

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

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<b>Reference No.:</b>	APPT-8-21
<b>Draft No.:</b>	1
<b>Committee:</b>	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
<b>Date:</b>	06/24/2021
<b>Action:</b>	FAV

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**REPORT:** Favorable 11-0: Council Members Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Ivey, Harrison, Streeter, Taveras and Turner.

The Prince George's County Council convened as Committee of the Whole on June 24, 2021, to consider the appointment of Mr. Kosg Malik Abdul Al' Aziz as Chief of the Prince George's County Police Department.

Pursuant to Section 322 and 504 of the County Charter, County Council action is necessary on the appointment within 45 days of transmittal which occurred on May 14.

Ms. Miriam Brewer, Appointment Liaison, Office of the County Executive provided a brief overview of Mr. Aziz's background. Mr. Aziz is a veteran of nearly 30 years in the Dallas, Texas Police Department and most recently served as a Deputy Chief of Police after rising through the ranks from serving as a patrol officer.

Acting Chief Aziz stated that the Department will partner with clinicians in response to questions about how the department will address mental illness and youth sports. He noted that his son is a quite introverted guy and he could have ended up just like Elijah McClain who is now deceased after an interaction with law enforcement. We need to know how to help people that are autistic and that have other conditions to make sure that we provide better responses.

The role of youth sports is one he appreciates from personal experience. It occupied his time and provided an outlet. The Acting Chief feels the County should be setting up secure environments for our children to enjoy. We need to look at new activities that meet the youth where they are. We must look at what we are giving and ask youth so that they have a role. Implicit bias training it is going on here and around the nation. It occurs in Prince George's County every Tuesday and the Department will complete the current training in December. Another training will follow as it's here to stay.

After questions and discussion, the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Committee of the Whole, expressed support for the appointment of Acting Chief Aziz, and voted APPT-8-21 out favorably, 11-0.