



# BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
Mayor

ANTHONY W. BATTS  
Police Commissioner

October 28, 2014

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 400, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

*Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary*

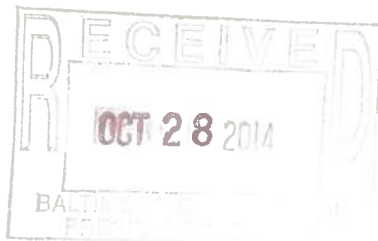
**Re: City Council Bill No. 14-0443  
Police Equipment - Audio-Video Recording Devices**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed City Council Bill No. 14-0443 – Police Equipment – Audio-Video Recording Devices. The proposed legislation is for the purpose of requiring all police officers employed by the Baltimore City Police Department to be personally equipped with digital audio-and-video recording devices; and allowing a phased implementation of this requirement during the 1<sup>st</sup> year following the effective date of this Ordinance.

The BPD support mechanisms that will help increase transparency and public trust; however, research has shown that the use of body cameras are resource intensive and have repercussions that must be thoroughly vetted. Therefore, for all matters related to this bill, we defer to the Legal Department and the Mayor's Working Group that was formed to study the use of body cameras.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the legislation.



Sincerely,

Garnell Green  
Colonel

Professional Standards and Accountability  
Bureau, Office of Internal Oversight

cc: Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison

*Defers to Law;  
Mayor's Working Group*