

GUN VIOLENCE

STUDY WORKGROUP

Report



GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

July 18, 2025

Table of Contents

Transmittal Letter.....	3
Background.....	6
Recommendations.....	7
Conclusion.....	21
Appendix A Gun Violence Study Workgroup Members and Staff	22
Appendix B Workgroup Meetings, Agendas, and Minutes.....	24
Appendix C CR-075-2023 Established Gun Violence Study Workgroup.....	25
Appendix D CR-011-2024 Extended the timeline and composition of the Workgroup.....	28

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Prince George's County
Gun Violence Study Workgroup
Wayne K. Curry Administration Building
Largo, Maryland 20774

July 18, 2025

Dear County Executive Aisha Braveboy
Council Chair Edward Burroughs:

On behalf of the Prince George's County Gun Violence Study Workgroup, we are honored to respectfully submit the group's final report for your review.

The Workgroup was established by CR-075-2023 to study the causes of increased gun violence in Prince George's County and its effects on our community. Its mission was to examine the issue through a comprehensive and equitable approach that prioritizes public safety, health, and community well-being. The structure of the Workgroup and the timeline for its final report were later amended by CR-011-2024, which expanded the composition of the Gun Violence Study Workgroup and extended the timeline for delivering its recommendations.

To guide its work, the Workgroup centered its efforts around a series of key questions. These questions helped shape the focus area for study and led directly to the development of the final recommendations. The primary areas of study included root causes of gun violence, contributing social and economic factors, prevention and intervention strategies, mental and behavioral health supports, and approaches to community engagement and healing.

The report shares key takeaways, practical suggestions, and ideas for smart investments that treat gun violence like a public health issue and focus on easing the long-term harm it causes in our community, with findings and recommendations intended to inform the County's ongoing legislative, programmatic, and funding priorities for addressing gun violence in a sustainable and effective manner.

We extend our sincere appreciation to each member of the Workgroup for their dedication, insight, and thoughtful contributions, as well as to the staff who provided administrative support throughout this important initiative. I hope that the recommendations outlined in this report will serve as a foundation for continued dialogue and collaboration.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

We are grateful for your continued leadership and commitment to advancing this vital work, and welcome any feedback or further discussion.

Respectfully submitted,



The Honorable Krystal Oriadha
Prince George's County Council Vice Chair
Gun Violence Study Workgroup, Co-Chair



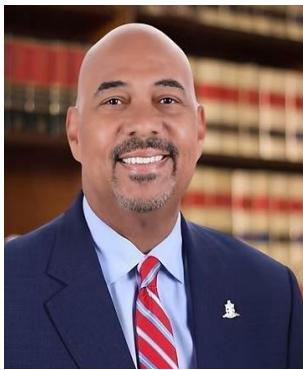
Perry Paylor, Former Deputy State's Attorney
Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office
Gun Violence Study Workgroup, Co-Chair

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT



Krystal Oriadha, Vice-Chair
Prince George's County Council
Gun Violence Study Workgroup, Co-Chair

"As Co-Chair of the Gun Violence Study Workgroup, I am proud to have sponsored a resolution that makes these issues front facing. There is a problem, we know there is a problem, but how do we stop it. This workgroup was about exploring all the options with hopes of finding a solution to this horrific issues we face."



Perry Paylor, Former Deputy State's Attorney
Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office
Gun Violence Study Workgroup, Co-Chair

"As Co-Chair of the Gun Violence Study Workgroup, I am proud of the collaborative efforts and invaluable insights we've gathered throughout this process. The work presented in this report is the result of contributions from highly qualified and deeply invested professionals who share a commitment to addressing gun violence in our county. Our findings and recommendations serve as a call to action for policymakers, law enforcement, and the community. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all who have contributed their time, expertise, and dedication to this important work."

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

BACKGROUND:

In response to escalating concerns over gun violence, particularly among youth, Prince George's County Council established the Gun Violence Study Workgroup, through Council Resolution CR-075-2023, later amended by CR-011-2024. This initiative aims to conduct a comprehensive, year-long examination of the root causes, effects, and potential solutions to firearm-related violence in the county. The Workgroup comprises a diverse array of stakeholders, including law enforcement officials, public health experts, educators, and community advocates, reflecting a holistic approach to addressing this multifaceted issue.

