

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2025 Legislative Session**

Bill No. CB-061-2025

Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Oriadha

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction \_\_\_\_\_

**BILL**

AN ACT concerning

Police – Vehicle Pursuits Conduct and Reporting – Zoey’s Law

For the purpose of clarifying the circumstances under which Prince George’s County Police Officers may engage in vehicle pursuits; encouraging officers to minimize pursuits when enforcement can be safely delayed; providing for administrative review of vehicle pursuits; and requiring annual reporting on vehicle pursuit data.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

Sections 18-175 and 18-176,

The Prince George's County Code

(2023 Edition; 2024 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Sections 18-175 and 18-176 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

**SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.**

**DIVISION 5. POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

**SUBDIVISION 2. RULES OF CONDUCT FOR POLICE OFFICERS.**

**Sec. 18-175. [Reserved] Vehicle Pursuit Policy.**

(a) **Findings and Purpose.** The Prince George’s County Council makes the following legislative findings:

(1) Police vehicle pursuits are a complex issue. Vehicle pursuits not a routine part of

1 police work but are sometimes necessary to apprehend suspects in a timely manner and keep  
 2 communities safe.

3 (2) Vehicle pursuits are also high-risk events that put the lives of officers, suspects  
 4 and the public in jeopardy. When these pursuits result in the uninvolved people being injured or  
 5 killed, public trust in police is undermined, regardless of whether any specific police officer is at  
 6 fault.

7 (3) The circumstances that give rise to a pursuit vary greatly, and each officer  
 8 engaging in a pursuit must quickly and continuously assess a range of unfolding situational  
 9 factors. Therefore, a pursuit policy is necessary to guide decision-making in these tense  
 10 situations.

11 (4) To effectively manage the risks of these pursuits and strengthen community trust,  
 12 pursuit policy should be transparent, reflect best practices and appropriately balance the harm  
 13 presented by a suspect's escape with the risk to loss of life to uninvolved public.

14 (5) The County Council has a responsibility to the citizens of the County in ensuring  
 15 that the Police Department policy on vehicle pursuits remains updated and accountable to  
 16 community standards of public safety.

17 (b) **Vehicle Pursuits Restriction.** A member of the Police Department may engage in a  
 18 vehicle pursuit of a fleeing individual only if the officer actually or reasonably believes that the  
 19 individual:

20 (1) Has committed a felony or violent misdemeanor; or

21 (2) Poses an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to another person.

22 (c) **Deferred Enforcement.** In evaluating whether to continue a vehicle pursuit, a member  
 23 of the Police Department should consider whether sufficient information about the fleeing  
 24 vehicle and its occupants can be obtained to safely cease the pursuit and delay apprehension or  
 25 take enforcement action later.

26 (d) **Administrative Review of Vehicle Pursuits.** No later than January 1, 2026, the Police  
 27 Department shall establish an internal Pursuit Review Board. This administrative body shall  
 28 review all vehicle pursuits crashes to determine whether current pursuit policy was followed and  
 29 generally monitor Department vehicle pursuit data to identify systemic issues in policy or  
 30 practice.

31 (e) **Operator Privileges Maintained.** No portion of this Section shall infringe upon or

otherwise limit privileges provided to emergency vehicle operators under the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

**Sec. 18-176. [Reserved] Vehicle Pursuit Reporting.**

(a) **Annual Reporting.** No later than September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the Chief of Police shall submit to the County Council a report on vehicle pursuits during the prior fiscal year. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Total number of vehicle pursuits;
- (2) The reason for each vehicle pursuit;
- (3) The number of vehicle pursuits that were ceased after initiation;
- (4) The number of vehicle pursuits that resulted in a collision;
- (5) The number of vehicle pursuits that resulted in death or injury to an officer or member of the public;
- (6) The number of vehicle pursuits that were found to be within or outside of Department policy; and
- (7) Summarized data regarding: location, length and duration of vehicle pursuits; suspect demographics; and collision damage and injuries.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection, or section.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Edward P. Burroughs III  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna J. Brown  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tara H. Jackson  
Acting County Executive

KEY:  
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.  
Asterisks \*\*\* indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

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