



Office of the Sheriff *Howard County, Maryland*

William J. McMahon
Sheriff

November 30, 2016

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McMahon sworn in as Howard County Sheriff



ELLICOTT CITY, MD – William J. “Bill” McMahon was sworn in this afternoon as Howard County Sheriff. In a ceremony at the Circuit Courthouse, McMahon was administered the oath of office by Wayne A. Robey, Clerk of the Circuit Court. McMahon will serve the two years remaining on the term of James Fitzgerald, who resigned in October.

“As a 30-year resident of the county, I am humbled to serve as sheriff,” said McMahon. “I am committed to restoring the public’s confidence in the fairness and integrity of the office and I will work tirelessly to ensure that all employees have a professional, supportive work environment that will enable them to do the difficult jobs they are charged with.”

McMahon retired in 2014 after a 30-year career in law enforcement, including his eight-year tenure as Howard County chief of police from 2006 to 2014. As chief, he successfully implemented programs that resulted in significant reductions in most crime categories, as well as programs that enhanced traffic safety and officer safety. Under McMahon’s leadership, the department developed work groups and programs to address domestic violence, child abuse, multicultural community outreach, mental health issues and other issues impacting vulnerable populations.

Before being appointed Howard County Sheriff by Governor Larry Hogan, McMahon was serving as acting executive director of the Maryland Police & Correctional Training Commissions, and as director of the Commissions’ Leadership Development Institute.



McMahon received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree from John Hopkins University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and has served as president of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association.

The Howard County Sheriff's Office has been in existence and serving the residents of Howard County since 1851. The Sheriff's Office offers a broad range of law enforcement services, such as Judicial Security, Summons Service, Warrant Service & Fugitive Retrieval, Domestic Violence Service & Assistance, Prisoner Transportation, and Landlord/Tenant Services.