The Workgroup was co-chaired by Council Vice Chair Krystal Oriadha and Perry Paylor, Deputy State's Attorney, State's Attorney's Office, who jointly led the group in its mission to address the rise in gun violence across Prince George's County. The Workgroup met regularly throughout the year, convening on a monthly basis to discuss trends, share research, and hear from subject matter experts. Meetings were structured to encourage open dialogue, data-driven analysis, and solution-oriented discussions. Over the course of the study period, the Workgroup received presentations from a range of professionals, including:

- The Prince George's County Police Department
- The Prince George's County Health Department
- The State's Attorney's Office
- Department of Family Services
- The Department of Juvenile Services
- Prince George's County Public Schools
- Mental Health Providers and Youth Development Specialists
- Community-based violence prevention and intervention organizations

Each presentation contributed valuable insights into the factors driving gun violence in the county and highlighted various approaches to prevention, enforcement, and rehabilitation.

The Local Landscape of Gun Violence

Prince George's County has experienced a complex pattern of crime trends in recent years. While certain violent crimes, such as carjacking and nonfatal shootings, have seen a decline, other forms of violence, including assaults and domestic violence incidents, have risen. Notably, domestic violence-related homicides have become a significant concern, accounting for a substantial portion of the county's homicide cases.

Youth involvement in gun-related offenses has been particularly alarming. Between fiscal years 2020 and 2023, handgun violations among individuals under 18 increased by 220%, and carjackings rose by 85.4%. These statistics underscore the urgency and highlight the factors contributing to youth gun violence.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Key Focus Areas Forming the Recommendations

The Gun Violence Study Workgroup was tasked with delving into various aspects of gun violence, including its prevalence in schools, the role of mental health, and the impact of illegal firearms. The Workgroup highlighted the concerning trend of young individuals resorting to firearms as a primary means of conflict resolution. Data indicates that, as of mid-2024, 39 juveniles have been arrested for gun-related crimes in the county.

The Gun Violence Study Workgroup focused its efforts on the following key questions, which helped shape the recommendations' focus areas.

- **Why are so many youths carrying guns?**

The Workgroup looked at factors like social media influence, peer pressure, lack of positive outlets, easy access to firearms, and a growing culture of fear or retaliation.

- **What can be done to stop gun violence before it starts?**

The Workgroup reviewed early intervention strategies, youth mentoring programs, conflict resolution education, and outreach efforts to prevent young people from engaging in violence.

- **Are there enough mental health services, especially for youth?**

The Workgroup evaluated whether students and families have enough access to counselors, therapists, and crisis support, especially in schools and underserved neighborhoods.

- **How can we make schools and neighborhoods safer?**

The Workgroup explored ways to improve school safety, support community policing, expand after-school programs, and make public spaces more secure and supportive.

Key Focus Areas

- **Programs and Initiatives**

The Workgroup explored evidence-based programs designed to prevent youth violence and support community safety. These include mentorship opportunities, after-school enrichment programs, youth employment and training initiatives, and community-based violence interruption models. These programs aim to provide young people with positive alternatives and protective factors that reduce the likelihood of gun involvement.

- **Victim Services**

Recognizing the long-term impact of gun violence on individuals and families, the Workgroup emphasized the importance of accessible, trauma-informed victim services. This includes

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

immediate crisis response, mental health counseling, relocation assistance, and long-term support systems to help survivors heal and reduce the risk of retaliatory violence.

- **Policy and Legislative Changes**

Policy reform is critical to addressing systemic drivers of gun violence. The Workgroup discussed potential changes at both the state and county levels, including measures to improve gun safety and accountability, support prevention infrastructure, and promote equitable resource distribution. Policy strategies also included strengthening data collection, improving coordination across agencies, and expanding investment in communities most affected by violence.

- **Mental Health Diversion Impact**

The Workgroup examined the role of mental health, particularly among youth, in both preventing and responding to gun violence. There is a need for early identification of mental health concerns, culturally responsive services, and diversion programs that direct individuals away from the criminal justice system and into supportive care. These approaches aim to address trauma, reduce recidivism, and promote rehabilitation and long-term stability.

