



**City of Baltimore**  
**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

**2024 Annual Report**

**July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024**

Prepared By: The Mayor's Office of  
Neighborhood Safety & Engagement (MONSE)

## FY24 Members

- **The Hon. Brandon M. Scott**, Chair  
Mayor, City of Baltimore
- **Nick J. Mosby**  
President, Baltimore City Council
- **Ivan J. Bates**  
State’s Attorney, Baltimore City (BCSAO)
- **Sam Cogen**  
Sheriff, Baltimore City
- **Richard Worley**  
Police Commissioner, Baltimore Police Department (BPD)
- **Carolyn Scruggs**  
Secretary, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- **Walter Nolley**  
Executive Deputy Director, Division of Parole and Probation, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- **Vincent Schiraldi**  
Secretary, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- **Marguerite Lanaux**  
District Public Defender, Baltimore City, Maryland Office of the Public Defender (MOPD)
- **James Wallner**  
Assistant United States Attorney, District of Maryland
- **Dorothy Lennig**  
Executive Director, Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP)

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## Mission and Goals

The Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) is a partnership of senior decision-makers and elected officials who convene on a regular basis to improve the administration of justice. The CJCC's mission is to identify criminal justice issues that cut across branches and levels of government; promote systemwide accountability and cooperation; and implement coordinated solutions. The inclusion of key agency stakeholders from across the criminal justice system enables the CJCC to function as a primary forum to break down silos and strengthen cross-agency communication, coordination, and transparency in developing policy recommendations.

## FY24 Accomplishments

During FY24, the CJCC continued to utilize workgroups to address specific topics and needs around improving public safety coordination and making practical systems-level improvements. This included the establishment of a new workgroup focused on community justice issues, and the continuation of existing workgroups focused on domestic violence, warrants, data, fines and fees reform, and pre-trial issues. An overview of each of the six CJCC workgroups is provided on page 14 of this report.

Looking ahead, Mayor Scott, in partnership with the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP), began to engage the Administrative Judges of the Circuit and District Courts around future collaborations in FY25. The participation of the Judiciary along with executive-level officials and other public safety partners in collaborative problem-solving and intergovernmental information-sharing will help to advance coordinated solutions to criminal justice issues and ensure the greatest impact.

### Accomplishments

FY24 achievements included:

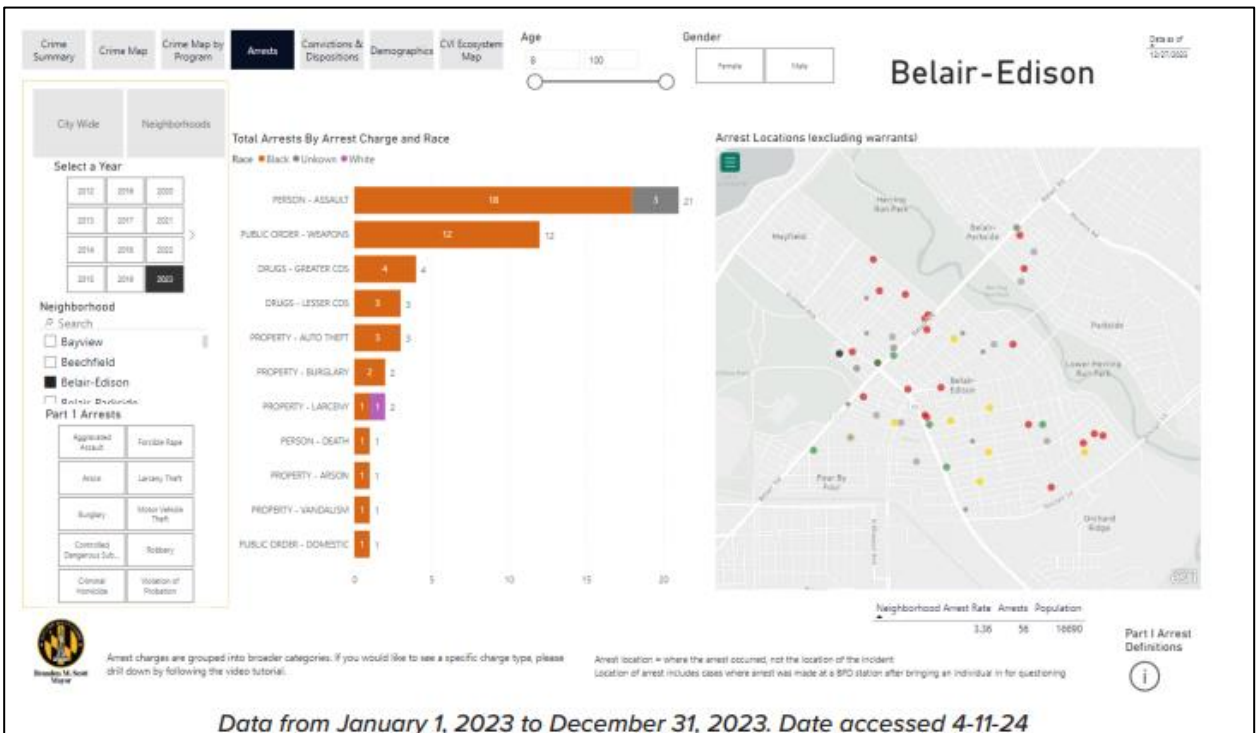
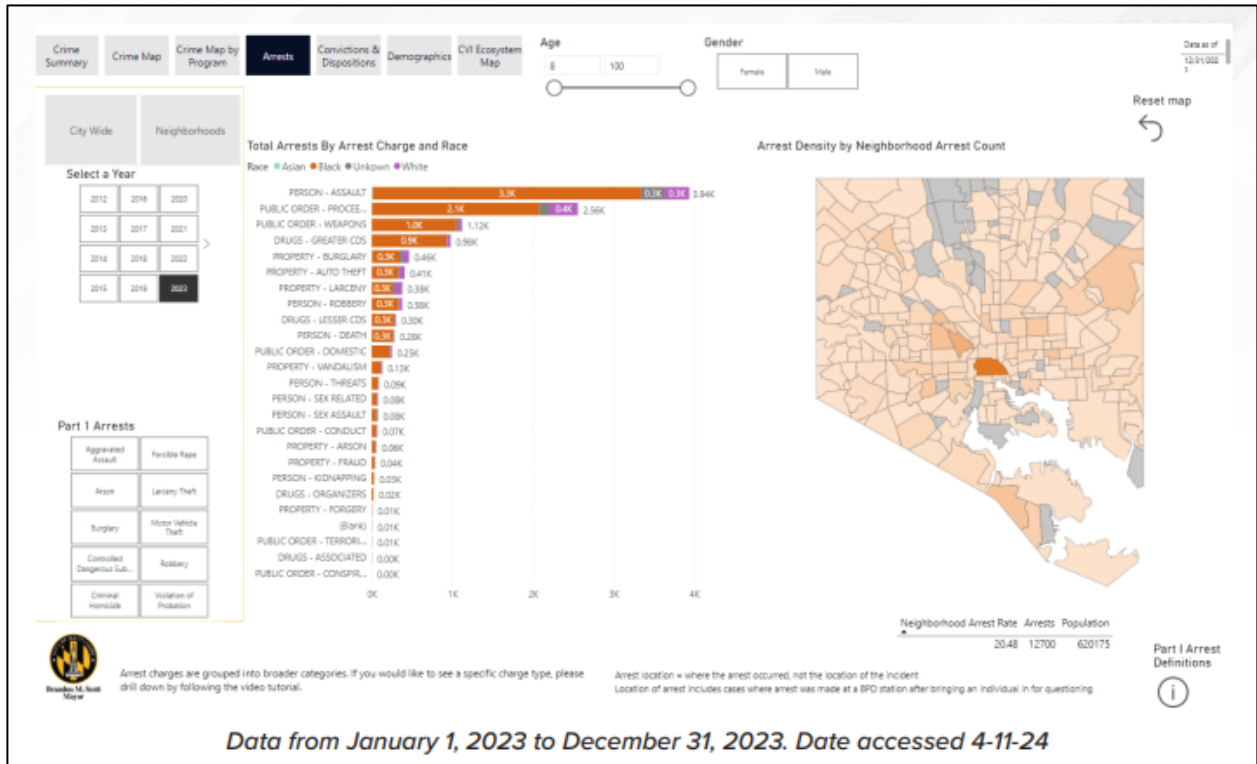
- Formation of the Community Justice workgroup, co-chaired by representatives from the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) and the Maryland Office of the Public Defender (MOPD). Workgroup leaders met with community stakeholders to identify and understand community justice needs, including coordination gaps; and explored potential workgroup focus areas including the possibility of developing an auto theft diversion program for youth and/or emerging adults.
- The DVCC worked to narrow its focus areas, preliminarily homing in on three goals:
  - Enhance culturally responsive services.
  - Evidence-informed primary prevention: change attitudes about domestic violence.
  - Identify and implement offender-focused assessments to inform interventions.

