

Bill No.: _____

Requested: _____

Committee: _____

Drafted by: Young

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By: **Prince George’s County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George’s County – Office of the Sheriff – Response to Report of Alleged**
3 **Domestic Violence – Authorization**

4 **PG 309–20**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing a law enforcement officer from the Prince George’s County
6 Office of the Sheriff to respond to a report of alleged domestic violence under certain
7 circumstances; authorizing the Prince George’s County Office of the Sheriff to
8 coordinate with certain other law enforcement agencies to carry out the provisions
9 of this Act; and generally relating to the response by law enforcement to requests for
10 help from victims of alleged domestic violence.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Family Law
13 Section 4–502
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2019 Replacement Volume)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Family Law**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 4-502.

2 (a) (1) Any person who alleges to have been a victim of abuse and who believes
3 there is a danger of serious and immediate personal harm may request the help of a local
4 law enforcement unit.

5 (2) A local law enforcement officer who responds to the request for help
6 shall:

7 (i) protect the person from harm when responding to the request;
8 and

9 (ii) accompany the person to the family home so that the person may
10 remove the following items, regardless of who paid for the items:

11 1. the personal clothing of the person and of any child in the
12 care of the person; and

13 2. the personal effects, including medicine or medical
14 devices, of the person and of any child in the care of the person that the person or child
15 needs immediately.

16 (b) A law enforcement officer who responds to a request described in subsection
17 (a) of this section has the immunity from liability described under § 5-610 of the Courts
18 Article.

19 (c) (1) **THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.**

20 (2) **WHEN THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF SERVES AS THE 9-1-1 POINT**
21 **OF CONTACT IN A REQUEST FOR HELP FOR ALLEGED ABUSE UNDER SUBSECTION**
22 **(A)(1) OF THIS SECTION, A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE**
23 **SHERIFF MAY RESPOND DIRECTLY TO THE REQUEST FOR HELP.**

24 (3) **THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF MAY COORDINATE WITH COUNTY**
25 **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO CARRY OUT**
26 **THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2020.

DRAFT