Conclusion

By aligning its efforts with current crime trends and the evolving needs of the community, the Gun Violence Study Workgroup aimed to develop informed policies and programs that effectively reduce gun violence and enhance public safety throughout the county. As part of this work, the group examined proven strategies implemented in neighboring jurisdictions to identify approaches that may be adaptable to Prince George's County. Simultaneously, the Workgroup conducted a comprehensive review of existing county initiatives to assess their effectiveness, identify service gaps, and determine where improved coordination or additional community support is necessary to strengthen overall outcomes.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Programs, Services, and Prevention** are as follows:

- Implement School-Based Violence Prevention Programs**

Implement programs in schools that teach conflict resolution, emotional regulation, and nonviolent communication. These programs are integrated into school curriculums with workshops and interactive sessions. A dual approach is recommended: partner with nonprofits for short-term support while exploring long-term curriculum integration. Start with a pilot in one or two schools, and ensure youth in custody are included in reentry planning and program development.

Timeframe: Short-term (within 6 months)

Cost: \$10,000-50,000 (per District)

Impact: High – Reduces conflict among youth and promotes a culture of nonviolence.

- Launch Community Mentorship Initiatives**

Launch a mentorship program, pairing at-risk youth with mentors who can provide guidance, support, and positive role models. This could involve local leaders, business owners, or professionals volunteering their time. To maximize impact, prioritize outreach to high-need youth through partnerships with agencies like the Department of Juvenile Services.

Timeframe: Short-term (within 6 months)

Cost: Low to moderate (\$5,000-\$20,000), depending on volunteer involvement and program structure

Impact: High – Provides positive influences and reduces the likelihood of youth engaging in violence.

- Increase Access to Mental Health Services**

Establish free or low-cost mental health services, including counseling and therapy, specifically targeted toward young people and families impacted by gun violence. Address barriers to affordable, sustained care by supporting school-based programs and re-establishing support groups for homicide survivors as a cost-effective alternative to individual therapy. Collaborate with nonprofits to enhance community-based support.

Timeframe: Long-term (1 year or more to implement fully)

Cost: High (\$100,000+ annually) for community clinics or partnerships

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Impact: High – Addresses underlying issues like trauma and mental health, which contribute to violence.

- **Expand After-School Enrichment Programs**

Create programs focused on sports, arts, and career-building skills to provide youth with positive outlets and alternatives to violent environments.

Timeframe: Short-term (within 6 months to launch)

Cost: Moderate to high (\$20,000-\$100,000) depending on scale

Impact: High – Reduces idle time and offers constructive activities that build self-esteem and community.

- **Stronger Enforcement of Existing Gun Laws**

Partner with local law enforcement to ensure compliance with background checks and age restrictions in the legal purchase of guns.

Timeframe: Short-term (with 6 months to launch)

Cost: Low (reallocation of existing resources)

Impact: Moderate – Ensures fewer guns are accessible to youth through legal channels

- **Initiate Gun Buyback Program**

Explore the implementation or expansion of a gun buyback program, with input from law enforcement on its effectiveness and cost. Past gun buyback programs offered debit card incentives and were managed by law enforcement. While they successfully collected firearms, most were older weapons from law-abiding citizens, raising questions about the long-term impact of gun violence.

Timeframe: Short-term (within 6 months)

Cost: High (50,000-200,000, depending on scope)

Impact: Moderate: Reduces the number of guns in circulation, especially unregistered guns.

- **Promote Youth-led Anti-Violence Campaign**

Empower young people to lead campaigns about the consequences of gun violence, using social media, events, and peer-to-peer education.

Timeframe: Short-term (within 6 months)

Cost: Low (\$2,000-\$10,000 for materials and promotions)

Impact: Moderate – Peer influence can be highly effective in reaching young audiences.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

- **Provide Conflict Mediation Training for Schools and Communities**

Train teachers, community leaders, and youth in de-escalation techniques and conflict management strategies.

Timeframe: Long-term (1 year or more for widespread training)

Cost: Moderate (\$20,000-50,000 for trainers and materials)

Impact: High – Reduces violence by addressing conflicts before they escalate.

- **Create Youth Targeted Career Training Programs**

Investing in youth-targeted career training programs provides young people with practical skills, professional development opportunities, and viable alternatives to involvement in violence.

These programs not only reduce idle time but also build confidence, purpose, and a vision for a future beyond the cycle of violence.

