

Bill No. 25-08

Concerning: Amend the Police

Accountability Board and an Administrative
Charging Committee

Introduced: May 6, 2025

Revised: _____ Draft No. _____

Enacted: June 17, 2025

Effective: August 16, 2025

Expires: August 4, 2025

Frederick County Code, Chapter 1-2

Section(s) 802, 803, 804 and 806

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council Vice President Kavonté Duckett

AN ACT to: Amend the Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee.

Date Council Approved: 6/17/2025

Date Transmitted to Executive: 6/24/2025

Executive: Jessica Fitzwater

Date Received: 6/24/2025

Approved: _____

Date: 6/25/25

Vetoed: _____

Date: _____

Date returned by County Executive with no action: _____

By amending:

Frederick County Code, Chapter, 1-2 Section(s) 802, 803, 804 and 806

Other: _____

Boldface

Underlining

[Single boldface brackets]

Heading or defined term.

Added to existing law.

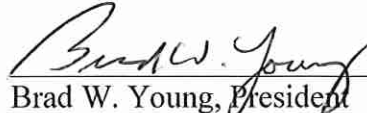
Deleted from existing law.


Existing law unaffected by bill.

Bill No. 25-08

The County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, finds it necessary and appropriate to amend the Police Accountability Board and an Administrative Charging Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Frederick County Code be, and it is hereby, amended as shown on the attached Exhibit 1.



Brad W. Young, President
County Council of Frederick County, 
Maryland

ARTICLE XVIII: POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE
CHARGING COMMITTEE

§ 1-2-802. COMPOSITION.

(C) Regular, voting members of the Board must:

(1) Be at least 21 years of age, residents of Frederick County, legal residents or citizens of the United States, and registered voters. To the extent practicable, the membership of the Police Accountability Board shall reflect the racial, gender, cultural diversity, and geography of the county;

(2) Be County residents, to include:

(a) Two (2) residents of the City of Frederick;

(b) One (1) resident of the City of Brunswick;

(c) One (1) resident of the Town of Thurmont;

(d) One resident who is Black or African-American; and

(e) One resident who is a first or second generation immigrant.

(3) Have familiarity or experience within the legal field, the behavioral health field, social services, human resources or personnel management, the operation of a government agency, criminal justice agency, community service organization, or relevant lived experience;

(4) Participate in an in-person or virtual interview and appropriate background research conducted by:

1 (a) The County Executive or designee; and

2 (b) The municipal mayors of the Cities of Frederick and Brunswick

3 and the Town of Thurmont, or their Chief Administrative Officer or equivalent; and

4 (c) Other individuals as determined by the County Executive; and

5 (5) Successfully complete training on matters related to police procedures

6 from the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission, the County Ethics Law, the

7 Open Meetings Act, and any other training required by the State, the County Executive, or

8 majority vote of the Board. A ride along with a police officer to observe the workday is

9 encouraged.

10 ***

11 **§ 1-2-803. CHAIRPERSON.**

12 The County Executive shall nominate, and the County Council shall approve, an

13 individual to serve as the Board Chairperson who shall have familiarity with criminal justice or

14 other relevant experience needed for the position. The term of the chairperson is **[three]** two

15 years.

16 ***

17 **§ 1-2-804. MEETINGS, QUORUM, RECORDS.**

18 ***

19 (E) The Board shall be **[prohibited from creating sub or ad hoc committees]**

20 authorized to create subcommittees.

21 **§ 1-2-806. ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE.**

1 (A) There shall be an Administrative Charging Committee to serve countywide law
2 enforcement agencies and local law enforcement agencies within Frederick County.

3 (B) The Committee shall:

4 (1) Meet [**not less than**] once per month [, **and additionally**] or as needed;

5 (2) Review the findings of a law enforcement agency's investigation
6 conducted and forwarded in accordance with State law;

7 ***

8 (D) Membership; Term.

9 (1) Sign an agreement to maintain the confidentiality of all Committee matters
10 related to individual complaints until final disposition and all appeals have been exhausted.

11 (2) Before serving as a member of the Committee, an individual shall
12 successfully complete training on matters relating to police procedures from the Maryland Police
13 Training and Standards Commission, the County Ethics Law, the Open Meetings Act, and any
14 other training required by the State, the County Executive, or a majority vote of the Committee.

15 (3) The Committee shall be comprised of five (5) members.

16 (a) Members shall be at least 21 years of age, legal residents or
17 citizens of the United States, residents of the County, and registered voters;

18 (b) Be of good moral character and free from bias that would
19 negatively impact the integrity of the Committee; and

20 (c) Have familiarity or experience within the legal field, the behavioral
21 health field, social services, human resources or personnel management, the operation of a
22 government agency, criminal justice agency, or community service organization.

(8) Subject to division (D)(9) below, members shall serve a term of two years and shall not be eligible for reappointment after a total of ~~[six]~~ five consecutive years of service on the Committee.

(9) The initial terms of one civilian appointed by the County Executive and one civilian appointed by the Police Accountability Board shall be one year.

(10) The Committee shall elect a chairperson annually from among its members by majority vote each first meeting occurring on or after ~~[July]~~ October 1.

(11) The Chairperson of the Committee shall serve no more than two consecutive terms as chairperson.

(12) Of the initial appointees to the Committee, two appointees shall have a term of one year, and three appointees, one of which shall be the chairperson, shall have a term of two years. Members may be reappointed, but may not serve more than two full consecutive two-year terms.

(13) A Committee member may be removed by a majority vote of the Committee if at any time they fail to meet the requirements of this section or any other requirement for members of the Committee or fail to attend at least 75% of the meetings during any period of 12 consecutive months.

(14) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transactions of regulation business.

1 (15) Vacancies shall be filled on the same basis as the original appointments for
2 the unexpired terms. Members shall continue in office until their successors are appointed and
3 qualified.
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