



CLYDE BOATWRIGHT
STATE PRESIDENT

Maryland State Lodge
Fraternal Order of Police®

8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222



KENNETH SCHUBERT
SECRETARY
EARL KRATSCH
TREASURER

Brothers and Sisters,

President Boatwright, First Vice President Milam and I wanted to provide each of you with an update regarding the status of this year's Legislative Session. As you know, the session is underway and we have had daily discussions with the Senate and House leadership, our legal team, lobbyists, public relations firm, community stakeholders, and the State Lodge Legislative Committee. Additionally, we have already testified, or written opposition letters, on several proposed pieces of legislation.

Due to restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pending fight to protect our members from misguided police reforms, the Legislative Committee started earlier than usual this year. So far, we have reviewed and worked on more than 60 bills and are currently actively tracking approximately 40 of those bills. As of today, there are a total of 612 bills filed in the House and 506 in the Senate. While bills continue to be filed at a rapid pace, as of today, neither legislative chamber has released their "leadership sponsored" police reform bills.

While we continue to wait for these bills to be filed, which will subsequently enable us to properly craft a more specific message for dissemination to FOP members, elected representatives, and our family and friends, it is imperative that we start our messaging campaign now.

As many of you know, we have enlisted the services of a public relations firm to assist with the creation of digital and radio advertisements, a specialized website aimed at supporting sensible police reforms, and a messaging campaign for FOP members. I have attached an outline from our PR firm which explains how we can best utilize our family and friends to help spread our message. We want them to help tell our story via social media channels and, in the process, use specific "hashtags" to help humanize our profession.

Part of our strategy is to use social media platforms to guide community members and legislators towards the overwhelmingly positive aspects of the law enforcement community and toward our new "tagline:" **#KeepMarylandSafe**. We ask each of you to talk to your family, friends and associates and encourage them to participate.

We anticipate that our new [KeepMarylandSafe.com](https://www.KeepMarylandSafe.com) website will be online soon and that it will serve as an outlet for news and information pertinent to our agenda. Once available, the website will relay FOP positions on proposed legislation, and will provide an avenue to easily contact legislators with predetermined FOP messages of support or opposition. Following the filing of anticipated police reform bills, the Maryland State Lodge will produce specific talking points for each of you to discuss with your local stakeholders.

Our expectation is that the majority of this year's police reform bills will drop within the next week and that they will move quickly. Because the legislature is intent on expedient rather than quality reforms, this legislative process could be over within 30 days of the bill filings.

Representing the Professional Police Officers of the State of Maryland

Make no mistake... this will be a hard fight! The current desire of many within the legislature is to completely repeal the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights. Part of our strategy is to pressure legislators through direct contact, and to wage a full-scale messaging campaign from FOP members, associates and concerned citizens.

If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas do not hesitate to contact me.

Fraternally,

Angelo Consoli
2nd Vice President
Chair, Legislative Committee
Office 301-952-0882
Cell 301-404-9139

Representing the Professional Police



Officers of the State of Maryland