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*Executive Director*

STATE OF MARYLAND

Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law  
Enforcement Officers  
Frederic N. Smalkin, Chairman

September 16, 2015

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, President of the Maryland Senate  
State House, H-107  
Annapolis, MD 21401 – 1991

The Honorable Michael Erin Busch, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates  
State House, H-101  
Annapolis, MD 21401 – 1991

Colonel William M. Pallozzi, Chairman  
Maryland Police Training Commission  
6852 4th Street  
Sykesville, MD 21784

Gentlemen:

I have the honor of forwarding hereby, in accordance with Section 2(g) of Chapters 128 and 129 (2015 Session), the Final Report of this Commission.

All of the Findings as to Best Practices were agreed upon by a majority of voting Commissioners after review of a substantial amount of written material and after a public meeting with discussion and debate over numerous alternatives. The Recommendation to the General Assembly is endorsed by a substantial majority of the Commissioners.

I would be remiss if I did not note the extraordinary staff assistance I have received as Chairman of this Commission from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, especially from Donald Hogan, Esq., and Ms. Rachel Kesselman. I would be remiss if I were not also to note the diligence with which all the Commissioners approached and carried out their duties as such. The time was short and the issues were important, and both Staff and Commissioners cooperated in producing a final product that will, I trust, be of assistance to law enforcement agencies across the State as they formulate policies for the use of the new technology which we have studied.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Original 1/1".

Frederick N. Smalkin

cc: Governor Larry Hogan  
Encl.

# **Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers**



***Final Report, Including Findings as to Best Practices and a  
Recommendation to the General Assembly***

***September 16, 2015***

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This Report of The *Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers* is the result of hard work, valuable input, and dedication from numerous individuals. State and local law enforcement representatives, legislators, community advocates, a victim's rights' representative, and state and local governmental representatives were exceptionally generous with their time and supportive feedback. Their participation in the Initial Meeting on August 4, 2015, and the Decision Meeting on September 1, 2015, as well as their feedback, suggestions, and recommendations were invaluable for the *Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers Final Report*. The completion, timeliness, and comprehensiveness of this Report would not have been possible without their active participation and support.

## **ROSTER OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Commission was composed of 23 members, including state and local law enforcement representatives, two legislators, community advocates, a victim's rights' representative, and state and local governmental representatives, and a Chairman appointed by Governor Hogan.

**Carlos F. Acosta, Esq.**

Prince George's County Police Department

**Captain Ross R. Passman**

Anne Arundel County Police Department

**Russell Butler, Esq.**

Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.

**Victor Ramirez**

Maryland State Senate

**Mr. Vincent Canales, President**

Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police

**David Rocah, Esq.**

ACLU of Maryland

**Paul DeWolfe, Jr., Esq.**

Office of Public Defender

**Stephanie J. Robinson, Esq.**

Mayor's Office of Public Safety

**Chief John M. Fitzgerald**

Village of Chevy Chase Police Department

**Frederic N. Smalkin**

Chairman

**Secretary David Garcia**

Department of Information Technology

**J. Charles Smith, III, Esq.**

Frederick County State's Attorney

**Phillip Hinkle, Esq.**

Charles County Sheriff's Office

**Mr. Gerald Stansbury, President**

Maryland Conference NAACP

**Chief Douglas Holland**

Hyattsville Police Department

**Delegate Charles E. Sydnor**

House of Delegates

**Zenita Hurley, Esq.**

Office of Attorney General

**Captain Michael Wahl**

Montgomery County Police Department

**Nicole Jassie, Esq.**

CASA de Maryland

**Major Mark Warren**

Baltimore County Police Department

**Colonel William Pallozzi**

Maryland State Police

**Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young**

Baltimore City Council

**Mr. Edward Parker**

Governor's Office of Crime Control &  
Prevention

## **BACKGROUND**

Preface: Chapters 128 and 129 (2015), *Public Safety – Law Enforcement Officers – Body-Worn Digital Recording Device and Electronic Control Device*, established the **Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers (Commission)**. Under the provisions of these emergency Acts, the Commission was directed to study and make findings and recommendations as to best practices regarding the use of body cameras by law enforcement officers and to report its findings and recommendations to the Maryland Police Training Commission and the General Assembly by October 1, 2015.

