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September 15, 2021

To the Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police,

Effective October 1, 2021, the Office of Attorney General's Independent Investigations Division and the Maryland State Police will lead the criminal investigation of police-involved fatalities, as mandated by Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article, § 6-106.2.

While this process presents many challenges, it also offers the opportunity for us together to demonstrate to the public our ability to conduct investigations that are thorough, unbiased, and responsive. We have spoken to many of you as we have developed plans for this process, and we are grateful for the input and assistance you have provided. These investigations will require cooperation across all aspects of law enforcement. We understand that, as the new process commences, opportunities for improvements, adjustments, and changes will present themselves. We hope that you will give us your feedback and suggestions, and we look forward to continuing to work together as these investigations unfold.

Attached to this letter are protocols for handling officer-involved fatalities starting on October 1. These protocols cover initial notification, media policy, and evidence-gathering. Please share these with your staffs and keep them accessible for when incidents arise.

You can reach an on-call member of the IID investigations team at any time at (410) 576-7070, or an MSP duty officer at (410) 653-4200.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian E. Frosh'.

Brian E. Frosh
Attorney General of Maryland

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Woodrow W. Jones III'.

Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III
Superintendent
Maryland Department of State Police

Attachment