- The Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) addressed a previous gap in workgroup representation by adding IPV survivor testimony and participation in meetings.
- Preliminary development of an improved Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Stat, including an automated dashboard and expansion of data sources, to track and monitor trends and promote a more timely, in-depth analysis of IPV incidents. The updated IPV Stat will serve as an accountability tool for the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE), Baltimore Police Department (BPD), and community-based providers to meet the needs of survivors and identify additional prevention and intervention points.
- Development and finalization of a system to identify high priority Baltimore City warrants. BPD and MONSE collaborated closely to create and implement a code for scoring each open warrant based on the individual’s likelihood of future violent behavior. This data-driven warrant priority score indicates which warrants are most important to serve within the city, with the goal of increasing the effectiveness of BPD’s warrant service and ultimately reducing harm across the city.
- Preliminary development of the next iteration of the Public Safety Accountability Dashboard (PSAD), including functionality improvements; a domestic violence filter option; a gun crime filter option; improved crime map page design; updated neighborhood statistics with 2020 census data; additional information on violence prevention and intervention initiatives; and more robust arrest data.
- The Fines and Fees workgroup, informed by the group’s FY23 research findings on the fines and fees landscape, explored state-level strategic collaboration opportunities with the goal of achieving changes in fines and fees that are prescribed by Maryland statutory law and Maryland’s judiciary.
- The Pre-trial workgroup began identifying coordination needs around home monitoring with the goal of ensuring effective implementation of home monitoring legislation passed by the Maryland General Assembly in 2024.

Preliminary Screenshots of Public Safety Accountability Dashboard (PSAD) 2.0 – In Development



Preliminary Screenshots of Public Safety Accountability Dashboard (PSAD) 2.0 – In Development





# History

## **August 2021 – June 2023: New CJCC**

Mayor Brandon Scott reestablished the Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) in August 2021 as part of the public safety strategy outlined in his Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan (CVPP). Until that point, the body had not been convened since 2017. The previous iteration of the Baltimore City CJCC, which was formed at the state level, operated from its establishment in 1999 until 2017, when state funding for the Council was eliminated.

The first year of the new CJCC was foundational, with a focus on bringing principal members to the table to discuss priorities for addressing Baltimore City’s criminal justice system gaps; staffing the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) to support the CJCC; and forming workgroups. The Council’s bylaws were formulated at a two-day Operating Planning Session held at the outset of the foundational year. In addition to producing bylaws, the planning session generated immediate areas of focus and established evaluation and reporting methodologies.

Upon the publishing of the original CVPP, the Mayor set a goal to restart the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), a multi-agency partnership of senior decision makers and elected officials who convene on a regular basis to improve the effective administration of justice and coordinate cross-cutting systemic responses to criminal justice issues. Mayor Scott reestablished Baltimore City’s Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) in August 2021.

The Council’s biannual Operational Planning Session was held in FY23. The principal agencies agreed to expand membership and extend invitations to members of the judiciary, Maryland Attorney General, and non-prosecutorial agencies.

