



Maryland Department of Transportation
The Secretary's Office

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley
Secretary

Harold M. Bartlett
Deputy Secretary

September 24, 2009

The Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller
President, Maryland Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker, Maryland House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis MD 21401-1991

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

Attached is a report concerning the *Reduction of Outstanding Arrest Warrants* as required in House Bill 1259, Chapter 683, Acts of 2000. 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,

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley
Secretary

Attachment

cc: Members of the Budget Committees
Mr. John Kuo, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration

A Report to the Maryland General Assembly

Regarding

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

The Maryland Department of Transportation

October 2009

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

This annual report was prepared in response to language contained in HB 1259, (Chapter 683, Acts 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, 46 agencies have enrolled in the program, with 43 agencies/barracks actively participating; an increase from the 26 agencies/barracks that were actively participating as of last years report.

It appears that each year, the 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 at a significant rate. The MVA's primary concern is the possibility of incidences between customers and MVA employees, although there are no notable conflicts to date. To that end, the MVA will continue to closely monitor these situations; the MVA considers the safety and security of its employees of paramount importance.

Since the program's inception on December 1, 2001, only 48 law enforcement agencies, approximately 14% of all law enforcement agencies in Maryland, have either participated or enrolled to participate. While Maryland State Police (MSP) counts as one agency there are 23 Barracks that participate. Although this program is clearly successful, only two additional law enforcement agencies have opted to participate over the past year.

The Motor Vehicle Administration is currently working 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.

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

Outstanding Arrest Warrant Statistical Totals						
October 2004 through July 2009						
Law Enforcement Agency	Date Joined	Notices	Suspended	Mistaken	Satisfied	Removed
Anne Arundel Co. Sheriff's Office	03/26/2003	18,804	9,444	25	8,072	0
Baltimore City Police Dept.	04/30/2008	4,555	3,367	19	1,908	2
Baltimore Co. Police Dept.	12/04/2001	15,702	13,508	7	10,793	0
Baltimore Co. Sheriff's Office	03/21/2009	1,696	1,490	0	1138	0
Caroline Co. Sheriff's Office	01/04/2005	51	34	1	27	0
Carroll Co. Sheriff's Office	05/11/2002	272	201	0	201	0
Charles Co. Sheriff's Office	10/23/2002	1,590	1,271	9	738	0
Dorchester Co Sheriff's Office	03/24/2005	594	335	2	265	0
Frederick Co. Police Dept	07/21/2003	937	566	1	332	0
Frederick Co. Sheriff's Office	04/30/2008	21	17	0	6	0
Garrett Co. Sheriff's Office	05/05/2003	0	0	0	0	0
Harford Co. Sheriff's Office	11/13/2002	7,773	6,076	2	4,419	147
Howard Co. Police Dept.	08/19/2004	1,555	1,013	5	766	0
Howard Co. Sheriff's Office	10/28/2002	737	502	5	472	3
Montgomery Co. Police Dept.	07/14/2003	24,403	19,461	5	14,421	3
Queen Anne's Co. Sheriff's Office	11/23/2005	92	62	0	49	0
Rockville City Police Dept.	05/01/2002	1,165	902	3	851	0
Washington Co. Sheriff's Office	07/02/2002	1,876	1,587	0	1,390	3
MD Transportation Auth./BWI	10/29/2008	6	5	0	2	0
MD Transportation Authority	10/23/2008	5	0	0	1	0
MSP: Annapolis Barracks	03/27/2003	644	297	1	300	0
MSP: Berlin Barracks	07/06/2009	111	0	0	1	0
MSP: Centreville Barracks	07/06/2009	127	0	10	0	0
MSP: College Park Barracks	07/06/2009	3	0	0	0	0
MSP: Cumberland Barracks	07/06/2009	1	1	0	1	0
MSP: D Barracks	07/06/2009	108	0	0	0	0
MSP: Forrestville Barracks	07/06/2009	2	0	0	0	0
MSP: Frederick Barracks	07/06/2009	68	0	0	1	0
MSP: Glen Burnie Barracks	07/16/2002	1,192	743	5	593	5
MSP: Golden Ring Barracks	07/06/2009	150	0	0	2	1
MSP: Hagerstown Barracks	03/24/2003	109	30	0	14	0
MSP: JFK Barracks	07/26/2009	149	88	0	7	0
MSP: LaPlata Barracks	07/06/2009	4	0	0	0	0
MSP: Leonardtown Barracks	03/25/2003	43	1	0	2	0
MSP: McHenry Barracks	03/26/2003	48	0	0	0	0
MSP: N Barracks	07/06/2009	367	0	0	6	0
MSP: North East Barracks	03/25/2003	372	197	7	58	0
MSP: Prince Frederick Barracks	07/06/2009	110	0	0	2	0
MSP: Princess Anne Barracks	07/06/2009	11	0	0	0	0
MSP: Salisbury Barracks	03/25/2003	208	23	0	18	0
MSP: Talbot/Caroline/Dorchester	07/06/2009	433	0	0	4	0
MSP: Waterloo Barracks	07/06/2009	179	115	0	35	0
MSP: Westminster Barracks	09/26/2002	553	397	1	304	0
TOTALS		86,826	61,733	108	47,199	164

Additionally, the following agencies are enrolled and set-up with the ability to transmit warrant referrals, but have not entered referrals to date:

- ◇ Town of Manchester Police Dept.
- ◇ Prince George's Co. Sheriff's Office
- ◇ Ridgeley Police Department

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

5-Year Overview of Outstanding Arrest Warrant Program					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Jurisdictions	44	46	46	48	46
Notices Sent	34,269	13,386	12,546	9,853	16,772
License Suspended	24,908	9,659	9,320	6,987	10,859
Warrants Satisfied	15,665	7,581	8,073	6,661	9,219
Mistaken Identity	50	7	104	0	3

MVA Transactions Denied 09/06/2004 – 08/20/2009	
Registrations Denied	Driver's Licenses Denied
4,048	2,282