



**Maryland Department of Transportation**  
The Secretary's Office

**Martin O'Malley**  
Governor

**Anthony G. Brown**  
Lt. Governor

**John D. Porcari**  
Secretary

**Beverley K. Swaim-Staley**  
Deputy Secretary

October 14, 2008

The Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller  
Co-Chairman, Legislative Policy Committee  
H-107 State House  
Annapolis MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Co-Chairman, Legislative Policy Committee  
H-101 State House  
Annapolis MD 21401-1991

Dear Chairmen:

Attached is a report concerning the *Reduction of Outstanding Arrest Warrants* as required in House Bill 1259, Chapter 683, Acts 2000 (MSAR #458). The language directs:

*"That the Motor Vehicle Administration, in consultation with the primary law enforcement officers in the State that provide information to the Administration under Section 1 of this Act regarding individuals named in outstanding arrest warrants, shall report to the General Assembly pursuant to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article by October 1, 2002 and each year thereafter on the effectiveness of this Act in reducing the number of outstanding arrest warrants in those jurisdictions that provide arrest warrant information to the Administration."*

If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. John Kuo, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration at 410-768-7274. Of course, you should always feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

John D. Porcari  
Secretary

Attachment

cc: Members of the Legislative Policy Committee  
Mr. John Kuo, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration

bcc: Ms. Sarah Albert, Library Associate, Mandated State Agency Reports, Library  
& Information Services Division, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)  
Mr. Joseph C. Bryce, Chief Legislative Officer, Governor's Office  
Mr. Jack Cahalan, Director, Office of Public Affairs, Maryland Department  
of Transportation  
Mr. Phil Dacey, Manager, Office of External Affairs, Motor Vehicle Administration  
Ms. Jaclyn Dixon, Legislative Analyst, Office of Policy Analysis, Department  
of Legislative Services  
Mr. Bruce W. Gartner, Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Governmental Affairs,  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
Mr. David Grossman, Budget Analyst, Department of Budget and Management  
Mr. Martin L. Harris, State Legislative Officer, Maryland Department of Transportation  
Mr. Kevin Hughes, Deputy Chief, Governor's Legislative Office  
Mr. Jon Martin, Legislative Analyst, Department of Legislative Services  
Mr. David Smulski, Committee Staff, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Ms. Wonza Spann-Nicholas, Deputy Director, Office of Finance, Maryland Department  
of Transportation  
Ms. Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of  
Transportation  
Mr. Jeff Tosi, Legislative Analyst, Maryland Department of Transportation  
Mr. Joshua A. Watters, Committee Staff, House Appropriations Committee

A Report to the Maryland General Assembly

Regarding

Reduction of Outstanding Arrest Warrants  
(HB 1259, Chapter 683, Acts of 2000)

The Maryland Department of Transportation

October 2008

## Reduction of Outstanding Arrest Warrants (HB 1259 – Chapter 683, Acts of 2000)

This annual report was prepared in response to language contained in HB 1259 (Chapter 683, Acts of 2000). Specifically, the language directs:

*“That the Motor Vehicle Administration, in consultation with the primary law enforcement officers in the State that provide information to the Administration under Section 1 of this Act regarding individuals named in outstanding arrest warrants, shall report to the General Assembly pursuant to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article by October 1, 2002 and each year thereafter on the effectiveness of this Act in reducing the number of outstanding arrest warrants in those jurisdictions that provide arrest warrant information to the Administration.”*

This Act directed that the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) suspend an individual's driver's license and refuse to register or transfer the registration of the individual's vehicles if the individual is named in an outstanding arrest warrant (OAW). The legislation specifically says that the program is optional for local police agencies. Despite this, the MVA has reached out to State and local law enforcement agencies on numerous occasions, initially working to design the program and more recently to acquaint police officers with the program benefits and operation. All law enforcement agencies have been mailed details on the programs on several occasions. Currently, 48 jurisdictions have enrolled in the program, but only 26 actively participate (up from 46 and 24, respectively, during the same period last year).

Since the program's inception on December 1, 2001, only about 14% of all law enforcement agencies in Maryland have either participated or enrolled to participate. Although this program is clearly successful, and despite MVA's efforts to recruit more jurisdictions, only two additional law enforcement agencies have opted to participate over the past year.

As reported last year, the MVA is continuing to work with the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to develop an automated interaction between the Outstanding Arrest Warrant Program and the current Miles System (used by law enforcement). Once the updates are completed, law enforcement agencies who are participants in the OAW program will no longer need to enter the warrant information into two separate systems, thus eliminating duplicative steps.

As for the effectiveness of the program, from September 2007 to August 2008, we again saw solid increases. Last year's report showed that approximately 52% of the arrest warrant notices submitted were satisfied (31,319 satisfied out of 60,201 notices issued). This year, those numbers have correspondingly increased – 54% (37,980 out of 70,054).

