



Montgomery  
County Council

**Committee:** PS  
**Committee Review:** At a future date  
**Staff:** Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney  
**Purpose:** To introduce agenda item – no vote expected  
**Keywords:** #TransparentAndAccountablePolicing

AGENDA ITEM #4A  
October 15, 2019  
**Introduction**

## SUBJECT

Bill 33-19, Police – Community Policing  
Lead Sponsors: Council President Navarro and Councilmember Rice  
Co-Sponsors: Councilmembers Hucker, Albornoz, and Jawando

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

## COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- To introduce Bill – no vote expected

## DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Bill 33-19 would set certain community policing guidelines, require the Montgomery County Police Department to make certain reports and make certain legislative findings.

## SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- None

### This report contains:

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**MEMORANDUM**

October 10, 2019

TO: County Council

FROM: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney *A. Mihill*

SUBJECT: Bill 33-19, Police – Community Policing

PURPOSE: Introduction – no Council vote required

Bill 33-19, Police – Community Policing, sponsored by Lead Sponsors Council President Navarro and Councilmember Rice and Co-Sponsors Councilmembers Huckler, Alborno, and Jawando, is scheduled to be introduced on October 15. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for January 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Bill 33-19 would set certain community policing guidelines, require the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) to make certain reports and make certain legislative findings. A memorandum from the Lead Sponsor is attached on ©6.<sup>1</sup>

In an e-mail to the Council President’s office, a representative of the Fraternal Order of Police was supportive of providing community policing guidelines to MCPD, but was not supportive of the reporting requirements.

This packet contains:	<u>Circle #</u>
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Bill No. 33-19  
Concerning: Police – Community Policing  
Revised: 9/23/2019 Draft No. 3  
Introduced: October 15, 2019  
Expires: April 15, 2021  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Lead Sponsors: Council President Navarro and Councilmember Rice  
Co-Sponsor: Councilmembers Hucker, Alborno, and Jawando

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) set certain community policing guidelines;
- (2) require the Montgomery County Police Department to make certain reports;
- (3) make certain legislative findings; and
- (4) generally amend the law governing policing.

By amending

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 35, Police  
Section 35-6

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
<b>[Single boldface brackets]</b>	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
<b>[[Double boldface brackets]]</b>	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           **Sec. 1. Section 35-6 is amended as follows:**

2   **35-6. [Reserved] Community Policing.**

3       **(a) Legislative findings.**

4           **(1) The United States Department of Justice advises that:**

5               **(A) Strong relationships of mutual trust between police agencies**  
6               **and the communities they serve are critical to maintaining**  
7               **public safety and effective policing.**

8               **(B) Police officials rely on the cooperation of community**  
9               **members to provide information about crime in their**  
10              **neighborhoods, and to work with the police to devise**  
11              **solutions to crime and disorder problems.**

12              **(C) Community members' willingness to trust the police**  
13              **depends on whether they believe that police actions reflect**  
14              **community values and incorporate the principles of**  
15              **procedural justice and legitimacy.**

16           **(2) The Police Executive Research Forum hosted a national meeting**  
17           **of police and community leaders. The following key issues and**  
18           **recommendations were determined to be useful to help police**  
19           **departments and their communities to develop collaborative**  
20           **strategies for moving forward. Police departments should:**

21               **(A) acknowledge and discuss with communities the challenges**  
22               **local police departments face;**

23               **(B) be transparent and accountable;**

24               **(C) take steps to reduce bias and improve cultural competency;**

25               **(D) maintain focus on the importance of collaboration and be**  
26               **visible in the community; and**

27                   (E) promote internal diversity and ensure professional growth  
 28   opportunities.

29       (b) Community policing guidelines. To further community policing  
 30                   objectives:

31                   (1) officers must strive to regularly initiate and engage in positive  
 32   nonenforcement activities with their communities;

33                   (2) the Department must ensure cultural competency throughout the  
 34   Department;

35                   (3) the Department must emphasize the recruitment of candidates with  
 36   ties to the County;

37                   (4) the Department must increase community outreach initiatives and  
 38   officers must attend community events on behalf of the  
 39   Department;

40                   (5) the Department must provide adequate training in de-escalation  
 41   tactics; and

42                   (6) the Department must maintain and expand the School Resource  
 43   Officer Program, in recognition of its value to the community.

44       (c) Reporting requirements.

45                   (1) By February 1 each year, the Montgomery County Department of  
 46   Police must report the following information to the Executive and  
 47   Council for the prior calendar year:

48   (A) the total number of sworn police officers in the Department;

49   (B) the total number of sworn racial minority police officers in  
 50   the Department by race and ethnicity;

51   (C) the total number of sworn female police officers in the  
 52   Department;

- 53 (D) the number of sworn police officers in the Department that  
 54 reside in the County;
- 55 (E) the number of recruiting events the Department sponsored  
 56 or participated in the County;
- 57 (F) the number of instances of use of force that resulted in the  
 58 transport of a civilian to a hospital by an emergency vehicle,  
 59 when the injury occurred as a direct result of an officer's  
 60 actions;
- 61 (G) the number of civilian complaints about the use of force by  
 62 an officer;
- 63 (H) the number of officers who were suspended with pay;
- 64 (I) the number of officers who were suspended without pay;
- 65 (J) the percentage of patrol officers who were assigned to  
 66 neighborhood patrols;
- 67 (K) the number of youth under the age of 18 years referred to  
 68 intervention programs by officers; and
- 69 (L) a description of the Department's community policing  
 70 efforts, including community policing programs,  
 71 participation in town hall meetings, and efforts to engage  
 72 with schools, recreation centers, community centers, and  
 73 senior centers.

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## LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 33-19

*Police – Community Policing*

**DESCRIPTION:** Bill 33-19 would set certain community policing guidelines; require the Montgomery County Police Department to make certain reports; and make certain legislative findings.

**PROBLEM:** Community policing is an important policing tool, but there are currently no measures in County law providing guidance on community policing.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:** To provide MCPD with guidance regarding community policing.

**COORDINATION:** MCPD

**FISCAL IMPACT:** To be requested.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** To be requested.

**EVALUATION:** To be researched.

**EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE:** To be researched.

**SOURCE OF INFORMATION:** Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney (240) 777-7815

**APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES:** N/A

**PENALTIES:** Not applicable.



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT NANCY NAVARRO  
DISTRICT 4**

**CHAIR, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND  
FISCAL POLICY COMMITTEE**

**EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

**MEMORANDUM**

Tuesday October 1, 2019

**TO:** Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Nancy Navarro, President, County Council  
**SUBJECT:** Community Policing Bill- Introduction

I, alongside Councilmember Craig Rice, am transmitting for introduction a new Community Policing Bill. The bill provides broad guidelines which the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) can employ to promote core community policing values among officers, such as striving to ensure cultural competency throughout the Department, engaging in positive non-enforcement activities with members of the community, and appropriate training in de-escalation tactics. The bill also spells out specific reporting requirements for the MCPD and would require that it provides the Council and Executive certain data and information for the previous calendar year by February 1 of each year. Information collected would include data on officer demographics, use of force complaints, and descriptions of specific outreach/community policing initiatives.

This bill provides a more solid community policing framework for the Department to operate under. Montgomery County has changed, and we, as legislators, have a responsibility to guide our institutions to better reflect who we are as a community. I would like to thank my Council colleagues, and our partners in the law enforcement community, for their continued partnership as we strive to create a more inclusive, and responsive, county. Please let me know as soon as possible, if you would like to be a co-sponsor of this important bill.

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