



# News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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## **Baltimore City Detention Center Shakedown Yields Significant Contraband Seizure**

### ***Phones, Marijuana, Knives, Tobacco***

TOWSON, MD (May 22, 2009)---Acting on information gleaned from the confiscation of a single cell phone, correctional staff at the Baltimore City Detention Center recovered a significant amount of contraband from one housing area, known as "D Section."

A random search yielded the single cell phone on Thursday, May 21. Information taken from the phone raised officers' suspicions that more contraband was in the area. That's when the shakedown turned up:

- 6 cell phones
- 3 chargers
- 11 homemade knives
- 2 store-bought knives
- 26 packages of tobacco, weighing approximately 1 ½ pounds
- 21 packages of cigarette rolling papers
- 7 lighters
- 1 small bag of suspected marijuana

The Detention Center is part of the Maryland Division of Pretrial Detention and Services, under the leadership of Howard Ray, Jr., which has undertaken a major contraband and violence reduction effort that has paid off dramatically: there has not been a single serious assault against staff in three years.

Internal Investigative Unit detectives are now handing the case.

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[www.dpscs.state.md.us](http://www.dpscs.state.md.us)