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The Honorable Carl Stokes



September 21, 2022

The Honorable Nick Mosby, President, Baltimore City Council  
The Honorable Odette Ramos  
The Honorable Antonio Glover  
The Honorable Zeke Cohen  
The Honorable Kristerfer Burnett  
The Honorable Ryan Dorsey

RE: 22-0132R Letter of Support for JHPD

Dear Council President Mosby and Members of the City Council,

My name is Samuel T. Redd, Jr., and I am the director of CURE/ Operation PULSE ( People United to Live in a Safe Environment), a faith-based public safety program serving East Baltimore and other areas for twenty-plus years. During these years, we have worked with all law enforcement agencies, schools, churches, city government, and many others to create a safer place to live, work, go to school, worship and play. I'm reaching out to share my support for the Johns Hopkins University Police Department, which the Community Safety and Strengthening Act authorized in 2019.

Johns Hopkins experiences an unacceptably high level of violent crime that directly impacts staff, faculty, students, patients, and neighbors. One faculty member was shot last spring, just blocks from the Eastern building. And recently, there was an attempted armed carjacking near the Homewood campus. In July, there was a fatal shooting at 600 N. Broadway. A couple of weeks before, bullets went through our building at 901 N. Broadway. There have also been a series of violent assaults. In one case, a nurse was struck with a BB gun; in another case, a contractor was shot with a BB gun.

I'm sure you can imagine the tremendous toll this is taking on our community. That is why I am supportive of the Johns Hopkins Police Department. Johns Hopkins understands that crime is a complex problem that no single initiative can solve. That's why they are building a progressive, innovative, and comprehensive public safety program, and a highly-trained university police department that can focus on the needs of the university and eventually its neighbors to help the safety situation in and around the Johns Hopkins campuses is vital.

East Baltimore residents, those who visit Baltimore, and Johns Hopkins employees & students deserve to feel safe while going about their daily activities. I also am pleased to know that as a former board member of PAL ( police athletic league), an extremely positive program will be a part of the community safety and strengthening act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Samuel T. Redd, Jr.'.

Samuel T. Redd, Jr. Director

Cc: The Honorable Yitzy Schleifer, Chair, Rules and Legislative Oversight Committee  
The Honorable Mark Conway  
The Honorable Eric Costello  
The Honorable Sharon Green Middleton  
The Honorable James Torrence