



## ***LETTER TO THE EDITOR***

### Howard County Department of Police Office of the Chief

November 13, 2002

Dear Editor,

The Howard County Police Department recently faced one of the greatest challenges in our history. The terrible actions of the sniper suspects just eight miles over our county's border caused great concern in our communities and required quick action by police. Our department dedicated every possible resource to ensure the safety of the citizens we serve.

I am proud that our officers and dispatchers rose to the challenge. When we quadrupled our staffing requirements, our officers gave up their days off to assist. They worked long shifts to protect our schools and sat at county borders to safeguard our communities. They increased patrols and kept close watch on shopping centers and other public places. Our dispatchers handled thousands of calls from the public with tips and information. The families of all of our members sacrificed for weeks, putting their personal lives on hold.

Since the closure of the case, we have been overwhelmed by the support and gratitude our citizens and schools have shown. The police department is grateful for the hundreds of letters, e-mails, cards and goodies we have received from the community.

We were fortunate that the snipers did not commit an act of terror in Howard County. But we needed to be prepared just the same. As Chief of Police, I want to express my thanks to the fine men and women of the Howard County Police Department. When called to task, they met our highest expectations.

Sincerely,

G. Wayne Livesay  
Chief of Police

GWL/dew