



**Progress of jurisdictions and the Department of State Police in  
establishing interrogation rooms capable of creating audiovisual  
recordings of custodial interrogations.**

Criminal Procedure Article, § 2-404  
SB 76/Ch. 359, 2008  
HB 6/Ch. 360, 2008

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## **BACKGROUND**

During the 2008 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed *House Bill 6, Chapter 360 and Senate Bill 76, Chapter 359*. These Acts establish state policy that a law enforcement unit using one or more interrogation rooms with the capability to create audio and/or visual recordings of custodial interrogations shall make reasonable efforts to record interrogations of suspects in connection with cases of murder, rape, or sexual offenses in the first or second degree.

On or before December 31, 2009, and annually thereafter, the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention ("Office") shall report to the House Judiciary Committee and the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article on the progress of jurisdictions and the Department of State Police in establishing interrogation rooms capable of creating audio and/or visual recordings of custodial interrogations.

In previous years, the Office has made funding available to local law enforcement agencies through the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, Law Enforcement Technology grant program for "Custodial Interrogation Equipment." Additional funds have been made available through the Byrne Justice Recovery Act since the law was enacted in 2008.

## **METHODOLOGY**

Using an online survey tool, the Office created and administered an interrogation room survey that was distributed to 132 law enforcement agencies around the state. The following information was collected:

1. Agency name
2. Number of interrogation rooms
3. The hardwired technological capabilities of each room (none, audio, visual, or audio/visual)
4. The portable technological equipment used in each room (none, audio, visual, or audio/visual)
5. Future plans for adding interrogation rooms
6. Future plans for purchasing new audio/visual equipment to each room
7. The funding source for each room

## **RESULTS**

Of the 132 law enforcement agencies, 121 completed the electronic survey. There were another 11 agencies that did not complete the survey, but provided responses in prior interrogation room surveys. For the 11 agencies not completing this year's survey, their responses from previous

years were duplicated in order to complete this report (see pages 6-14 for a full list of the respondents).

***Number of Interrogation Rooms***

There are a total of 279 interrogation rooms statewide. 49 agencies (n = 37.1%) reported that they do not have an interrogation room, whereas, 83 agencies (n = 62.9%) reported at least one interrogation room. The Baltimore City Police Department has the highest number of interrogation rooms in the state, with a total of 34 rooms. Of the 132 total law enforcement agencies surveyed, 7 agencies (i.e., Anne Arundel County Police Department, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore County Police Department, Harford County Sheriff’s Office, Montgomery County Police Department, Prince George’s County Police Department, and the Maryland State Police) account for approximately 53% of all interrogation rooms. *Table 1 provides the number of interrogation rooms.*

<b>Table 1. Number of Interrogation Rooms (n = 132 agencies)</b>		
<b>Number of Rooms</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent</b>
0	49	37.1%
1	42	31.8%
2 - 10	35	26.5%
Over 10	6	4.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

***Audio/Visual Recording Capabilities***

Over 67% (n = 187) of the interrogation rooms statewide are equipped with some type of hardwired audio or visual recording capabilities. Of the rooms equipped with these technologies, the vast majority have both audio and visual recording capabilities. *Table 2 provides the various types of hardwired recording capabilities.*

<b>Table 2. Interrogation Room’s Hardwired Recording Capabilities (n = 279 rooms)</b>		
<b>Recording Capabilities</b>	<b>Number of Rooms</b>	<b>Percent</b>
No Audio or Video Capabilities	92	33%
Audio Only	3	1.1%
Video Only	12	4.3%
Both Audio and Video	172	61.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Of the 83 agencies with at least one interrogation room, 25.3% (n = 21) use some type of portable audio or visual recording device in their rooms. *Table 3 provides a breakdown of the various types of equipment, if available.*

<b>Table 3. Police Use of Portable Audio/Visual Recording Devices in Interrogation Rooms (n = 83 agencies)</b>		
<b>Use of Portable Recording Devices</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent</b>
No Use of Portable Recording Devices	60	72.3%
Audio Only	16	19.3%
Video Only	1	1.2%
Both Audio and Video	4	4.8%
Unknown/Not Specified	2	2.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Most of the law enforcement agencies indicated no future plans for the creation or addition of interrogation rooms within their agency (n = 85.6%) or the purchasing of new audio or visual recording equipment (n = 83.3%). *The timelines are broken down in Tables 4 and 5.*

