

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-76-2024
Draft No.: 1
Committee: Health, Human Services, and Public Safety
Date: October 3, 2024
Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 5-0 (In favor Council Members: Fisher, Hawkins, Blegay, Olson, and Watson)

The Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee convened on October 3, 2024 to consider CB-76-2024.

Staff provided an overview indicating that CB-76-2024 further clarifies the Administrative Charging Committee's (ACC) mandatory responsibilities. The ACC is tasked with reviewing the findings of law enforcement agency investigations into external complaints, including allegations of misconduct occurring on or off duty, even if the citizens did not initiate the complaint.

Mr. David Williams, Legislative Budget & Policy Analyst, provided an overview of the Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact statement. CB-76-2024 clarifies the scope to align with state legislation, specifying that the ACC handles police conduct both on and off duty and addresses complaints from citizens and officers, entities, or agencies. The fiscal impact is expected to be neutral, with no significant effect on the county's finances.

Office of Law has reviewed CB-76-2024 as it was presented on September 10, 2024, and finds it to be in proper legislative form. The Office of Law sees no legal impediment to its enactment.

Written comments were received from Mrs. Harris indicating that off-duty conduct should not be a part of this legislation.

Inspector General Anthony Bennett and Isabel Williams, ACC Program Administrator, attended and spoke in support of the legislation. Inspector Bennett explained that there needed to be more clarity within the Police Department about what cases should be reviewed by the ACC,

specifically whether citizens, the department, or other administrative means initiated them. The legislation was presented to the Council to clarify that all cases involving citizens must be reviewed by the ACC and receive a determination.

After discussion, the Health, Human Services, and Public Safety committee voted favorably 5-0 on CB-76-2024.