



Office of the State's Attorney for Prince George's County

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PGSAO Do Not Call List Policy

The below guidance shall serve as the formal policy for the State's Attorney's Office ("SAO") regarding the use of officer witnesses on behalf of the State. In accordance with this policy guidance, the SAO will practice the following procedure:

Officers that Will No Longer be Sponsored as Witnesses

- The SAO **will no longer** sponsor testimony of officers when the SAO is in possession of evidence which suggests that:
 - the officer made a material misstatement under oath, in an affidavit or probable cause statement, or whose dishonesty affected the charging status of a civilian;
 - the officer was convicted of an impeachable offense or convicted of an offense that was committed in his/her official capacity; or
 - the officer acted in a manner that demonstrates he/she is biased (i.e. racist, homophobic or otherwise prejudiced).
- **Note:** In instances where the evidence does not fall within the above categories, the SAO will exercise its discretion in reviewing the facts and circumstances to determine the appropriate action (i.e. when an officer is acquitted of an impeachable offense).
- The current list of officers that the SAO will not sponsor consists of both active and inactive law enforcement whose conduct falls within at least one of the enumerated criteria listed above.

Notification Procedures

- In the event that the SAO is in possession of information that places an officer's credibility at issue, the Chief of the Public Integrity Unit will contact the ranking officer of Internal Affairs to request a meeting.
- The SAO will brief Internal Affairs as to the nature of the allegations and inform the Department of its intent to no longer sponsor the officer's testimony.
- Internal Affairs will be asked by the SAO to notify the officer of this office's intention(s) and will be given 21 days, with a date certain, to provide additional information for SAO's consideration which may include a statement from the officer, additional witness statements and/or other evidence.
- Within seven (7) days of any additional information provided, the SAO will have an internal committee review all information and make a final determination and notify the Department in writing.

***The SAO will review and update this policy as needed.**