



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Police Chief to Open Citizens Advisory Council Meetings** *Public invited to attend future meetings*

Howard County Police Chief G. Wayne Livesay has announced that all future meetings of the police department's citizens advisory council will be open to the public.

The department has been reviewing the newly amended Maryland open meetings law since receiving a complaint from a citizen early this month. The law changed last year and redefined which meetings must be open to the public. The department intends to file a formal response to the complaint by Dec. 5, as required by the state, but Chief Livesay and the council decided to announce the decision today to give the public as much notice as possible about the next meeting.

The next citizens advisory council meeting is scheduled for Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at police headquarters in Ellicott City. The regular schedule of monthly meetings will be posted on the county's Web site at <http://www.co.ho.md.us>. All requirements of the amended open meetings law will be followed in future council meetings.

The citizens advisory council is a 23-member panel comprised of representatives from all areas of Howard County. The group meets monthly with Chief Livesay to maximize citizen input on issues affecting the community and police department.

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