Timeframe: Long-term (1 year or more to develop and implement)

Cost: High (\$100,000+ for partnerships and resources)

Impact: High – Addresses underlying socioeconomic factors that often contribute to gun violence.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Victim Services Support & Recovery** are as follows:

- **Establish a Statewide Victim Compensation Program to Cover Mental Health Care, Relocation Expenses, and Lost Wages for Gun Violence Survivors and their Families**

Advocate for the expansion of the Statewide Victim Compensation Program to cover mental health care, relocation assistance, and lost wages to better address long-term trauma and promote stability for gun violence survivors. Emphasize the need for consistent, safety-based relocation options and enhanced community support services. Building on past collaboration among the Police Department, CAFY, and the State's Attorney's Office, the recommendation also calls for reinstating specialized support programs, including bilingual services to meet diverse community needs.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- **Create Trauma Recovery Centers (TRCs) In Communities With High Rates of Gun Violence**

Establish Trauma Recovery Centers that provide wraparound services, including medical care, counseling, case management, and legal assistance to gun violence survivors and families. The centers should be embedded in neighborhoods with high gun violence rates. Expand funding for programs like Hope in Action, and employ full-time staff with lived experience in high-need areas.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

- **Fund Community-Based Violence Interruption Programs**

Invest in programs like Cure Violence and hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIPs) to provide direct outreach and support to gun violence survivors. These initiatives use trusted community members to mediate conflicts, prevent retaliation, and connect individuals to critical services. Sustained funding ensures these programs can operate consistently in high-risk areas and build long-term community trust.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

- Expand Mental Health Support for Gun Violence Survivors and Strengthen Crisis Response Teams**

Enhance and coordinate mental health and victim support services for gun violence survivors by expanding access to care and establishing the Police Department as a central point of contact for timely referrals. Strengthen collaboration across county agencies, municipalities, and nonprofits, while addressing staffing shortages in key offices such as the State's Attorney's Office to ensure comprehensive victim support.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- Strengthen Crisis Response Teams for Gun Violence Victims**

Establish 24/7 crisis response teams that can provide immediate support, legal advocacy, and emergency housing for survivors of gun violence. These multidisciplinary teams should include mental health professionals, victim advocates, and social workers to ensure a coordinated and compassionate response during the critical hours following an incident.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- Increase Funding for Victim Legal Assistance**

Expand legal aid programs to assist survivors with restraining orders, housing rights, and navigating victim compensation programs. Additional funding will help ensure timely, trauma-informed legal support and reduce barriers to justice for underserved and high-risk populations.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- Develop a National Gun Violence Victims Registry**

Create a national database tracking gun violence survivors, their needs, and service utilization to inform policy decisions. The registry would help identify service gaps, monitor long-term outcomes, and support data-driven approaches to survivor support and prevention efforts.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: Moderate

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

- **Implement Safe Housing Initiatives for Survivors**

Provide emergency housing and long-term support for victims of domestic gun violence and community violence. Safe housing initiatives should include relocation assistance, trauma-informed housing services, and protections to ensure survivors can recover in secure, stable environments.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

- **Mandate Trauma-Informed Training for First Responders**

Require police, EMS, and hospital staff to receive training on trauma-informed care when interacting with gun violence survivors. This training should equip first responders to recognize signs of trauma, respond with empathy, and avoid re-traumatization. A trauma-informed approach can build trust, improve outcomes, and support the health process from the first point of contact.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Low

Impact: High

- **Establish Peer Support Networks for Gun Violence Survivors**

Support the creation of survivor-led groups that provide emotional and practical support for victims. These peer networks can help survivors process trauma, share coping strategies, and reduce feelings of isolation. Facilitated by trained professionals or survivors' leaders, the groups can also serve as a bridge to additional services such as counseling, legal aid, and advocacy.

Timeframe-Low

Cost: Low

Impact: Moderate

- **Strengthen School-Based Trauma Support Services**

Implement comprehensive trauma-informed counseling services in schools affected by gun violence. Services should include on-site mental health professionals, staff training, and peer support programs to help students process trauma, improve resilience, and maintain academic engagement.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

- Expand Workplace Protections for Gun Violence Survivors**

Ensure survivors receive job protection, paid leave, and workplace accommodations. These Protections include flexible scheduling and mental health support to promote recovery and economic stability during the healing process.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: Moderate

- Develop Targeted Support Programs for Child Survivors**

Provide specialized services for children who have lost family members or have been injured in shootings. These services include trauma-informed counseling, educational support, and long-term care coordination to address their emotional, developmental, and academic needs.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