Because the Commission was required to report its findings and recommendations within a very short period of time, several model policies were examined and compared to identify similarities and differences.<sup>1</sup> To assist the Commission in meeting its goals, various components of these model policies were analyzed and compiled into a “Working Document,” with respect to the criteria established in the *Public Safety Article, § 3-510*.<sup>2</sup> That document, the model policies, and other background documents were distributed to Commissioners at the Initial Meeting, on August 4, 2015, for their consideration and in preparation for the Decision Meeting, scheduled for September 1, 2015. Other helpful materials were subsequently distributed to the Commissioners between the two meetings.

Prior to the Decision Meeting, which was duly held as a public meeting in Annapolis on September 1, 2015, some Commissioners submitted recommended amendments/alternatives to those in the “Working Document.” These submissions were distributed to all Commissioners for their consideration. Additional amendments/alternatives were put forward by Commissioners orally or in writing during the Decision Meeting. After discussion of all alternatives, votes were taken as to each item, save one, to determine which of the alternative wordings put before the Commissioners would be adopted as recommended best practices. All choices at the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were by majority vote of those Commissioners present and voting. Consideration of one item was postponed for further study, and that item was subsequently settled upon by a majority of those Commissioners voting by email. A majority of the Commissioners voted to make a recommendation to the General Assembly regarding the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA).

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<sup>1</sup> Model policies were retrieved from the following: Spokane Police Department, Ferguson Police Department, IACP, New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, New Orleans Police Department, ACLU, and Fraternal Order of Police (FOP).

<sup>2</sup> The statute reads in pertinent part: “On or before January 1, 2016, the Maryland Police Training Commission shall develop and publish online a policy for the issuance and use of body-worn camera a law enforcement officer that address: (1) the testing of body-worn cameras to ensure adequate functioning; (2) the procedure for the law enforcement officer to follow if the camera fails to properly operate at the beginning of or during the law enforcement officer’s shift; (3) when recording is mandatory; (4) when recording is prohibited; (5) when recording is discretionary; (6) when recording may require consent of a subject being recorded; (7) when a recording may be ended; (8) providing notice of recording; (9) access to and confidentiality of recordings; (10) the secure storage of data from a body-worn camera; (11) review and use of recordings; (12) retention of recordings; (13) dissemination and release of recordings; (14) consequences for violations of the agency’s body-worn camera policy; (15) notification requirements when another individual becomes a party to the communication following the initial notification; (16) specific protections for individuals when there is an expectation of privacy in private or public places; and (17) any additional issues determined to be relevant in the implementation and use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers.”

**Definition: Body Worn Camera (BWC)**

As referenced in Chapters 128 and 129 (2015), a “Body Worn Camera (BWC)” means:

1. A device worn on a person of a law enforcement officer that is capable of recording video and intercepting oral communications; or
2. A portable device designed as a weapon capable of injuring, immobilizing, or inflicting pain on an individual by the discharge of electrical current which is capable of recording video and oral communications.

**Initial Meeting**

The Initial Meeting was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, in the Joint Hearing Room, Department of Legislative Services Building, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401. This meeting was attended by a majority of the Commissioners, who received a binder with the following documents: (1) Chairman Welcome Letter; (2) Senate Bill 482 (Ch. 128) and Fiscal and Policy Note; (3) “Working Document;” and (4) Model Policies from the following: ACLU; Ferguson Police Department; Fraternal Police Department; IACP; New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice; New Orleans Police Department; and Spokane Police Department. These documents were distributed at the meeting, although most of the materials had been previously emailed to the Commissioners for their consideration when identifying best practices.

Because the adoption of best practices would serve as a one-size-fit all for the entire State of Maryland, Commissioners were invited to submit comments/suggestions via the Body Camera Commission email address ([dlbodycamerasmembers\\_goccp@maryland.gov](mailto:dlbodycamerasmembers_goccp@maryland.gov)) so that every Commissioner could view each others’ input. Once submitted, all comments/suggestions were gathered and compiled by the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP). Comments and suggestions provided by the public were also circulated by GOCCP to the Commissioners for their review and consideration.

