

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2004 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-83-2004
 Chapter No. 74
 Proposed and Presented by Council Member Hendershot
 Introduced by Council Members Dean and Knotts
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction November 1, 2004

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Court System - Prince George's County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
 3 For the purpose of establishing the Prince George's County Criminal Justice Coordinating
 4 Council; providing for the purpose, membership, duties, quorum, and frequency
 5 of meetings of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council; providing that the function of the
 6 Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is advisory; establishing reporting requirements; and
 7 generally relating to the Prince George's County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

8 By adding:

9 **SUBTITLE 7. COURT SYSTEM.**

10 Sections 7-601, 7-602, 7-603, 7-604, and 7-605

11 The Prince George's County Code

12 (2003 Edition).

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
 14 Maryland, that Sections 7-601, 7-602, 7-603, 7-604, and 7-605 of the Prince George's County
 15 Code be and the same are hereby added:

16 **SUBTITLE 7. COURT SYSTEM.**

17 **DIVISION 6. CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL.**

18 **Sec. 7-601. Prince George's County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.**

19 (a) In this Division, "Coordinating Council" means the Prince George's County Criminal
 20 Justice Coordinating Council.

21 (b) The purpose of the Coordinating Council is to address issues affecting the

1 administration of criminal justice in Prince George's County by identifying and solving any
 2 potential systemic problems and improving the quality of the criminal justice system.

3 (c) Consistent with its reporting obligations under Section 7-605, the authority of the
 4 Coordinating Council is advisory only.

5 **Sec. 7-602. Same; composition.**

6 (a) There is a Prince George's County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

7 (b) The Coordinating Council shall consist of the following 26 voting members:

8 (1) The County Executive of Prince George's County;

9 (2) The Chair of the Prince George's County Council;

10 (3) The Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County;

11 (4) The Administrative Judge for District 5 of the District Court of Maryland;

12 (5) The Criminal Coordinating Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's
 13 County;

14 (6) The Circuit Court Judge presiding over Juvenile Court matters;

15 (7) The Circuit Court Judge presiding over Adult Drug Court;

16 (8) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County;

17 (9) The State's Attorney for Prince George's County;

18 (10) The Sheriff of Prince George's County;

19 (11) One Member of the County Senate Delegation designated by the Chairman of the
 20 County Senate Delegation;

21 (12) One Member of the County House Delegation designated by the Chairman of the
 22 County House Delegation;

23 (13) The Prince George's County District Public Defender;

24 (14) The Superintendent of the Maryland State Police;

25 (15) The Prince George's County Director of Homeland Security;

26 (16) The Director of the Prince George's County Department of Corrections;

27 (17) The Chief of the Prince George's County Police Department;

28 (18) The Fire Chief of Prince George's County;

29 (19) The President of the Police Chiefs' Association of Prince George's County, Inc.;

30 (20) The Prince George's County Health Officer;

31 (21) The Regional Director of the Division of Parole and Probation;

(22) The Area Director, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services;

(23) The Administrative Clerk for District 5 of the District Court of Maryland;

(24) The Chair of the Prince George's County Bar Association Criminal Law Committee;

(25) The Criminal Coordinating Judge for the 5th District Court; and

(26) The Commander of the Maryland-National Capital Park Police.

(c) Presiding Officer.

(1) The Chair of the Coordinating Council is the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, or his/her designee.

(2) The Co-Vice Chairs are the County Executive and the Administrative Judge for District 5 of the District Court of Maryland or their designees.

(d) Meetings and Quorum.

(1) The Coordinating Council shall meet at least quarterly each year.

(2) For a voting session of the Coordinating Council, a quorum is a majority of voting members.

(e) Compensation and Limitation on Membership.

(1) A member of the Coordinating Council may not receive compensation for duties performed as a member of the Coordinating Council.

(2) A member who holds membership by virtue of an elected or appointed position holds membership on this Coordinating Council only during that member's term of office.

(f) Support Staff.

The Chief Administrative Officer of the County and the Court Administrator of the Circuit Court shall designate support staff to the Coordinating Council from existing personnel, and appropriations. Support staff shall be ex-officio members of the Coordinating Council.

Sec. 7-603. Same; duties and responsibilities.

The Coordinating Council shall:

(a) Provide a forum to facilitate communication among the Courts, public safety agencies and health agencies in Prince George's County.

(b) Evaluate the existing organization and adequacy of law enforcement and administration of justice in this County.

1 (c) Recommend a 3-year strategic plan for the long-range development of the County's
 2 Criminal Justice System that provides solutions for identified problem areas and achieves
 3 effective coordination of the public safety activities in the County. The Plan shall:

4 (1) Evaluate and recommend innovative ways to facilitate and expedite the
 5 management of criminal cases in Prince George's County;

6 (2) Evaluate and recommend information technology for the Courts, public safety
 7 agencies and health agencies in Prince George's County; and

8 (3) Evaluate and recommend other systemic changes in the Prince George's County
 9 Criminal Justice System.

10 (d) Review programs proposed by law enforcement, public safety agencies and health
 11 agencies for:

12 (1) Compatibility with the 3-year strategic plan;

13 (2) Compatibility with the County's approved operating budget; and

14 (3) Impact on the other public safety agencies, health agencies and the Courts.

15 (e) Recommend programs that will educate the community about law enforcement, crime
 16 prevention, and other criminal justice issues and will promote respect for the law, and encourage
 17 community involvement in law enforcement and other appropriate public safety agencies, health
 18 agencies and the Courts.

19 (f) Facilitate coordination of the programs and activities among the County law
 20 enforcement, public safety agencies, health agencies and the Courts.

21 (g) Facilitate coordination of County law enforcement, public safety agencies, health
 22 agencies and the Courts with those of the State of Maryland and neighboring State and local
 23 governments.

24 (h) Promote efficient processing of criminal cases at every stage from arrest to completion
 25 of trial and correctional programs.

26 (i) Carry out other activities to achieve fair and effective law enforcement, crime
 27 prevention, and justice.

28 **Sec. 7-604. Same; information and assistance.**

29 The agencies of the State and County government and the Courts who are members of the
 30 Coordinating Council shall provide the Coordinating Council any information and assistance, not
 31 inconsistent with law, that the Coordinating Council requests.

1 **Sec. 7-605. Same; reports and recommendation**

2 (a) The Coordinating Council shall make semi-annual reports and recommendations to the
3 County Executive, the County Council, and the Judiciary.

4 (b) The County Executive, the County Council, and the Judiciary may refer matters to the
5 Coordinating Council and the Council shall file a written report with the requesting entity.

6 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
7 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 30th day of November, 2004.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Tony Knotts
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Jack B. Johnson
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.