Seven workgroups were created at the outset of the new CJCC:

1. Backlog of Cases
2. Domestic Violence Coordinating Council
3. Fines, Fees, and Restitution
4. Pre-Trial
5. Public Safety Accountability Dashboard
6. Transportation
7. Warrants

The workgroups were tasked with establishing project focus areas, priorities, and performance metrics.

Two workgroups – Transportation, and Backlog of Cases – were discontinued in FY23 after the Council concluded that their respective focus issues could not be effectively addressed at the time through a CJCC workgroup. The Transportation workgroup began with a focus on identifying and resolving transportation inefficiencies that lead to delays in court proceedings and other criminal justice functions. However, it was ultimately determined that the specific transportation gaps identified as priorities for the workgroup to address were not cross-cutting agency issues. The Backlog of Cases workgroup was formed with the goal of implementing strategies to increase efficiencies and reduce the court backlog, focusing in particular on the creation of a gun court, including identification of potentially suitable nonviolent charges for such a court. However, the workgroup was paused until further notice due to a lack of judicial participation, which was deemed critical to effectively addressing the backlog.

The Public Safety Accountability Dashboard workgroup became the Interagency Data & IT workgroup in FY23 after the dashboard was successfully launched and no longer required a CJCC workgroup.

### Accomplishments

- CJCC Policy Manager hired under MONSE with responsibilities including facilitation of workgroup meetings, project management, and administrative support.
- Filled workgroup member slots with a diverse population including representatives from community-based organizations and Baltimore City residents in addition to principal agencies. A total of 251 workgroup applications were received, and MONSE made selections based on an extensive review to ensure equity and inclusivity that balanced unique perspectives associated with lived experience as well as professional background.
- Developed and launched the Public Safety Accountability Dashboard (PSAD), a mechanism to share metrics and data publicly to help keep agencies accountable for executing agreed-upon strategies, while identifying best practices for measuring effectiveness.
- The Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) built and maintained robust government and nongovernment representation with strong attendance at monthly meetings. The workgroup developed Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Stat to track trends

and leverage data to inform efforts to reduce domestic violence and respond to the needs of those impacted by IPV.

- The Fines, Fees and Restitution workgroup examined court fines and fees assessment data; methodologies utilized by courts and collections to assess and collect fines and fees; legislation proposed in the Maryland State General Assembly; and statutory basis for various fines and fees. The workgroup delivered a report to CJCC principal members with initial recommendations to ensure that fines are equitably imposed and enforced.
- The Public Safety Accountability Dashboard (PSAD) workgroup facilitated unprecedented data sharing and coordination to create a tool that aggregates information on victim demographics; public safety activity including arrests; Baltimore's Community Violence Intervention (CVI) ecosystem, including all ten Safe Streets sites as well as Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program data; Neighborhood Policing Plan pilot program data; and case disposition data from the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. The dashboard went live in February 2023, making the various data metrics publicly accessible in a single portal for the first time.
- The Warrants workgroup received technical assistance support from a newly hired warrants analyst under MONSE. Tasked with creating and implementing a warrant priority ranking system, the analyst produced a warrant progress report; warrant process maps; and began rigorous analysis of the open warrants caseload and warrant service trends.

### **1999 – 2017: Original CJCC**

The first iteration of the Baltimore City CJCC was established in 1999 at the state level and provided a forum for key criminal justice stakeholders to address systemic criminal justice-related problems in Baltimore. Upon its formation in 1999, the CJCC initially focused on expediting the processing of criminal cases. Over time, the Council broadened its focus to address the initiation, coordination, implementation, and evaluation of interagency practices and procedures regarding public safety more generally.