- Increase Public Awareness on Victim Services**

Launch a public information campaign to ensure victims are aware of available resources, including legal assistance, mental health services, emergency support, and compensation programs, with outreach tailored to reach underserved communities.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Low

Impact: Moderate

- Establish Gun Violence Survivor Reinvestment Grants**

Provide financial grants to survivors to help with business startups, education, or job training. These reinvestment grants empower survivors to rebuild their lives, achieve long-term stability, and contribute positively to their communities.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

- Implement Emergency Assistance for Funeral and Burial Costs**

Expand state and federal funding to assist families with funeral costs for gun violence victims. Emergency assistance should cover burial expenses and related urgent needs to ease financial burdens during a time of crisis and grief.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

- **Support Restorative Justice Programs for Gun Violence Survivors**

Facilitate survivor-offender dialogues where appropriate to promote healing and reduce recidivism. Restorative justice programs should be survivor-centered, voluntary, and trauma-informed, offering a path toward accountability, closure, and community reconciliation.

Timeframe:

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- **Expand Access to Emergency Child Care for Victims' Families**

Provide temporary childcare assistance for families impacted by gun violence. This support ensures that survivors can attend medical appointments, court proceedings, or counseling sessions without additional caregiving burdens.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- **Develop a Federal Gun Violence Victim Fund**

Establish a federally managed fund that ensures long-term financial and social support for survivors. The fund should cover medical care, mental health services, relocation assistance, and other critical needs to promote recovery and stability.

Timeframe: Long-term

Cost: High

Impact: High

- **Create Survivor Advocacy Fellowship Program**

Provide paid fellowships for survivors to engage in advocacy, public speaking, and policy work. This program empowers survivors to share their experiences, influence systemic change, and develop professional skills in public service and community leadership.

Timeframe: Short-term

Cost: Low

Impact: Moderate

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Policy and Legislative Changes** are as follows:

- Establish a County Office on Gun Violence Prevention**

Establish a County Office of Gun Violence Prevention within the County Executive's administration to coordinate cross-agency violence reduction strategies, community outreach, data tracking, and funding distribution. The office would centralize initiatives and enhance accountability, offering high potential impact.

Timeframe: Medium-term (6-12 months)

Cost: Moderate to High (\$250,000* annually)

Impact: High - Centralizes efforts and increases accountability.

- Implement a County Gun Violence Impact Assessment**

Implement a County Gun Violence Impact Assessment for all new developments to evaluate potential effects on community safety. Similar to existing health and infrastructure assessments, this process would require projects to consider their impact on gun violence, including strain on the school system and public safety response. The goal is to proactively identify and address safety concerns as part of planning and development, ensuring a comprehensive approach to violence prevention.

Timeframe: Medium-term (6-12 months)

Cost: Moderate

Impact: Medium – Ensures safety is considered in planning decisions.

- Expanding Protective Order Laws**

Advocating for state-level legislative changes to expand existing protective and peace orders to include the temporary removal of firearms from individuals deemed a risk to themselves or others, and align with red flag law principles. Currently, firearm removal is limited to specific protective orders. The recommendation aims to make this authority standard across all protective orders to reduce the risk of firearm-related harm, particularly in domestic violence cases.

In 2024, Prince George's County recorded 5,022 final order hearings for domestic violence protective orders, compared to 46 ERPO files.

- **Expand Community-Based Violence Interruption Programs**

Support and expand community-based violence interruption programs as a high-priority strategy for violence prevention. These programs, led by trained outreach workers, often with lived experience mediate conflicts, engage at-risk individuals, and address both immediate and root causes of violence. Sustained public investment, supplemented by private or foundation support, is essential to their long-term effectiveness.

- **Program Assessment and Audit**

Conduct a comprehensive five-year audit and evaluation of existing county-funded violence prevention programs. This assessment should focus on measuring outcomes, identifying effective and promising models, and informing future funding decisions. The goal is to establish a data-driven foundation for sustainable, long-term prevention strategies. By evaluating and building on what already exists, the County can avoid duplicating efforts and instead reinvest in proven programs that may have previously lacked sufficient resources to scale or sustain their impact.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Mental Health and Diversion Impact** are as follows:

- Implementation and Enforcement of Extreme Risk Protective Orders (ERPO)**

Enhance the use, enforcement, and public awareness of Extreme Risk Protective Orders to prevent gun violence by temporarily removing firearms from individuals at risk of harming themselves or others. Recommend incorporating a standard firearm inquiry and potential temporary surrender provision in all protective orders, not just extreme cases, to improve consistency and support proactive intervention.