<b>Table 4. Police Agency's Future Plans and Timelines for the Creation of New or Additional Interrogation Rooms (n = 132 agencies)</b>		
<b>Future Plans</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent</b>
No Future Plans	113	85.6%
0 – 12 Months	9	6.8%
13 - 24 Months	4	3%
Over 24 Months	3	2.3%
Unknown/Timeline Not Specified	3	2.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Table 5. Police Agency's Future Plans and Timelines for the Purchasing of New Audio or Visual Recording Equipment (n = 132 agencies)</b>		
<b>Future Plans</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent</b>
No Future Plans	110	83.3%
0 – 12 Months	14	10.6%
13 - 24 Months	4	3.1%
Over 24 Months	2	1.5%
Unknown/Timeline Not Specified	2	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### *Funding Sources*

A total of 93 law enforcement agencies listed a current or future funding source(s) for their interrogation rooms. *Table 6 provides a breakdown of the various funding sources.*

<b>Table 6. Police Agency's Funding Source(s) For their Interrogation Rooms (n = 93 agencies)</b>		
<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Local	56	60.2%
State	18	19.3%
Federal	2	2.2%
Multiple Funding Sources	17	18.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The Office will continue to support this effort through grant funding and provide annual updates to the progress of each law enforcement agency as required by law.

## 2016 Interrogation Room Survey Results

Agency Name	Survey Participation	Number of Rooms	No Audio or Video	Audio Only	Video Only	Audio and Video	Portable A/V	Future Plans for Equipment	Future Plans for Rooms	Funding Source
<b>Aberdeen Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Allegany County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Annapolis City Police Department</b>	Yes	3	2	0	0	1	No	12 months	No	Local
<b>Anne Arundel County Police Department</b>	Yes	16	8	0	0	8	Audio	12 months	No	Local
<b>Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office</b>	Previous Year	1	1	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Baltimore City Community College Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Baltimore City School Police</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Baltimore City Sheriff's Department</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	No	No	No	n/a
<b>Baltimore County Police Department</b>	Yes	34	24	0	0	10	No	No	No	State
<b>Baltimore County Sheriff's Office</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Baltimore Police Dept</b>	Yes	26	12	0	0	14	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Bel Air Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Berlin Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14 months	Local

<b>Berwyn Heights Police</b>	Yes	1	0	1	1	1	No	12 months	12 months	Local
<b>Bladensburg Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Boonsboro Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Bowie State University Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes / unknown timeframe	State
<b>Brentwood Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a	n/a
<b>Brunswick Police Department</b>	Yes	0	0	0	0	0	No	No	No	n/a
<b>Calvert County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Cambridge Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>Capitol Heights Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	Local state and federal
<b>Caroline County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Carroll County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	4	0	0	0	4	No	24 months	24 months	Local
<b>Cecil County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	12 months	12 months	Local state and federal
<b>Centreville Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Charles County Sheriff's Office</b>	Previous Year	4	0	n/a	n/a	4	No	No	No	Local
<b>Chestertown Police</b>	Yes	1	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	No	No	No	Local

<b>Cheverly Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>Chevy Chase Village Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>City of Bowie Police Department</b>	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	Local
<b>Colmar Manor Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Coppin State University Department of Public Safety</b>	Yes	2	0	0	1	0	No	1 month	No	State
<b>Cottage City Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Crisfield Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	1	0	0	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Crofton Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Cumberland Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Delmar Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>Denton Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	video	No	No	Local
<b>DGS Maryland Capitol Police</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	State
<b>District Heights Police Department</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Dorchester County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Easton Police Department</b>	Yes	7	2	0	1	4	No	No	No	Local
<b>Edmonston Police</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a

<b>Elkton Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Audio	No	No	Local and state
<b>Fairmount Heights Police</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Federalsburg Police Department</b>	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	local and federal
<b>Forest Heights Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Frederick County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>Frederick Police Department</b>	Yes	3	1	0	0	2	No	12 – 18 months	No	Local state and federal
<b>Frostburg City Police Department</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Frostburg State University Police</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	State
<b>Fruitland Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>Gaithersburg Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	30 months	Local
<b>Garrett County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Gibson Island Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Glenarden Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Greenbelt Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	60 months	No	Local state and federal
<b>Greensboro Police Dept</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local