#### Members

Membership in the original CJCC expanded over the first decade to include:

- Baltimore City Administration (BCA)
- Circuit Court for Baltimore City

- District Court for Baltimore City
- Baltimore City Council
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Baltimore City State’s Attorneys Office (BCSAO)
- Office of the Public Defender
- Baltimore Police Department (BPD)
- Central Region of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Community Supervision of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- United States Attorney for the District of Maryland (USAO-MD)
- Office of the Clerk of the Circuit and District Courts for Baltimore City
- Baltimore City Sheriff’s Office
- Baltimore City Bar Association
- Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems (BSAS)
- Office of the Attorney General of Maryland (OAG)
- Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- Maryland Governor’s Office.

### Committees

A range of issue-specific committees were formed at different points in time to address recurring, systemic criminal justice problems in Baltimore City. Committee focus areas included:

- Discovery Protocol
- Early Resolution Court
- Technology
- Bail Reform
- Drug Court
- Court Processes
- Warrant Task Force
- Jury Duty Committee
- Substance Abuse Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Warrant Technology
- CBIF Committee
- Postponement Committee
- Re-Entry/ID Workgroup

- Fugitive Safe Surrender Steering Committee
- Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee (DVCC)
- Warrant Committee
- Technology Committee
- Transportation Committee
- Post-Arrest Practices Committee
- Continuity of Operations Planning Committee
- Mental Health Committee

### Accomplishments

The Council's accomplishments during the first iteration of the CJCC, from 1999 to 2017, included:

- Created a Differentiated Case Management System for the Circuit Court Criminal Docket.
- Transferred responsibility for charging defendants from the Police Department to the State's Attorney's Office, which allowed for better case screening and prosecution.
- Created the Early Disposition Court.
- Initiated Pre-Trial Conferences in serious criminal cases to address discovery and other preliminary matters.
- Established the Work Release Program for Baltimore City.
- Created the Civil Citation Program for non-felony offenses.
- Improved Central Booking and Intake Facility (CBIF) process to eliminate delays.
- Created procedures and policies to improve warrant searches and service.
- Created the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT).
- Created the Baltimore City Gun Offender Registry.
- Established a protocol for the pick-up of protective orders to expedite service of process.

- Coordinated the planning and implementation of the Fugitive Safe Surrender program.
- Established a protocol allowing the State’s Attorney’s Office to communicate directly with the Division of Parole and Probation regarding Domestic Violence probation cases to improve court outcomes.
- Developed a paperless protocol for juvenile writs with the Juvenile Court.
- Established a model protocol for assessing and providing services within the first 24 hours for children exposed to domestic violence involving the fatality or near fatality of one or more parents.
- Improved coordination between criminal justice partners regarding communication of courthouse closures in the event of an emergency.
- Assisted with implementation of a Homeless Docket to help reduce the number of transient and homeless defendant FTAs by offering individualized treatment plans.
- Enabled the Office of the Public Defender to confer with their clients more rapidly by facilitating their receipt of transportation lists from the DPSCS Transportation Unit.
- Improved the service of Protective Orders on respondents and the provision of returns of service to the District and Circuit Courts from a reported 10-12% to 71%.
- Facilitated a protocol by Mental Health Parole and Probation agents to provide verification of probationers’ medication to BCDC.

# Organizational Structure

The CJCC maintains a core group of executive-level representatives from criminal justice agencies as full members. Workgroups may invite relevant stakeholders from other governmental entities, service providers, community-based organizations, and the general public. The goal of the workgroups is to execute projects and advance to the Principal Members recommendations, solutions, and matters for consideration.



## Operations Overview

The CJCC membership is composed of the Mayor, the Baltimore City State’s Attorney, the Baltimore City Police Commissioner, the Baltimore City Sheriff, the City Council President, the Assistant United States Attorney, the Baltimore City District Public Defender, the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Services, the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, the Executive Deputy Director of the Division of Parole and Probation, and the Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP).

The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) staffs a Policy Manager who serves in a support role to the CJCC and its workgroups.

The Council principal members meet bimonthly (six times annually) on the second Thursday of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

The one-hour bimonthly meetings include time for workgroup updates and discussion, during which principal members hear directly from the workgroups on issues requiring member feedback and/or decision-making. Each CJCC meeting agenda includes criminal justice issue areas that have been identified for specific interagency coordination needs and opportunities and practical systems-level improvements. Next steps are documented, and there are follow-ups on action items from previous meetings. The standing agenda also provides time for principal members to share news for the group and engage with one another on criminal justice work.