Timeframe:

Cost: High

Impact: Strong evidence for preventing suicides and mass shootings.

- Increase Access to Trauma-Informed Mental Health Services in Schools**

Improve integration of behavioral health and trauma counseling in schools, particularly those with high-risk student populations. Ensure the allocation of psychologists or trauma-informed professionals is data-driven and equitable across schools.

Timeframe:

Cost: High

Impact: Addresses root causes of aggression and improves long-term outcomes.

- Expand Resources and Capacity for Gun Possession Diversion Court Programs**

Increase investment in the Back on Track program to expand its capacity and reach. This diversion court program, which is currently limited to non-violent, first-time gun possession offenses, offers an alternative to traditional prosecution. The approach would reduce recidivism and promote rehabilitation, and recommends additional funding to enhance its impact and accessibility.

Timeframe:

Cost: Medium

Impact: Reduces recidivism and incarceration costs

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

- **Creating a County Program Offering Free or Discounted Gun Safes and Locking Devices**

Establish a County-supported program that provides free or low-cost gun safes and locking devices, prioritizing households with children or individuals experiencing mental health challenges. This program should be non-punitive, accessible, and support community gun safety, with clear pathways to community-based services and judgment-free access to gun locks and safe storage tools.

Timeframe:

Cost: Low

Impact: Helps prevent impulsive acts of violence or suicide.

- **Develop a Public Mental Health Awareness Campaign focused on Gun Safety**

Develop a public mental health awareness campaign focused on preventing crises and promoting responsible gun practices. The campaign should highlight the intersection of mental health and gun access, offering education on risks, warning signs, and safe firearm ownership.

Timeframe:

Cost: Low

Impact: Increases awareness but requires other interventions for a significant impact.

- **Invest in Research and Mental Health – Gun Violence Interventions**

Prioritize sustained investment in research and community-based interventions at the intersection of mental health and gun violence. This is a critical strategy for addressing root causes such as trauma desensitization to violence, and underdeveloped adolescent decision-making. Long-term solutions should include multi-level engagement with trusted community partners and integrate parents and family education as a core element of prevention.

Timeframe:

Cost: Low

Impact: Long-term evidence building; limited immediate impact.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

CONCLUSION

The Gun Violence Study Workgroup has undertaken a comprehensive review of the factors contributing to gun violence in our communities and identified a series of strategic, data-informed recommendations.

These recommendations reflect the urgent need for a coordinated, cross-sector response that not only addresses immediate threats but also invests in long-term prevention, community healing, and support for survivors.

Continued collaboration among government agencies, community organizations, and residents will be essential to advancing these efforts. With sustained commitment and appropriate resources, the County can make meaningful progress in reducing gun violence and enhancing public safety for all.

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Members

Krystal Oriadha	Council Member, 7 th District, Co-Chair
Perry Paylor	Deputy State's Attorney, State's Attorney's Office, Co-Chair
Barry Stanton	DCAO for Public Safety
George Nichols	Assistant Sheriff, Office of the Sheriff
Zachary Olare	Deputy Chief, Police Department
Elana Belon-Butler	Director, Department of Family Services
Lisa Garry	Deputy Secretary for Community Services, Department of Juvenile Services
Dr Matthew D. Levy	Health Officer, Health Department
Terence Clark	Director, Department of Corrections
Tyrone Collington, Sr.	Chief, Bladensburg Police Department, Police Chief's Association of Prince George's County (2024)
Juanita Agnew,	The Jayz Agnew Foundation
Dr. Tyreese McAllister	Ayanna J. McAllister Legacy Foundation
Carlesa Peterson	Assistant Director, Department of Social Services

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Staff Members

Workgroup Staff

Sandra Eubanks Director Health, Human Services & Public Safety Committee

Leroy Maddox Legislative Officer

Rhonda Riddick Committee Assistant

Tiffany Hannon Chief of Staff, Council Member Oriadha's Office

Melody M. Arrington Committee Assistant

Nikia McBride Committee Assistant

Communications Rita

D. Lassiter Communications Specialist, County Council

Technical Support

Donna Brown Clerk of the Council

Leonard Moses James Deputy Clerk of the Council

T. Walker Bey Associate Clerk of the Council

Douglas Pope Administrative Aide

GUN VIOLENCE STUDY WORKGROUP REPORT

Workgroup Meetings, Agendas, and Minutes

The Gun Violence Study Workgroup met on the following dates:

June 12, 2024
September 18, 2024
October 16, 2024
November 20, 2024
February 19, 2025
March 19, 2025
April 16, 2025
May 28, 2025
June 18, 2025

The meeting agendas, minutes, and video recordings are available on the Council's Gun Violence Study Workgroup webpage [here](#).

Additionally, the presentations provided during the meeting are also archived for viewing on the webpage.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**2023 Legislative Session**Resolution No. CR-075-2023Proposed by Council Member OriadhaIntroduced by Council Members Oriadha, Dernoga, Watson, Blegay, Burroughs, Olson
and Fisher

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction September 6, 2023**RESOLUTION**

A RESOLUTION concerning

Establishing a Workgroup to Study Gun Violence: Causes, Effects, and Solutions

For the purpose of establishing a Gun Violence Study Workgroup (“Workgroup”); providing for the purpose of the Workgroup; providing for the composition of the Workgroup; providing for the staff and technical support for the Workgroup; providing for the issuance of a certain report; and generally regarding the Gun Violence Study Workgroup.

WHEREAS, there has been an alarming increase of gun violence in Prince George’s County, resulting in unsafe communities, deaths due to gunshot wounds and violence in predominantly low-income communities; and

WHEREAS, it was reported that in the span of 24 hours, there were 7 different shootings, resulting in 3 deaths in Prince George’s County; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of firearm violence, combined with its impact on the health and safety of Prince George’s County residents is a high priority for the County Council and a deep study of how it is impacting Prince Georgian’s will allow the Council to legislate on this topic with the proper tools to address this issue; and

WHEREAS, the Workgroup will study topics including, but not limited to: causes of increased gun violence in the County, the effects it has on our communities, homicide, violence crime, attempted murder, and gun violence injuries within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Workgroup will provide possible solutions or suggestions of programs and legislation that can assist in decreasing violent gun crimes; and

WHEREAS, Section 506 of the Charter for Prince George’s County provides that the

County Council or the County Executive may appoint, for designated periods, one or more temporary advisory boards of citizens of the County who shall assist in the consideration of County policies and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that there is hereby established a Gun Violence Study Workgroup to assist the County in studying violent gun crimes within the County:

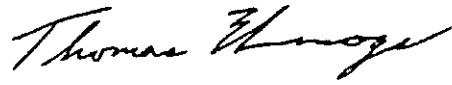
- (a) The Gun Violence Study Workgroup ("Workgroup") topics shall include, but not limited to: causes of increased gun violence in the County, the effects it has on our communities, homicide, violence crime, attempted murder, and gun violence injuries within the County with the purpose of providing possible solutions and suggesting programs or legislation to decrease gun violence.
- (b) The Workgroup shall be comprised of the following members:
 - (1) The State's Attorney for Prince George's County or their designee;
 - (2) The DCAO for Public Safety, or their designee;
 - (3) The Sheriff for Prince George's County, or their designee;
 - (4) The Chief of Prince George's County Police Department, or their designee;
 - (5) The Director of Prince George's County Family Services, or their designee;
 - (6) The Secretary of Juvenile Services, or their designee;
 - (7) The Director of the Department of Social Services; or their designee;
 - (8) The Public Defender for Prince George's County, or their designee;
 - (9) The Director of the Department of Health, or their designee;
 - (10) The Director of the Department of Corrections, or their designee;
 - (11) The following four (4) members shall be selected by the County Council:
 - a. One (1) Representative from the Prince George's County Council;
 - b. One (1) Representative from the Police Chief's Association for Prince George's County; and
 - c. Two (2) representatives from a community-based non-profit that works on gun violence prevention and reduction.
- (c) All member selections by the County Council shall be completed within sixty (60) days of the adoption of this Resolution.
- (d) The Workgroup shall elect the Chair of the Workgroup by majority vote at the first meeting.

