



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

August 31, 2020

Colonel Woodrow W. Jones  
Superintendent  
Maryland State Police  
1201 Reisterstown Road  
Pikesville, MD 21208

**Re: MSP's Mutual-Aid Response to Barricade Incident in the 1700 Block of E. Chase Street, Baltimore, MD - Tuesday, August 18, 2020**

Dear Superintendent Jones:

First, and foremost, we want to acknowledge that in the short, first six-months of your tenure as the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police (MSP), our state faced a unique and troubling global health pandemic that suddenly shifted our way of life and upended your team's standard operations and activities. Please accept our sincere appreciation to you, and the women and men of the Maryland State Police, for your dedication and steadfast public service to, the citizens of Maryland, in these very challenging and uncertain times due to the COVID19 emergency.

As you may be aware, MSP provided mutual aid in the form of tactical support to the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) to address a barricade situation that happened in the 1700 Block of E. Chase Street in Baltimore City on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. The incident and response lasted for nearly 40 hours, as reported by the Baltimore Sun ("**Police standoff with armed East Baltimore man ends after 40 hours**" - *The Baltimore Sun, August 20, 2020*). We are grateful that with your help, the situation ended safely without the loss of a life.

Local media reports have also described considerable property damage to the home of Mr. Randolph Scott, a retired veteran as a result of the law enforcement activities ("**Baltimore war veteran fighting new battle at home**" - *Fox45 Baltimore, August 25, 2020*). While we appreciate all of MSP's efforts, we are concerned about media reports that the City of Baltimore is expected to pay the costs of repairs for Mr. Scott's home. Given the damage was clearly done solely by MSP personnel, it seems more appropriate for the State to bear this burden.

More broadly, we would like to understand the policies and practices for such incidents.

1. What are rules managing mutual-aid agreements and incidents like this?
2. What is the mutual-aid agreements' established practice for the handling of property damage as a result of an engagement?
3. How does MSP ordinarily address incidents similar to this situation? And, does MSP have a reimbursement process for similar situations?
4. Does MSP have uniform protocols in place in respects to their respective employees handling of Maryland taxpayer's property that are indirectly impacted during barricade situations?

Your acknowledgement and responses to this specific incident as well as the policies for all incidents of this nature would be appreciated. We look forward to your response. Please don't hesitate to contact our offices with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



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Cory V. McCray  
Senator, 45<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



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Maggie McIntosh  
Chairman, Appropriations Committee