



# DUTY TO INTERVENE

INDEX CODE: 102.1

EFFECTIVE DATE: 08-31-23

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### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the legal, ethical, and affirmative duty of Anne Arundel County Police ***Department employees*** to intervene to prevent or stop misconduct and/or other inappropriate behavior.

Preventing misconduct preserves the integrity of all ***employees*** and our agency. Intervening to prevent misconduct enhances the trust between the Police Department and the community we serve. The Anne Arundel County Police Department is committed to protecting its ***employees*** who act on their duty to intervene to prevent or minimize misconduct by another department ***employee and public safety associates*** (*Associates may include but are not limited to members of task forces, other agencies with shared or concurrent jurisdictions, volunteers, or representatives from support organizations which the Department is partnered with.*).

### II. POLICY

***All employees of the Anne Arundel County Police Department are required to intervene or take preventative action when they recognize that a department employee or public safety associate is engaging, or is about to engage, in an act that violates clearly established law or departmental policy.***

This duty to intervene is required whenever it is safe and reasonable given the totality of the circumstances. No ***employee*** of the agency shall be subjected to a disciplinary action or personnel action based upon reasonable intervention (prevention, halting, or reporting) made by that ***employee***.

### III. INTERVENTION & REPORTING

***All interventions and preventative actions required of Anne Arundel County Police Department employees by this policy are to be conducted within the scope of the employee's authority, training, and ability.***

***Interventions may be verbal and/or physical depending on the urgency of the situation and nature of the behavior. When conducting interventions, employees are encouraged to take a preventative approach, whenever possible, and an active approach when practical and safe.***

***Employees will immediately report to an appropriate supervisor when they observe any of the following acts committed by a Department employee or public safety associate.***

- A. Objectively unreasonable and unnecessary use of force;***
- B. Criminal conduct;***
- C. Unconstitutional acts;***
- D. Violations of policy that would discredit the Anne Arundel County Police Department.***

Supervisors will follow reporting procedures outlined in Index Code 303.2 (Complaint Reception & Investigation).

### IV. PROPONENT UNIT: Office of the Chief of Police.

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**V. CANCELLATION:** *This directive cancels Index Code 102.1, dated 02-04-21.*