**Decision Meeting**

The Decision Meeting was duly held as a public meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 2015, in the Joint Hearing Room at the Department of Legislative Services Building. This meeting was attended by 22 Commissioners who received additional information pertaining to the Decision Meeting, to include: (1) Memorandum from Chairman, dated August 27, 2015; (2) Initial Meeting Minutes; (3) Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger Letter of August 11, 2015; (4) Why Trust the National Body-Worn Camera Toolkit, U.S. Department of Justice; (5) BWC Toolkit, U.S. Department of Justice; (6) Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake’s Working Group on the Use and Implementation of Body-Worn Cameras, Final Recommendations, dated April 3, 2015; (7) Law Enforcement Commission Members Memorandum of August 25, 2015; (8) Law Enforcement Commission Members Joint Recommendations; (9) Victim Language for Consideration submitted by Commissioner Butler; (10) Comments on Working Document – Commissioner Jassie, MCASA; (11) letter from Ryan P. Harkins, Microsoft Corporation, dated August 25, 2015; (12) Comments on Working Document – Suzanne Sangree, Baltimore City Office of Law; (13) Office of Attorney General Comments on Body Camera

Commission dated August 26, 2015; (14) letter from Natasha Mehu, Maryland Association of Counties, dated August 28, 2015; and (15) Secretary of Information and Technology David A. Garcia BWC Recommendations. These documents were provided to Commissioners for their review and consideration.

In response to Chapters 128 and 129 (2015), *Public Safety – Law Enforcement Officers – Body-Worn Digital Recording Device and Electronic Control Device*, the Commission was tasked to study and make findings and recommendations as to best practices regarding the use of body cameras by law enforcement officers, with respect to the criteria established in the *Public Safety Article, § 3-510*. Using the “Working Document” as a guide to address the statutory criteria item-by-item, each item was called up *seriatim*. Once an item was called, Commissioners were invited to propose amendments/alternatives for each item, which was followed by discussion regarding such proposals. Once the discussion on a particular item reached its conclusion, Commissioners were asked to vote by individual voice poll as to the chosen alternative for the item, by number. Items listed within the “Working Document” were always listed as alternative #1 and all amendments/alternatives proposed by the “Law Enforcement Commission Members Joint Recommendations” were always listed as alternative #2. All subsequent proposals were listed as alternative #3, and so forth. All votes were recorded by staff from GOCCP. Those alternatives which received a majority of the votes cast were adopted and are set forth as the final best practices findings of the Commission.



## **FINDINGS AS TO BEST PRACTICES**

- A. Testing:** Prior to beginning each shift, the assigned agency member shall perform a function test of the BWC in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and agency policy.
- B. Malfunctions:** Upon discovering a BWC malfunction, agency members shall promptly report the malfunction to a supervisor or other appropriate authority in accordance with agency policy regarding malfunctions.
- C. Mandatory Activation.** Subject to paragraph three of this recommendation below, officers shall begin recording with their BWCs in the below circumstances unless doing so would be unsafe, impossible, or impractical. If officers are unable to begin recording with the BWC due to circumstances making it unsafe, impossible, or impractical to do so, officers shall begin recording with the BWC at the first reasonable opportunity to do so.
1. At the initiation of a call for service or other activity that is investigative or enforcement in nature, or an encounter between the officer and a member of the public that is investigative or enforcement in nature; and
  2. Any encounter that becomes confrontational after the initial contact.
  3. When victims, witnesses, or other individuals wish to make a statement or share information, but refuse to do so while being recorded, or request that the camera be turned off, officers may turn off the BWC in order to obtain the statement or information. If the encounter begins when the BWC is not actively recording, the law enforcement officer may, but is not required to, temporarily activate the BWC for the sole purpose of documenting the person's refusal to be recorded.
- D. Prohibited Activation.** A law enforcement officer shall not activate a camera to record:
1. Agency personnel during routine administrative activities; or
  2. Non-work related personal activity.
- E. Ending a Recording.** Once recording with a BWC has been initiated, officers shall not end the recording until:
1. The event or encounter has fully concluded; or
  2. The officer leaves the scene and anticipates no further involvement in the event; or
  3. A supervisor or agency policy has authorized that a recording may cease because the officer is no longer engaged in a related enforcement or investigative activity; or
  4. When victims, witnesses, or other individuals wish to make a statement or share information, but refuse to do so while being recorded, or request that the camera be turned off, officers may turn off the BWC in order to obtain the statement or information.
- F. Notification.**
1. Except as otherwise exempted by law, a law enforcement officer shall notify, as soon as is practicable, the individual that the individual is being recorded, unless it is unsafe, impractical, or impossible to do so.

2. This notice provision is satisfied even if another individual becomes a party to the communication after the initial notice has been provided.

#### **G. Confidentiality.**

1. Leased or purchased BWC equipment and all recordings are the property of the law enforcement agency, and only BWC equipment approved by agency policy shall be worn.
2. Except as authorized by agency policy, copying, releasing, altering, erasing, or allowing unauthorized viewing of an agency video recording (or portion thereof) is prohibited and may subject an officer to disciplinary action.

#### **H. Required Storage and Maintenance of Recording.**

1. All files shall be securely saved and stored in accordance with agency policy.
2. Each agency's written policy shall include standards and procedures that address:
  - a. Security and access control
  - b. Creation of audit trails and access logs
3. Each agency shall retain an unedited original version of stored body worn camera footage, and should log anytime the footage is viewed, for what length of time and by whom, as well as any copying or editing.

#### **I. Review of Recordings.**

1. Agencies' written policies shall include when members may view BWC recordings. Reasons to view and use of recordings may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Report writing or preparation of other official documents;
  - b. Court preparation;
  - c. Review of prosecution evidence;
  - d. Victim/witness/suspect statements;
  - e. Crime scenes;
  - f. Statement of charges;
  - g. Administrative investigations;
  - h. Training;
  - i. Performance review;
  - j. Incident critique;
  - k. Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) requests;
  - l. Policy compliance; and
  - m. Disclosures required by law.
2. Additional considerations:
  - a. A BWC recording of a constitutionally protected activity may not be used to identify persons present at the activity who are not suspected of being engaged in illegal activity or in need of assistance.
  - b. The stored video and audio data from a body worn camera may not:
    - i. Be used to create a database or pool of mug shots;
    - ii. Be used as fillers in photo arrays; or

- iii. Be searched using facial or voice recognition software.
  - c. This subsection does not prohibit an agency from using recognition software to analyze the recording of a particular incident when a supervisory law enforcement officer has reason to believe that a specific suspect or person in need of assistance may be a subject of a particular recording.
- J. Retention of Recordings.** An agency's written policy shall include retention period(s) for BWC recordings.
- K. Dissemination and Release.** BWC video/audio recordings from body cameras will be released as required by the MPIOA or other governing law.
- L. Training and Discipline.**
  - 1. Agencies shall ensure that officers are trained on agency policy and the operation of the BWC equipment prior to use in the field. Training shall also include alternative methods for effective notification of recording to persons with special needs or limited English proficiency.
  - 2. Agencies' written policies shall state that violations of the agency BWC policy may result in discipline.
- M. Discretionary Activation.** When not otherwise prohibited by law or agency policy, officers may begin recording with their BWC in circumstances when they determine that doing so would be beneficial to the public interest.
- N. Written Policy Required.** Each law enforcement agency shall develop and issue a written policy for using BWCs that is consistent with state law and regulations issued by the Maryland Police Training Commission prior to implementing a BWC program.
- O. Incident Reports.** Incident reports should note any use of BWC.
- P. Agency BWC Policies.** BWC policies of agencies shall be made available to the public.

## **RECOMMENDATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

After discussion at an open meeting, and by a substantial majority, the Commission respectfully and strongly recommends to the General Assembly of Maryland that it consider forthwith amending the Maryland Public Information Act (Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article §§ 4-101 through 4-601) to incorporate provisions specifically governing the release of audio/video recordings captured by a law enforcement officer's body-worn camera, to include but not limited to, those recordings which depict victims of violent crimes and domestic abuse.

**SUBMISSION**

Respectfully submitted, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

Frederic N. Smalkin  
Chief Judge, United States District  
Court, District of Maryland (Ret.)  
Chairman

## **APPENDIX**



# **Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers**

## *Meeting Minutes*

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The Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers (Commission) was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at the Department of Legislative Services Building, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401. The following Commissioners attended: Chief Judge Frederic N. Smalkin, U.S. District Court of Maryland (Retired), Chairman; Delegate Charles E. Sydnor, House of Delegates; Colonel William Pallozzi, Maryland State Police; Zenita Hurley, Esquire, Office of Attorney General; Paul DeWolfe, Jr., Esquire, Office of Public Defender; Mr. Edward Parker, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP); Secretary David Garcia, Department of Information Technology; Mr. Vincent Canales, President, State Fraternal Order of Police; Carlos Acosta, Esquire, Prince George's County Police Department; Captain Michael Wahl, Montgomery County Police Department; Captain Ross R. Passman, Anne Arundel County Police Department; Major Mark Warren, Baltimore County Police Department; Chief Douglas Holland, Hyattsville Police Department; David Rocah, Esquire, ACLU of Maryland; Mr. Gerald Stansbury, President, Maryland Conference NAACP; Karen Kruger (for Phillip Hinkle, Esquire, Charles County Sheriff's Office), Maryland Sheriff's Association; Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young, Baltimore City Council; J. Charles Smith, III, Esquire, Frederick County State's Attorney; Chief John M. Fitzgerald, Village of Chevy Chase Police Department; and Nicole Jassie, Esquire, CASA de Maryland.

