriff's Office – \$100,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 26-0184 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 to the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office – Service 882 (Deputy Sheriff Enforcement), to provide funding for the establishment of the Neighborhood Services Unit to improve neighborhood safety and cohesion by addressing persistent public nuisances and environmental factors that contribute to crime. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment. The supplemental appropriation would fund the "Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) which will assist in launching the Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU)."

Council Bill 26-0184 identifies the revenue appropriated as "a grant from the State of Maryland's Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026." The grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated, and the bill has been recommended by the Board of Estimates to the City Council. The Council bill cites as authority for the supplementary appropriation Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the City Charter. This section provides that grants from private or governmental sources that could not be expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates was formulated may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure.

A supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance. The ordinance must identify the source of the funds and may only involve a "single program, purpose, activity or project." City Charter, Art. VI, § 8(c). Since the bill meets these requirements, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele Toth".

Michele Toth  
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson  
Council President Cohen  
Ethan Hasiuk  
Shamoyia Gardiner  
Nina Themelis  
Ty'lor Schnella  
Aaron Degraffenreidt  
Hilary Ruley  
Jeff Hochstetler  
Ashlea Brown  
Desiree Luckey  
Ahleah Clark