

AGENCY SUMMARY

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Agency Links:

Office of the Sheriff: [Website](#)
Sheriff: [FY 2025 Approved Budget](#)
Sheriff: [FY 2025 Budget Review Report](#)
Sheriff: [FY 2026 Budget Review Report](#)
Sheriff: [FY 2026 Budget Review PowerPoint](#)

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BACKGROUND

The Office of the Sheriff was founded on April 22, 1696, when Maryland was a colony of England. The [Constitution of the State of Maryland, Article IV-Judiciary Department, Part VII entitled Sheriffs, Section 44](#) establishes that each county and Baltimore City shall elect a person to serve as Sheriff. Therefore, the Sheriff is the Chief Constitutional Law Enforcement Officer. The individual is required to be above the age of twenty-five years and a resident of the State for at least five years preceding the election to the office of Sheriff. The term of the office is four (4) years, with no limit on the number of consecutive terms for which the individual may run. The power and salary of the position—which cannot be altered during a term of office—are determined by the State Legislature.

The Office of the Sheriff facilitates safe court operations, provides criminal justice services that ensure the impartial and professional processing of court orders, assists victims of domestic violence, safely apprehends and transports prisoners, and is responsible for extraditing fugitives from other states.

Leadership

John D. B. Carr, Sheriff

Core Services

- Criminal justice services, to include prevention efforts and youth development activities.
- Service of warrants, indictments, and civil processes and retrieval of fugitives.
- Enforcement of court-imposed judgments.
- Facilitation of safe court operations.
- Domestic violence cessation and advocacy.

Organizational Structure

- Bureau of Administration, Bureau of Field Operations, Bureau of Court Services, Bureau of Professional Accountability

FY 2025 Key Accomplishments

- Continued to provide best practices training, including de-escalation, duty to intervene, and recognition of mental illness to all agency personnel.
- Increased service rates on domestic violence court-related documents.
- Increased community awareness about the Office of the Sheriff's roles and responsibilities through educational programs and digital outreach.

FY 2026 Top Priorities

- Ensure the safety of the Upper Marlboro courthouse complex and the auxiliary judicial work locations.
- Reduce outstanding warrants, with a focus on wanted violent criminals and administrative closures authorized by the State's Attorney and the courts.
- Effectively and efficiently deliver service to domestic violence victims through 9-1-1 response, court process, and advocacy services.
- Reduce repeat domestic violence calls in designated areas through focused follow-up by special victim assistants and guidance about available services and resources.

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Operating Budgetary Resources - Below is the 5-year overview of resources allocated to the Office of the Sheriff from FY 2021-25.