### **Greetings & Introductions**

Chairman Smalkin called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. and welcomed all attendees. He introduced himself as a retired judge for the U.S. District Court of Maryland and mentioned that he previously served as Chairman of the Maryland Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council. He thanked the Commissioners for their attendance, and extended an additional thanks to three individuals who are with GOCCP: Edward Parker, Don Hogan, and Rachel Kesselman. The three individuals were asked to introduce themselves which was followed by an introduction of each Commissioner.

### **Introductions of Commissioners**

Commissioners were asked to state their name and provide some background information with regards to their knowledge and expertise. After each member introduced his/herself, Chairman Smalkin expressed how pleased he was that everyone accepted this position and to work with one another. He further pointed out the broad range of expertise of the commission members.

### **Scope of the Commission's Mission**

Chairman Smalkin stated the Commission's mission is not to recommend whether law enforcement agencies should be required to use body cameras. The mission is to supply Maryland Police Training Commission (MPTC) with "best practices." MPTC is charged with adopting regulations by December 31, 2015, that will be applicable to all police agencies in the State which use body cameras. The

Commission report will also be sent to the General Assembly for their consideration. The report is due by October 1, 2015.

### **Time for Study & Comment**

Chairman Smalkin mentioned that every Commissioner received a binder (Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers) with ten different tabs. The binder was distributed at the meeting, although most of the materials had been previously emailed to each commissioner. The third tab provides the *working document* which was drafted using several model policies. Each policy was examined and viewed as a starting point for identifying “best practices.”

Chairman Smalkin stated that this *working document* must serve as a one-size fit all. He asked Chief Fitzgerald how many municipalities are in Chevy Chase in which he replied eleven. Chairman Smalkin also mentioned that there are about 3,000 officers in Baltimore City so a one-size fit all is often difficult but needed – it should mirror Goldilocks where it is not too hot or too cold.

In elegant document drafting, Chairman Smalkin said, your job is to make everything possible but nothing inevitable. Although there may be some inevitable items, we want a reasonable document – this was the premise of the document.

Chairman Smalkin mentioned that comments/suggestions may be submitted to an email account (via GOCCP website) so every Commissioner can view each others’ input – there will also be an email for use by the public to comment or submit information. He also stated that comments made by individual Commissioners will be gathered by GOCCP so all information will be combined. GOCCP will also circulate public comments.

In preparation for the next meeting, Chairman Smalkin briefly discussed three topics that will likely be discussed in greater detail on September 1, 2015: Public Information Act (PIA), notice, and records retention.

In reference to PIA (disclosure of data), public records fall under Maryland’s PIA Law, and will also include body camera data. The Police Training Commission does not have authority to alter State statutes.

With regards to notice, there are three issues with this: (1) should police officers have to tell an individual that he/she is being recorded; (2) should the notice be contained in the Miranda Rights; and (3) concerns about non-English speaking persons. While some people may say a blinking light serves to indicate the use of a camera, this could also place police in danger. Because of this, it was thought to use constructive notice in which the camera would be “labeled” as such because most languages understand this term.

In reference to records retention, the issue is how long should data be retained? In Delaware, Troopers retain dashboard camera data for approximately 90 days; however, this is different than body cameras because they work in conjunction with a computer.

Chairman Smalkin asked Secretary Garcia how many terabytes are used in Baltimore City. Secretary Garcia replied by stating approximately 648 at any given time for CCTV. Chairman Smalkin stated that



the retention for this is very expensive and the cost per day for storage and the number of people needed to run the system would be tremendous. Because of this, practical and logistical considerations were drafted in the *working document* in which individual departments would have discretion based on what they can afford.

### **Plenary Meeting of Commission (September 1, 2015)**

Chairman Smalkin stated that every Commissioner will need to take their binder home and bring it back for the next meeting. Due to the short turn around, Chairman Smalkin charged the Commissioners to review the *working document* provided in their binders. He stated that each item within the *working document* is sourced to a model policy and also cross referenced to the House Bill 533/Senate Bill 482 to serve as a roadmap.

