Maryland House Bill 954 (2015)
Deaths Involving a Law Enforcement Officer
Why the Maryland **Statistical Analysis Center**?

Required Local and State Law Enforcement agencies to provide the Maryland Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention with:

1. Information on officer-involved deaths, and
2. Officer deaths in the line of duty.
3. 3 year (retroactive) report on each
The Dilemma

July 1 – December 31, 2015

The Guardian: 7 people “killed by police”

Killed by Police.net: 9 people “killed by police”

Mapping Police Violence: 9 “police killings”
http://mappingpoliceviolence.org/states

Washington Post: 7 people “shot by police”
https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/police-shootings/
This session will provide information on:

- Background of, and rationale for, the legislation
- Considerations and hurdles to expect during the legislative process
- Implementation of the Bill
Questions???
Background of / rationale for, the legislation

Considerations / hurdles to expect during the legislative process

What type of push back should be expected by states trying to implement a law similar to HB 954?
The Process.....

Implementation Group

Procedures Guide

Identifying cases

Data Collection & Cleaning

Report Submission
The Process.....

Invited to Participate:

Delegate Alonzo T. Washington, District 22 (HB 954 Sponsor)
Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Maryland State’s Attorneys’ Association
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for Maryland
United State’s Attorney’s Office
United States Department of Justice / Bureau of Justice Statistics
Riverdale Park Police
Prince George’s County Police
Prince George’s County Sheriff
Baltimore County Police
Baltimore City Police
Hagerstown Police
Maryland State Police
American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland
Justice, Research & Statistics Association
Private Defense Attorney
Private Citizen
The Process.....

Law Enforcement Reporting Guide
HB 954 (2015)
Deaths Involving a Law Enforcement Officer

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WHICH CITIZEN DEATHS SHOULD BE REPORTED?

INCLUDE CITIZEN DEATHS:

- resulting from any use of force by state or local law enforcement personnel acting either on duty, or off duty in the capacity of a law enforcement officer
- caused by injuries sustained while attempting to elude state or local law enforcement personnel or injuries incurred after custody had been established
- in cases of suicide, only when the suicide occurs while law enforcement is present at the scene
- in cases of deaths as the result of drug overdose or medical condition, only when the fatal alcohol or other drug intoxications, or medical conditions (e.g., cardiac arrest) occurred while law enforcement was attempting to detain or arrest the subject
- occurring during the process of arrest by or in the custody of state or local law enforcement personnel
- occurring in the custody of state or local law enforcement personnel responding to a medical or mental health assistance or welfare call
- that occur while confined in lockups or booking centers run by a Maryland Law Enforcement agency
- of bystanders while law enforcement is present and/or as the result of a law enforcement action

EXCLUDE:

- deaths attributed to federal law enforcement personnel (e.g., FBI, DEA)
- any inmate death that occurred in the custody of local jails (not run by a Maryland Law Enforcement agency), state prisons, state juvenile correctional facilities, or private correctional facilities
- any death of a criminal suspect that occurred before the decedent came into contact with law enforcement
The Process.....
The Process…..

CJ-11MD Form

Deaths Involving a Law Enforcement Officer Report Form

Deceased Info
- Name
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Date of Death
- Gender
- Race

Officer Info
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Race

Type of Incident
- Homicide
- Suicide
- Medical Condition / Illness
- Natural Causes
- Accidental Injury to Self
- Overdose / Intoxication
- Other:

Details
- Description of Incidents

Reporting Official / Agency Information
- Reporting Official
- Date of Reporting
- Department/Title
- Method of Reporting
- Contact Information
The Process.....

• Work hard to remain neutral
• DON’T go directly into the stats
• Be sure to explain and clearly define each variable
• Broken down by **manner of death**
• Give them everything you have (except names)
• Utilize existing resources...don’t reinvent the wheel
Advice, and Lessons Learned

✓ Establish a SOLID POC in each agency
✓ Customer Service, work together
✓ Set a policy in place BEFOREHAND in regard to PIA requests. Try to include it in the legislation
✓ We have removed the reporting of individuals who died in local detention centers run by LE (new Bill being introduced)
✓ Try to include Federal law Enforcement Agencies operating in your state
Contact me anytime!

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