

Executive Order

Protecting the Rights and Well-Being of Baltimore City Residents

WHEREAS, the City of Baltimore affirms its commitment to public safety policies rooted in investments in violence prevention, education, economic opportunity, and constitutional policing that uphold civil and human rights for all; and

WHEREAS, Baltimore has achieved historic reductions in violent crime through investments in community-based violence intervention programs, demonstrating the effectiveness of prevention and community trust; and

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) operates under the local control and authority of the City of Baltimore; and

WHEREAS, BPD holds its officers to the highest standards of integrity and accountability and remains steadfast in its commitment to building trust and advancing community-oriented policing; and

WHEREAS, BPD is dedicated to upholding the U.S. Constitution and enforcing laws fairly, impartially, and ethically, while maintaining a culture of service that values the sanctity of human life and prioritizes the safety and well-being of all Baltimore residents; and

WHEREAS, trust between residents and local law enforcement is essential to building a safer Baltimore: one in which every person feels protected and respected regardless of race, ethnicity, or immigration status; and

WHEREAS, the deployment of federal enforcement agents to cities across the United States has created chaos and fear within communities, raised serious concerns regarding civil rights violations, contributed to violent and deadly confrontations between civilians and law enforcement agents, and eroded trust in public institutions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Baltimore reaffirms its commitment to upholding the dignity, safety, and rights of all residents and to maintaining its status as a Welcoming City that is safe, inclusive, and equitable for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brandon M. Scott, Mayor of the City of Baltimore, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. Protecting the Rights and Well-Being of Residents

1. The City shall make available clear and accessible information about residents' constitutional rights in relation to interactions with city, state, and federal law enforcement or U.S. Armed Forces personnel, including resources to mitigate any resulting harm.
2. The City shall pursue all legal avenues to challenge any federal action that violates the constitutional rights of Baltimore residents, including the rights to free speech, assembly, and due process.
3. The City shall reinforce internal protocols, in accordance with the City Administrator's Guidelines on Access to City Facilities and the Maryland Values Act, to ensure appropriate responses to any attempted immigration enforcement activities on City property or within City facilities.
4. The City shall collaborate with contractors working on City property or in City facilities to ensure their employees are informed of and trained in these protocols.
5. The City shall regularly submit Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to obtain information related to immigration enforcement activity within Baltimore City, including:
 - a. Dates, times, and locations of enforcement actions;
 - b. Names of individuals arrested or detained;
 - c. The stated basis or alleged criminal conduct underlying such actions; and

- d. Policies governing the identification or concealment of federal officers, including badges, uniforms, and other identifiers.

Section 2. Retaining Local Control of the Baltimore Police Department

1. The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) shall remain a locally controlled law enforcement agency.
2. Pursuant to BPD Policies 804 and 1021, BPD officers shall uphold the constitutional rights of all individuals, including the rights to free speech, to peaceful assembly, and to observe and record police activity without interference or retaliation. In addition, officers shall not engage in, assist, or support immigration enforcement, except when responding to a direct threat to life or public safety or when required to safely execute a criminal warrant signed by a judge.
3. Unless otherwise directed, BPD officers shall wear department-issued uniforms and equipment appropriate to the occasion and circumstances while on duty.
4. BPD officers must, upon request, provide their rank, name, and badge number to any member of the public.
5. In the interest of accountability and public safety, all federal law enforcement agents and U.S. servicemembers operating in Baltimore are urged to adhere to the same transparency standards regarding identification when interacting with anyone.
6. BPD shall not engage in, assist, or support immigration enforcement except when responding to a direct threat to life or public safety, executing a criminal warrant or court order, or being assigned to a Homeland Security Investigations task force for activities unrelated to immigration enforcement. Any requests from federal agencies to assist in civil immigration operations must be reported, declined, and documented through the BPD officer's chain of command.
7. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as precluding BPD officers from:
 - a. Conducting lawful and appropriate law enforcement activity in response to an immediate public safety concern;
 - b. Cooperating with federal law enforcement agencies consistent with applicable law and existing intergovernmental agreements; or
 - c. Allowing undercover or covert officers, acting pursuant to lawful orders, to conceal their identities in the performance of their duties.

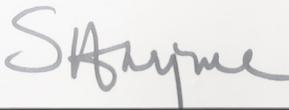
Section 3. Restriction on the Use of City Property

1. The Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Real Estate, and any other City agency with authority over physical property shall not allow any City-owned or City-controlled property—including but not limited to City-owned buildings, parks, parking lots, and any interior or exterior portion thereof—to be used as an unpermitted staging area, processing location, or operations base or for any similar purpose in furtherance of civil immigration enforcement operations, unless federal officials have obtained a valid court order or judicial warrant.

Section 4. Pro Bono Work

1. The Mayor authorizes the City Solicitor and any City attorneys to represent residents involved in immigration proceedings on a pro bono basis provided that there are no separate conflicts of interests and the representation is voluntary on the part of the attorney.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I HAVE HEREUNTO PLACED MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE THIS 2nd DAY OF March 2026.



CUSTODIAN OF THE CITY SEAL

ATTEST:



BRANDON M. SCOTT,
MAYOR
CITY OF BALTIMORE

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL
SUFFICIENCY BY THE BALTIMORE CITY LAW DEPARTMENT



EBONY THOMPSON,
CITY SOLICITOR



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