Chairman Smalkin mentioned that a Plenary Meeting will occur on September 1, 2015 with the purpose of reviewing the *working document*. The commission will work through the various items and vote on each. If a proposed amendment is made, this will be voted on by the Commission in which a majority vote will rule. Because each item will be viewed by the Commission, one-by-one, Chairman Smalkin mentioned that the Plenary Meeting is scheduled for an entire day. The Plenary Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the Joint Hearing Room of the Legislative Services Building in Annapolis, Maryland.

### **Results of September 1, 2015 Proceedings**

Chairman Smalkin stated that after the Plenary Meeting the results will be prepared as the commission's report to MPTC and the General Assembly.

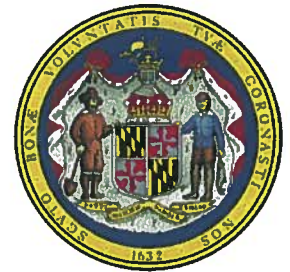
### **Comments & Suggestions**

Chairman Smalkin asked the Commissioners if they had any questions, and invited individuals to make comments and/or suggestions.

Delegate Frank Conaway, Jr., representing the 40<sup>th</sup> District introduced himself, stating he was the first legislator to introduce the body camera bill. Delegate Barbara Roberson from Baltimore City, Chair of Black Caucus and a University of Baltimore graduate, also introduced herself. Chairman Smalkin welcomed them both.

### **Adjournment**

In closing, Chairman Smalkin mentioned that two motions are not debatable: "motion to table" and "motion to adjourn." A motion was then made to adjourn which was followed by a second. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.



# Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers

## *Meeting Minutes*

.....

The Commission Regarding the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers (Commission) was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2015, at the Department of Legislative Services Building, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401. The following Commissioners attended: Chief Judge Frederic N. Smalkin, U.S. District Court of Maryland (Retired), Chairman; Delegate Charles E. Sydnor, House of Delegates; Colonel William Pallozzi, Maryland State Police; Zenita Hurley, Esquire, Office of Attorney General; Paul DeWolfe, Jr., Esquire, Office of Public Defender; Mr. Edward Parker, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP); Secretary David Garcia, Department of Information Technology; Mr. Vincent Canales, President, State Fraternal Order of Police; Carlos Acosta, Esquire, Prince George's County Police Department; Captain Michael Wahl, Montgomery County Police Department; Captain Ross R. Passman, Anne Arundel County Police Department; Major Mark Warren, Baltimore County Police Department; Chief Douglas Holland, Hyattsville Police Department; David Rocah, Esquire, ACLU of Maryland; Mr. Gerald Stansbury, President, Maryland Conference NAACP; Phillip Hinkle, Esquire, Charles County Sheriff's Office; Maryland Sheriff's Association; Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young, Baltimore City Council; J. Charles Smith, III, Esquire, Frederick County State's Attorney; Chief John M. Fitzgerald, Village of Chevy Chase Police Department; Nicole Jassie, Esquire, CASA de Maryland; Senator Victor Ramirez, Maryland State Senate; Russell Butler, Esquire, Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.; and Stephanie Robinson, Esquire, Mayor's Office of Public Safety.

### **Welcome**

Chairman Smalkin called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and welcomed all attendees to the Decision Meeting. He introduced himself and then went around the room and asked for a roll-call to identify all present members. Chairman Smalkin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Initial Meeting which took place on August 4, 2015. There were no oppositions so this motion to approve carried unanimously.

### **Items in the Working Document**

The process by which the "Working Document" was created was briefly explained and how several model policies were examined with the ultimate thought of merging one with the bill. Using this document, Chairman Smalkin explained that each Item would be called up *seriatim*. Once an Item was called, Commissioners were allowed to propose an amendment/alternative to the Item which followed by some discussion regarding the proposed alternative(s). Once a discussion for the particular Item reached its conclusion, Chairman Smalkin called for a vote of the Commissioners, by individual voice poll as to the chosen alternative for the Item, by number. This process occurred for each Item with the exception of Item H. Required Storage and Maintenance of Recording, which was reserved for further

vote by email. All votes were recorded by GOCCP Staff in which the final “best practice” adoption was determined by the alternatives that received the highest number of votes.

Chief Fitzgerald made a motion for Rachel Kesselman to forward the final “best practice” adoption document to all Commissioners to ensure accuracy in the language that was captured.

### **Adjournment**

In closing, Chairman Smalkin mentioned that with the exception of Item H, the discussion for the remaining Items has ended. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.