

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2000 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-12-2000

Proposed by Council Member Gourdine

Introduced by Council Member Gourdine

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction April 11, 2000

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Use of Deadly Force

3 For the purpose of providing that the Chief of Police and the State's Attorney cooperate to
4 provide for the prompt investigation of each incident when deadly force is used by a police
5 officer.

6 WHEREAS, the use of deadly force by police officers results in numerous deaths and
7 injuries to persons suspected of committing crimes in the County; and

8 WHEREAS, the State's Attorney is charged with the responsibility of investigating the use
9 of deadly force by police officers to determine whether the use of such force was justified; and

10 WHEREAS, the State's Attorney is responsible for prosecuting persons using deadly force
11 without justification in accordance with the applicable criminal statutes; and

12 WHEREAS, the Office of the State's Attorney is not able to evaluate whether the use of
13 deadly force is justified by the circumstances of the incident unless an independent investigation
14 of the incident scene is made prior to the removal or disposal of evidence by the investigating
15 police officers; and

16 WHEREAS, an independent investigation by the State's Attorney of the use of deadly force
17 by police officers in addition to the investigation conducted by the Police Department increases
18 public confidence in the actions of police officers; and

19 WHEREAS, an independent investigation by the State's Attorney is necessary for the
20 State's Attorney to discharge his statutory and constitutional obligations.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
22 County, Maryland, that the Chief of Police, in cooperation with the State's Attorney, is

1 encouraged to develop procedures that require the senior on-scene commander of any incident
2 where deadly force is used by a police officer to notify persons designated by the State's
3 Attorney prior to removing any evidence from the scene of such incident.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2000.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Dorothy F. Bailey
Chair

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council