



## Policy 305

Subject

### DEPARTMENT MISSION AND VISION

Date Published

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*By Order of the Police Commissioner*

### POLICY

This policy provides important guidance on the Baltimore Police Department's (BPD) mission and vision for its members and its relationship with the community. The Mission and Vision Statements reflect the Department's commitment to constitutional, community-oriented policing and the adoption of community policing as a philosophy that permeates through all aspects of BPD operations.

### MISSION

The Baltimore Police Department is dedicated to upholding the Constitution and enforcing laws in a fair, impartial, and ethical manner. We commit to creating and maintaining a culture of service that builds trust and legitimacy in all communities, values the sanctity of human life, and provides for the safety and well-being of all.

### VISION

1. **Crime Reduction.** Reducing and preventing crime in the City of Baltimore is a core mission for our Department, but it cannot be done by the BPD alone. By working collaboratively with our City's residents, businesses, advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, faith leaders, elected officials, as well as with other City, state, and federal agencies, we can provide a multi-layer approach to solving underlying issues that lead to crime. BPD will develop effective deployment strategies that focus on those responsible for committing violent and property crimes and work with residents to address disorder problems that affect the quality of life in their neighborhood.
2. **Community Engagement & Policing.** While BPD is responsible for policing our community, it is also an integral part of it. We will only be successful in our crime reduction efforts by effectively engaging and listening to the needs of the people who live in the neighborhoods we protect. Working with and learning from our residents, our officers must focus toward fully understanding issues that impact our communities. We will work collaboratively with residents to create problem-solving strategies tailored to the challenges faced by specific neighborhoods and communities in our City.
3. **Continuous Agency Improvement.** BPD will improve policies and training, overhaul antiquated technology, and create accountability systems to provide better services to the community. Through these reforms, BPD will dramatically change its practices to ensure proper uses of force; constitutional stops, searches, and arrests; fair and impartial policing practices; and true community policing operations. BPD embraces these reforms because the residents of the City of Baltimore deserve a world-class police force that inspires trust, ensures safety, and protects the constitutional rights of the people we serve.

4. **Creating a Culture of Service and Accountability.** BPD renews its sense of civic duty, honor, integrity, and a culture of accountability in our Department. BPD will implement new performance management practices, better systems of tracking and measuring work performance, as well as new COMSTAT processes that actively challenge its Command Staff to provide strategies and solutions that are responsive to community needs.
5. **Connectivity.** BPD will adopt and embrace new technologies and new partnerships within and outside our agency. BPD is becoming more transparent and more connected, and is breaking down information silos and focusing our efforts in a coordinated and better organized manner.
6. **Capacity Building.** Leadership development within BPD is the key to our Department's long term success. We will invest in better training, adopt improved systems of accountability, and improve how our Department operates by hiring civilian professionals to manage administrative processes. We will also improve our recruitment, hiring, and retention efforts to ensure that we can increase our ranks to be able to fully respond to the needs of 21st century policing.
7. **Communication.** Effective communication has to be at the heart of everything we do in the Baltimore Police Department and we must effectively engage, actively listen, and work collaboratively with our residents to be successful. We will strive to improve and maintain effective lines of communication so that we can strengthen our relationships, build new relationships where there are none, and repair the relationships that were broken in the past.

### **RESCISSION**

Remove and destroy/recycle Policy 305, *Department Values, Vision and Mission*, dated 1 July 2016.

### **COMMUNICATION OF POLICY**

This policy is effective on the date listed herein. Each employee is responsible for complying with the contents of this policy.