As you can see from the tables on page 2, it appears that the system is working well for the jurisdictions that opt to participate – the annual number of outstanding warrants that are reported by the participating law enforcement agencies, the number of suspensions imposed by the MVA, and the number of warrants that are satisfied are concurrently increasing. As we said previously, the number of participating jurisdictions is also increasing. However, along with the program's success comes the need for additional MVA resources. One concern of the MVA's is the possibility of incidences between customers and MVA employees, although there are no notable conflicts to date. Additional security is an important goal of the MVA.

## Reduction of Outstanding Arrest Warrants (HB 1259 – Chapter 683, Acts of 2000)

<b>Outstanding Arrest Warrant Statistical Totals</b>						
October 2004 through July 2008						
<b>Law Enforcement Agency</b>	<b>Date Joined</b>	<b>Notices</b>	<b>Suspended</b>	<b>Mistaken</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Removed</b>
Baltimore Co. Police Dept.	12/4/2001	13,725	11,801	7	9,153	0
Baltimore Co. Sheriff's Office	3/21/2002	1,489	1,307	0	985	0
Rockville City Police Dept.	5/1/2002	1,020	797	2	735	0
Carroll Co. Sheriff's Office	5/11/2002	271	201	0	195	0
Washington Co. Sheriff's Office	7/2/2002	1,751	1,447	0	1,252	3
MSP: Glen Burnie Barracks	7/16/2002	1,110	731	5	575	5
MSP: Westminster Barracks	9/26/2002	446	389	1	282	0
Charles Co. Sheriff's Office	10/23/2002	1,586	1,269	8	698	0
Howard Co. Sheriff's Office	10/28/2002	733	500	5	455	3
Harford Co. Sheriff's Office	11/13/2002	7,124	5,542	2	3,863	147
MSP: Hagerstown Barracks	3/24/2003	18	10	0	9	0
MSP: Salisbury Barracks	3/25/2003	25	23	0	17	0
MSP: North East Barracks	3/25/2003	287	175	6	39	0
MSP: Leonardtown Barracks	3/25/2003	2	1	0	1	0
Anne Arundel Co. Sheriff's Ofc.	3/26/2003	16,165	8,095	25	6,741	0
MSP: McHenry Barracks	3/26/2003	0	0	0	0	0
MSP: Annapolis Barracks	3/27/2003	644	297	1	296	0
Garrett Co. Sheriff's Office	5/14/2003	5	0	0	0	0
Montgomery Co. Police Dept.	7/14/2003	20,260	16,272	5	11,507	3
Frederick Police Department	7/21/2003	901	540	1	303	0
Howard Co. Police Dept.	8/19/2004	1,164	721	4	558	0
Caroline Co. Sheriff's Dept.	1/04/2005	43	29	0	21	0
Dorchester Sheriff's Office	3/24/2005	540	298	2	228	0
Queen Anne's Co. Sheriff's Ofc.	11/23/2005	92	62	0	46	0
Frederick County Sheriff's Ofc.	4/30/2008	21	0	0	0	0
Baltimore City Police Dept.	4/30/2008	632	367	0	21	0
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>70,054</b>	<b>50,874</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>37,980</b>	<b>161</b>

### 5-Year Overview of Outstanding Arrest Warrant Program

	October 2004	October 2005	October 2006	October 2007	October 2008
Jurisdictions	43	44	46	46	48
Notices Sent	22,179	34,269	47,655	60,201	70,054
License Suspended	15,839	24,908	34,567	43,887	50,874
Warrants Satisfied	8,748	15,665	23,246	31,319	37,980
Mistaken Identity	36	50	57	161	161

#### Transactions Denied

09/06/2004 – 07/05/2008

Registrations Denied	Driver's Licenses Denied
3,310	2,045

## **Reduction of Outstanding Arrest Warrants** **(HB 1259 – Chapter 683, Acts of 2000)**

Agencies Currently enrolled and set-up with the ability to transmit warrant referral, but have not entered any referrals include:

MSP: Forrestville Barracks  
MSP: Jessup/Waterloo Barracks  
MSP: Rockville Barracks  
MSP: College Park Barracks  
MSP: JFK Highway Barracks  
MSP: Cambridge Barracks  
MSP: Berlin Barracks  
MSP: Centreville Barracks

MSP: Chestertown Barracks  
MSP: Somerset Co. Barracks  
MSP: Bel Air Barracks  
MSP: Essex/Golden Ring Barracks  
MSP: Perryville Barracks  
MSP: Waldorf/La Plata Barracks  
MSP: Pr. Fredericks Barracks/Barrack U  
MSP: Denton Barracks

MSP: Cumberland Barracks  
MSP: Frederick Barracks  
MSP: Easton Barracks – Barrack I  
Town of Manchester Police Dept.  
Prince George's Co. Sheriff's Office  
Ridgeley Police Department