

**SOUTHERN REGION**

Robert C. Alter, *Administrator*  
(410) 974-1123

*William Preston Lane, Jr., Memorial Bridge* is one of the longest over-water steel structures in the world. It spans 4.35 miles of the Chesapeake Bay between Sandy Point on the Western Shore to a point near Stevensville on the Eastern Shore. Traffic lanes between the suspension towers are 2,922 and 1/2 feet in length and 198 and 1/2 feet above the Bay. The Bridge rises to a total height of 354 feet. This span was opened to traffic on July 30, 1952. At the request of the General Assembly, the State Roads Commission renamed the Chesapeake Bay Toll Bridge as the William Preston Lane, Jr., Memorial Bridge in 1967 (Joint Resolution no. 21, Acts of 1967). William Preston Lane, Jr. (1892-1967), served as governor from 1947 to 1951.

In 1968, Bridge and Tunnel Revenue Bonds were issued to construct a parallel bridge across the Chesapeake Bay, a crossing of the Patapsco River (Baltimore Outer Harbor) from Hawkins Point to Sparrows Point, and a connection on the Harbor Tunnel Thruway between U.S. Route 1 and Interstate 95 near Elkridge. On June 28, 1973, the parallel Bay Bridge was opened to traffic. Also

named the William Preston Lane, Jr., Memorial Bridge, this parallel bridge now is referred to as the westbound span, while the original bridge is the eastbound span.

*Governor Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge* across the Potomac River in Charles County was opened to traffic in December 1940. It links U.S. 301 between Maryland and Virginia. Originally called the Potomac River Toll Bridge, the 1.7 mile structure was renamed in 1967 by the State Roads Commission for Harry W. Nice (1877-1941), who served as governor from 1935 to 1939.

**MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION  
AUTHORITY POLICE**

Edward Hechmer, *Chief*  
(410) 288-8566

The Maryland Transportation Authority Police originated as the Toll Facilities Police, established in 1970 as part of the Maryland Transportation Authority. The Police received their present name in 1993 (Chapter 626, Acts of 1993). The Police enforce laws and control traffic at turnpike, toll bridge and tunnel facilities, and at the Baltimore/Washington International Airport.

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**DEFUNCT DEPARTMENTAL AGENCIES**

**BRIDGES**

Abolished in 1995 when the Maryland Transportation Authority reorganized by regions. Administration functions were assumed by the three regional administrations.

**DIVISION OF DRIVER CONTROL & RECORDS**  
Under the Motor Vehicle Administration, renamed Division of Driver Control in 1995.

**DIVISION OF LICENSING & SCHOOL VEHICLE SAFETY**  
Under the Motor Vehicle Administration, renamed in 1995 as the Division of Driver Licensing and School Vehicle Safety.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**  
Under the Motor Vehicle Administration, reorganized in 1995 as Planning and Engineering.

**OFFICE OF MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
Under the Mass Transit Administration, renamed Office of Transit Communications in 1995.

**SOUND BARRIER REVIEW PANEL**  
*Co-Chair:* David L. Winstead, Secretary of Transportation  
*Co-Chair:* Donald C. Fry  
*Co-Chair:* Paula C. Hollinger

*Senate members:* Gloria G. Lawlah; Donald A. Munson; Paul G. Pinsky; Ida G. Ruben.

*House members:* Norman H. Conway; Peter Franchot; Katherine Klausmeier; Anita J. Stup.

Staff: John M. Lewis (410) 865-1098

The Sound Barrier Review Panel was organized in 1995. The Panel submitted a final report to the Governor on January 10, 1996.

**TUNNELS**  
Abolished in 1995 when the Maryland Transportation Authority reorganized by regions. Administration functions were assumed by the three regional administrations.

**TURNPIKES**  
Abolished in 1995 when the Maryland Transportation Authority reorganized by regions. Administration functions were assumed by the three regional administrations.

**WORLD TRADE CENTER—BALTIMORE**  
Under Maryland Port Administration, reorganized as World Trade Center Marketing and Leasing in 1994 and placed under Financial Services.