- (e) The Workgroup shall meet monthly, for up to one (1) year, unless extended.
- (f) No member of the Workgroup shall receive compensation in exchange for their services rendered to the Workgroup; but they are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations as provided by the County Budget.
- (g) The Legislative Branch shall provide for the staff and technical support for the Workgroup.
- (h) The Workgroup shall issue an annual report to be transmitted to the County Executive and the County Council within thirty (30) days of the final meeting session.

Adopted this 3rd day of October, 2023.

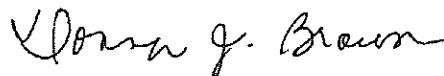
COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:



Thomas E. Dernoga
Chair

ATTEST:



Donna J. Brown

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2024 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-011-2024

Proposed by Council Member Oriadha

Introduced by Council Members Oriadha, Blegay, Watson, Olson, Ivey, Burroughs, Dernoga

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction February 27, 2024

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION concerning

Amending the Gun Violence Study Workgroup

For the purpose of amending the Gun Violence Study Workgroup ("Workgroup"); providing for the purpose of the Workgroup; providing for the amended composition of the Workgroup; providing for the staff and technical support for the Workgroup; providing for the issuance of a certain report; and generally regarding the Gun Violence Study Workgroup.

WHEREAS, there has been an alarming increase of gun violence in Prince George's County, resulting in unsafe communities, deaths due to gunshot wounds and violence in predominantly low-income communities; and

WHEREAS, it was reported that in the span of 24 hours, there were 7 different shootings, resulting in 3 deaths in Prince George's County; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of firearm violence, combined with its impact on the health and safety of Prince George's County residents is a high priority for the County Council and a deep study of how it is impacting Prince Georgian's will allow the Council to legislate on this topic with the proper tools to address this issue; and

WHEREAS, the Workgroup will study topics including, but not limited to: causes of increased gun violence in the County, the effects it has on our communities, homicide, violence crime, attempted murder, and gun violence injuries within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Workgroup will provide possible solutions or suggestions of programs and legislation that can assist in decreasing violent gun crimes; and

WHEREAS, Section 506 of the Charter for Prince George's County provides that the

County Council or the County Executive may appoint, for designated periods, one or more temporary advisory boards of citizens of the County who shall assist in the consideration of County policies and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the Gun Violence Study Workgroup established by CR-75-2023 shall be amended to permit the County adequate time to appoint members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there is hereby established a Gun Violence Study Workgroup to assist the County in studying violent gun crimes within the County:

- (a) The Gun Violence Study Workgroup ("Workgroup") topics shall include, but not limited to: causes of increased gun violence in the County, the effects it has on our communities, homicide, violence crime, attempted murder, and gun violence injuries within the County with the purpose of providing possible solutions and suggesting programs or legislation to decrease gun violence.
- (b) The Workgroup shall be comprised of the following members:
 - (1) The State's Attorney for Prince George's County or their designee;
 - (2) The DCAO for Public Safety, or their designee;
 - (3) The Sheriff for Prince George's County, or their designee;
 - (4) The Chief of Prince George's County Police Department, or their designee;
 - (5) The Director of Prince George's County Family Services, or their designee;
 - (6) The Secretary of Juvenile Services, or their designee;
 - (7) The Director of the Department of Social Services; or their designee;
 - (8) The Public Defender for Prince George's County, or their designee;
 - (9) The Director of the Department of Health, or their designee;
 - (10) The Director of the Department of Corrections, or their designee;
 - (11) The following four (4) members shall be selected by the County Council:
 - a. One (1) Representative from the Prince George's County Council;
 - b. One (1) Representative from the Police Chief's Association for Prince George's County; and
 - c. Two (2) representatives from a community-based non-profit that works on gun violence prevention and reduction.
- (c) All member selections shall be completed by the County Council.

- (d) The Workgroup shall elect the Chair of the Workgroup by majority vote at the first meeting.
- (e) The Workgroup shall meet monthly, for up to one (1) year, unless extended.
- (f) No member of the Workgroup shall receive compensation in exchange for their services rendered to the Workgroup; but they are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations as provided by the County Budget.
- (g) The Legislative Branch shall provide for the staff and technical support for the Workgroup.
- (h) The Workgroup shall issue an annual report to be transmitted to the County Executive and the County Council within thirty (30) days of the final meeting session.

Adopted this 27th day of February, 2024.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: *Jolene Ivey*
Jolene Ivey
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council