



OFFICE OF BUDGET

Date: October 21, 2021

To: Lonnie Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Holly Sun HS
Budget Administrator

Subject: Fiscal Impact for Establishing Police Accountability Board

The Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021 mandates the creation of a County-wide Police Accountability Board to meet quarterly with the heads of law enforcement and the county government to improve local policing; appoint civilian residents to charging committees and trial boards; receive complaints; review outcomes of disciplinary matters considered by charging committees; and submit an annual report identifying any trends and offering recommendations to improve police accountability in the county.

Fiscal Impact

The State legislation requires an Administrative Charging Committee and Trial Boards, which may result in the need for a designated position, such as an Executive Secretary. The County will review internal capacity to cover these duties. Additionally, there may be a need to compensate those who participate on the Trial Boards as trials may take several days and require significant time commitment from members. Costs may be incurred for expert testimony in certain cases. Actual cost will depend on cases involved. Although the number of historical external complaints in the County subject to this legislation are low, typically under 20 per year, an increase is likely based on this legislation and the implementation of the Body Worn Camera program.