<b>Hagerstown Community College Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 month	Local and state
<b>Hagerstown Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	Both	6 months	6 months	Local and state
<b>Hampstead Police Department</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	audio	24 months	No	Local
<b>Hancock Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	Local state and federal
<b>Harford County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	9	2	0	0	7	Audio	12 months	No	Federal
<b>Havre de Grace Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Howard County Police Department</b>	Yes	6	2	0	0	4	No	12 months	36 months	Local
<b>Howard County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	Local and state
<b>Hurlock Police Department</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	No	5 months	5 months	Local and federal
<b>Hyattsville City Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	36 months	Local
<b>Kent County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>La Plata Police Department</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	No	Yes / unknown time frame	No	Local
<b>Landover Hills Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Laurel Police Department</b>	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	No	No	No	Local state and federal
<b>Lonaconing Police Department</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

<b>Luke Police Dept</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Manchester Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Maryland State Police</b>	Yes	16	1	0	4	8	No	Yes / unknown time frame	Yes / unknown time frame	State
<b>Maryland Transit Administration Police</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	Audio	No	No	State
<b>Maryland Transportation Authority Police</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	24 months	No	State
<b>MD-National Capital Park Police, Montgomery County Division</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>MD-National Capital Park Police, Prince George's County Division</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	12 months	8 months	Local
<b>Montgomery County Police Department</b>	Yes	20	0	0	0	20	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Montgomery County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Morgan State University Police</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	State
<b>Morningside Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Mount Rainier Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>New Carrollton Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	Local state and federal
<b>North East Police Dept</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	Yes / unknown time frame	Local
<b>Oakland Police Department</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

<b>Ocean City Police Department</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Federal
<b>Ocean Pines Police Department</b>	Yes	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Oxford Police Department</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	Local
<b>Perryville Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	12 months	Local
<b>Pocomoke City Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Both	No	No	Local
<b>Prince George's County Community College Campus Police</b>	Yes	2	2	0	0	0	No	No	No	Local
<b>Prince George's County Police Department</b>	Yes	40	20	0	0	10	No	No	No	n/a
<b>Prince George's County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Princess Anne Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local
<b>Queen Anne's County Office of the Sheriff</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State and federal
<b>Ridgely Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	State and federal
<b>Rising Sun Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	Local
<b>Riverdale Park Police</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	Audio	No	No	Local state and federal
<b>Rock Hall Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Rockville City Police Department</b>	Yes	2	2	0	0	0	Both	7 months	No	Local

<b>Salisbury Police Department</b>	Yes	4	2	0	0	2	Audio	No	No	Local
<b>Salisbury University Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
<b>Seat Pleasant Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Smithsburg Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	Both	No	No	Local
<b>Snow Hill Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Somerset County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	0	0	1	0	No	36-48 months	No	Local
<b>Spring Grove Hospital Center Police Department (DHMH)</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	24 months	Local
<b>St. Michaels Police Department</b>	Previous Year	1	0	0	0	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Sykesville Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	1	0	No	No	No	Local
<b>Takoma Park Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	6 months	No	Local
<b>Talbot County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	4 months	No	Local
<b>Taneytown Police Department</b>	Previous Year	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Thurmont Police Department</b>	Yes	2	2	0	0	0	No	No	No	State
<b>Towson University Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
<b>Trappe Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local

<b>University of Maryland Eastern Shore Department of Public Safety</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24 months	State and federal
<b>University of Baltimore Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>University of Maryland Baltimore County Police Department</b>	Yes	3	2	0	1	0	Audio	No	No	State
<b>University of Maryland Baltimore Police</b>	Yes	2	0	0	2	0	Audio	6 months	No	State
<b>University of Maryland Police, College Park</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	State
<b>University Park Police Department</b>	Yes	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	n/a
<b>Upper Marlboro Police Department</b>	Yes	1	1	0	0	0	No	No	No	n/a
<b>Washington County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	State
<b>Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Police Department</b>	Yes	1	0	1	0	0	Audio	No	No	State
<b>Westminster Police Department</b>	Yes	2	1	0	0	1	Audio	No	No	State
<b>Wicomico County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	2	0	0	0	2	No	No	No	Local
<b>Worcester County Sheriff's Office</b>	Yes	1	0	0	0	1	No	No	No	Local