



Legislation Text

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**Introductory\***

**City of Baltimore  
Council Bill**

Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning

**Public Safety Apprenticeship Program Advisory Commission**

For the purpose of defining certain terms; establishing the Baltimore City Public Safety Apprenticeship Program Advisory Commission; providing for the purpose, composition, and duties of the Commission; establishing terms, procedures, and duties of the Commission; and generally relating to the Baltimore City Public Safety Apprenticeship Program Advisory Commission.

By amending

Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies  
Section 29-1, to be under the new part designation,  
“Part 1. General Provisions”  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

By adding

Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Executive Agencies  
Sections 29A-6 through 29A-11 to be under the new part designation,  
“Part 2. Advisory Commission”  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

**Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore,** That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Executive Agencies**

**Subtitle 29A. Public Safety Apprenticeship Program**

***Part 1. General Provisions***

**§ 29A-1. Definitions.**

(a) *In general.*

In this subtitle, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

(b) *Cadet*.

“Cadet” means a participant in the Public Safety Apprenticeship Program who:

- (1) has been hired into a specialized training program aimed at introducing young adults to public safety careers; and
- (2) is at least 18 but no more than 21 years old.

(c) *Chief*.

“Chief” means the Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department.

(d) *Commission*.

“Commission” means the Public Safety Apprenticeship Program Advisory Commission.

(e) *Commissioner*.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Baltimore City Police Department.

(f) [(c)] *Department*.

“Department” means the Baltimore City Fire Department.

(g) *Equity*.

“Equity” has the meaning stated in Article 1 § 39-1 {“Definitions”} of the Baltimore City Code.

(h) [(d)] *Explorer*.

“Explorer” means a participant in the Public Safety Apprenticeship Program who is:

- (1) a Baltimore City resident;
- (2) enrolled in a public, public charter, private, or parochial school within Baltimore City; and
- (3) at least 11 but no more than 18 years old.

(i) [(e)] *Public safety agency*.

“Public safety agency” means the following:

- (1) Baltimore City Fire Department;

- (2) Baltimore City Police Department;
- (3) Baltimore City Office of Emergency Management;
- (4) Baltimore City Sheriff's Office; and
- (5) Baltimore City School Police.

(j) [(f)] *Public Safety Apprenticeship Program; Program.*

“Public Safety Apprenticeship Program” or “Program” means a program for recruiting, mentoring, training, and hiring a new generation of Baltimore City youth and young adults to prepare them for careers in law enforcement, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and emergency management.

(k) [(g)] *Public safety cadet post; cadet post.*

“Public safety cadet post” or “cadet post” means the branch of the Program that engages participants who are at least 18 but no more than 21 years old.

(l) [(h)] *Public safety explorer post; explorer post.*

“Public safety explorer post” or “explorer post” means the branch of the Program that engages participants who are at least 11 but no more than 18 years old.

(m) [(i)] *Public safety internship.*

“Public safety internship” means an 8 to 10 week paid summer internship in a Baltimore City public safety agency for participants in the Program who are at least 14 but no more than 18 years old.

## ***Part 2. Advisory Commission***

### **§ 29A-6. Commission established.**

There is a Baltimore City Public Safety Apprenticeship Program Advisory Commission.

### **§ 29A-7. Purpose.**

The purpose of the Commission is to facilitate the Public Safety Apprenticeship Program by:

- (1) providing oversight, advice, and recommendations to the Fire Chief and Police Commissioner regarding Program policies and procedures;
- (2) providing recommendations to better use the Program to provide equitable career pathways into public safety professions;
- (3) helping to develop community engagement and recruitment initiatives focused on attracting youth

and young adults from Baltimore City; and

- (4) creating a Program-specific mentorship model to be implemented in the Program to connect potential applicants with current Program participants, Program alumni, and public safety professionals.

### § 29A-8. Composition.

(a) *In general.*

The Commission is comprised of 7 voting members and 4 nonvoting members.

(b) *Voting members.*

(1) *Composition.*

The voting members shall be appointed by the Mayor in accordance with Article IV, § 6 of the City Charter and shall consist of the following individuals:

- (i) 1 member from the Vulcan Blazers of Baltimore City, Incorporated;
- (ii) 1 member from the Vanguard Justice Society, Incorporated;
- (iii) 1 member from the American Civil Liberties Union;
- (iv) 1 member from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People;
- (v) 1 member from the Baltimore City Lodge #3 Fraternal Order of police;
- (vi) 1 member from the International Association of Firefighters Local 734; and
- (vii) 1 member from the International Association of Firefighters Local 964.

(2) *Requirement.*

- (1) Each voting member of the Commission must be a registered voter.
- (2) Each voting member must be a resident of Baltimore City.

(c) *Nonvoting members.*

The following individuals shall be nonvoting members of the Commission:

- (1) The Mayor or the Mayor's designee;

- (2) The President of the City Council or the President's designee;
- (3) The Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee; and
- (4) a member of the City Council committee overseeing public safety policy, nominated by the President of the City Council.

#### § 29A-9. Terms and procedures.

(a) *Terms.*

- (1) The term of a voting member is 4 years, conterminous with the terms of the Mayor and City Council.
- (2) At the end of a voting member's term, the voting member shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(b) *Compensation.*

The members of the Commission shall:

- (1) serve without compensation; and
- (2) be entitled to reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the Commission's duties, as provided for in the Ordinance of Estimates.

(c) *Chair.*

The Mayor shall designate a voting member to serve as Commission Chair.

(d) *Meetings; quorum.*

- (1) The Commission shall meet on the call of the Chair when required to perform its duties, but not less than 4 times a year.
- (2) A majority of the voting members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of Commission business.
- (3) An affirmative vote of the majority of the voting members is needed for any official action.

(e) *Open meetings.*

All meetings of the Commission must be conducted in accordance with the State Open Meetings Act (Title 3 of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Code).

#### § 29A-10. Rules and regulations.

Subject to Title 4 {"Administrative Procedure Act - Regulations"} of the City General Provisions Article,

the Commission may adopt rules and regulations to govern its meetings and operations.

### § 29A-11. Duties.

The Commission shall:

- (1) meet on a quarterly basis to receive a briefing on the Program;
- (2) review the annual report required by § 29A-5 {"Annual report"} of this subtitle;
- (3) provide oversight, advice, and recommendations to the Chief and Commissioner on the internal policies and procedures of the Program;
- (4) conduct compliance reviews of the Program to ensure equity during the employment and training processes;
- (5) field and review complaints from Program participants and provide assistance in resolving the complaints;
- (6) work with agencies to promote community engagement and recruitment opportunities for City residents to join the program; and
- (7) convene and oversee a subcommittee consisting of 5 total individuals:
  - (i) whose full-time job is directly associated with:
    - (A) the Program; or
    - (B) conducting investigations into the unlawful discrimination in employment and hiring practices; and
  - (ii) who include the following:
    - (A) 1 individual designated by the Baltimore City Fire Department;
    - (B) 1 individual designated by the Baltimore City Police Department;
    - (C) 1 individual designated by the Baltimore City Public School System;
    - (D) 1 individual designated by the Baltimore City Office of Equity and Civil Rights; and
    - (E) 1 individual designated by the Mayor's Office of Employment Development.

**Section 2. And be it further ordained,** That this Ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2023.