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Evolution of Law Enforcement in Carroll County

- **January 8, 1974** – Board of County Commissioners contracts with Maryland State Police to utilize the new ‘Resident Trooper Program’ as the County’s “Local / Primary / Lead Police Agency”. The initial number of Resident Troopers assigned to Carroll County was ten (10). Prior to initiating the Resident Trooper Program, local policing was a function of the general personnel assignment to the Westminster Maryland State Police Barrack. This number stood at 43 ‘Barrack Troopers’ when the initial contract was signed. To date, the Maryland State Police continue to serve/function as Carroll County’s “primary law enforcement agency”.
 - Maryland State Police Resident Trooper Program:
 - The terms of the ‘Resident Trooper Agreement’ specify that “all Resident Troopers shall remain under direct control of the Maryland State Police, receiving all direction from local Maryland State Police Barrack or Troop” (i.e., Board of County Commissioners has no control or ability to direct)
 - The Board of County Commissioners has been advised by Maryland State Police Administration that the Resident Trooper Program will no longer grow; additional law enforcement must be provided locally by County.
- **April 7, 1992** – The ‘Carroll County Police Study Committee’, Chaired by Major Morris L. Krome, Retired – Maryland State Police, presents its Final Report to the Board of County Commissioners. Committee recommendations include a multi-year transition from the Maryland State Police Resident Trooper Program to a new Carroll County Police Department.
- **1999** – Board of County Commissioners begins funding Carroll County Sheriff’s Office to provide service on ‘24/7’ basis, in order to supplement local law enforcement.
- **FY2004** – Board of County Commissioners begins funding three (3) additional Sheriff’s Deputies per year, in an effort to attain the 1.3 ratio of “law enforcement officers / 1,000 pop.” specified in the Concurrency Mgmt. Ordinance adopted in March of 1998.
- **March 11, 2003** – Office of Public Safety formally agrees to assume Carroll County Sheriff’s Office communications & dispatch responsibilities on a ‘24/7’ basis.
- **Sept. 18, 2003** – Sheriff Tregoning and Maryland State Police Superintendent Norris sign an agreement formally acknowledging each agency; the agreement is void of any plan or specific method as to how the two agencies will share the law enforcement responsibilities in Carroll County.

- **Sept. 1, 2005** – Office of Public Safety implements standardized ‘Operational Procedures’ governing how all ‘Police Communications’ will be handled. The ability to implement significant portions of these internal procedures is predicated on the required execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the affected law enforcement agencies. Among these are: ‘Combined Police Communications’, new radio ‘Talk-Groups’, ‘Shared Patrols’, and ‘Call Assignments’. To date, no such agreement (i.e., Memorandum of Understanding) has been reached. As a result, and as specified in the referenced ‘Operational Procedures’, *“all areas of responsibility for (the) named police agencies will continue in effect for dispatch”*. Accordingly, in the absence of the required agreement (Memorandum of Understanding), all requests for police assistance continue to be handled in accordance with standing policy.
- **Oct. 4, 2007** – Board of County Commissioners decides to (a) transition away from the Maryland State Police Resident Trooper Program, and (b) pursue the creation of a County Police Department.