# Workgroups Overview

## Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC)

The Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) improves the effective administration of justice and coordinates systemic responses to intimate partner violence (IPV) in Baltimore City. The workgroup's goals are informed by prioritized recommendations from the Baltimore City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, the Domestic Violence High Risk Team, IPV Stat, and MONSE.

Workgroup participation includes representation from elected officials, government agencies, and community-based organizations:

- City Councilmember
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Department of Social Services (DSS)
- Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD)
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety & Engagement (MONSE)
- Maryland Office of the Public Defender (MOPD)
- Baltimore Police Department (BPD)
- Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPSS)
- Baltimore City Sheriff's Office
- Baltimore City State's Attorneys Office (BCSAO)
- CHANA
- House of Ruth Maryland
- Ishshah's Place
- Mount Lebanon Baptist Church
- My Covenant Place
- One Love Foundation
- Turnaround, Inc.

- University of Maryland School of Social Work
- Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

### Warrants

The Warrants workgroup was created with the goal of developing a warrant prioritization system to maximize the impact of warrant service in reducing violent crime in Baltimore City. Once implemented, priority warrants can be identified and swiftly served. The workgroup also aims to monitor Baltimore Police Department (BPD) efforts to examine historical open warrants and close warrants that do not pose a public safety threat.

Workgroup participation includes representation from the following agencies:

- Baltimore Police Department (BPD)
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Division of Parole and Probation, DPSCS
- Baltimore City Sheriff's Office
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)

### Interagency Data and IT

The Interagency Data and IT workgroup focuses on interagency data needs including the development of data sharing agreements; data coordination; and ongoing improvements to the Public Safety Accountability Dashboard (PSAD).

Workgroup participation includes representation from the following agencies:

- Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office (BCSAO)
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Baltimore Police Department (BPD)
- Baltimore City Sheriff's Office
- Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)
- Baltimore City Office of Information Technology (BCIT)

### Fines, Fees, and Restitution

The Fines, Fees and Restitution workgroup aims to ensure that fines and fees are equitably imposed and enforced, focusing on the issue at both the city and state levels. The workgroup's efforts include research on inequities in the imposition of fines and fees; the cost-to-benefits ratio for fines and fees collections; revenue allocations from fines and fees; outstanding criminal legal debts owed for fines and fees; and opportunities for process improvements in the imposition and collection of fines and fees.

Workgroup participation includes representation from government agencies, community-based organizations, and research institutes:

- Maryland Legal Aid
- Urban Institute
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Division of Parole and Probation, DPSCS
- Job Opportunities Task Force (JOTF)
- Office of the Public Defender
- Center for Criminal Justice Reform at University of Baltimore School of Law
- Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office (BCSAO)
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)

### Pre-Trial

The Pretrial workgroup was created with the aim of evaluating current home detention programs, exploring pre-trial diversion opportunities, and reimagining the larger pre-trial system. The workgroup's current focus is on coordination efforts to ensure the effective implementation of legislation governing home detention monitoring.

Workgroup participation includes representation from the following agencies and organizations:

- Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office (BCSAO)
- Office of the Public Defender
- Baltimore Police Department (BPD)

- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), Division of Parole and Probation
- Job Opportunities Task Force (JOTF)
- Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)

### Community Justice

The newly formed Community Justice workgroup explores alternative approaches to reducing crime, improving public safety, and achieving restorative justice. At the outset during FY24, the workgroup assessed the possible development of an auto theft diversion program for youth and/or emerging adults.

Workgroup participation includes representation from the following agencies and community-based organizations:

- Office of the Public Defender
- Baltimore Police Department (BPD)
- Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)
- Baltimore City State’s Attorney’s Office (BCSAO)
- We Our Us
- Rose Street Community Center
- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS)
- Division of Parole and Probation, DPSCS
- Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPSS)