

Annual Report of Maryland State Police to Governor and Secretary of Public Safety & Correctional Services (report not mandatory).

Annual Report of Patuxent Institution to Governor and Secretary of Public Safety & Correctional Services.

Annual Report of Police Training Commission to Governor, General Assembly, and Secretary of Public Safety & Correctional Services.

Annual Report of State Fire Prevention Commission to Governor and Secretary of Public Safety & Correctional Services due Sept. 30.

Annual Report of State Use Industries Advisory Committee to Governor & General Assembly due Sept. 30.

Quarterly Report to Secretary of Personnel on part-time positions.

Report to General Assembly on sentencing of prisoners to jurisdiction of Division of Correction, and local jurisdictions of those so sentenced & costs (as per Chapter 88, Acts of 1990) due June 30, 1991.

Report to Secretary of Budget & Fiscal Planning & Legislative Auditor on account examinations of private care providers under State contract due periodically.

Report to Senate Budget & Taxation Committee & House Constitutional & Administrative Law Committee on prison construction projects due Nov. 1, 1992.

Semi-annual publication of Handgun Roster by Handgun Roster Board in Maryland Register.

Semi-annual Report to State Treasurer on anticipated debt during next seven-month period due Jan. 1 & July 1.

ORIGIN & FUNCTIONS

The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services was created in 1970 (Chapter 401, Acts of 1970). Its origins date to the early nineteenth century when the State first assumed responsibilities for corrections. Earlier, private quarters or county jails had been used to incarcerate prisoners. By 1804, however, Maryland authorized the building of a State prison, the Maryland Penitentiary, which opened at Baltimore City in 1811 (Resolution no. 32, Acts of 1804). The second State prison, the Maryland House of Correction, was authorized in 1874 and opened at Jessup in 1879 (Chapter 233, Acts of 1874). In the twentieth century, more State correctional institutions were established: the Maryland State Penal Farm (later to become Maryland Correctional Institution at Hagerstown) in 1931; Women's Prison of the State of Maryland at Jessup in 1941; Patuxent Institution at Jessup in 1951; Maryland Correctional Training Center at Hagerstown in 1966; Maryland Correctional Institution at Jessup in 1981; Roxbury Correctional Institution at Hagerstown in 1983; and Eastern Correctional Institution at Westover in 1987.

Not until the twentieth century did the State take on the public safety duties now associated with the Department. The Maryland State Police was organized in 1935 (Chapter 303, Acts of 1935) but its role began in 1914 when the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles was authorized to employ Motorcycle Deputies to patrol the highways. Duties of the State Fire Marshal were performed ex officio by the State Insurance Commissioner from 1916 until 1964, when the office of State Fire Marshal was created.

Today, the Department has statewide responsibility for controlling and reducing crime, maintaining public order, and supervising and rehabilitating adjudicated individuals who pose a threat to the public.

Reporting directly to the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services are the Maryland State Police, the State Fire Marshal, the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services, the Division of Correction, Patuxent Institution, and the Division of Parole and Probation. The office of the Secretary also oversees several advisory boards, including the Advisory Board for Correction, Parole and Probation; the Explosives Advisory Council; and the Handgun Roster Board.

The Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services is assisted by a deputy secretary and an assistant secretary. The Deputy Secretary is responsible for the Equal Opportunity Office and the Divisions of Capital Construction, Facilities Maintenance, and Research and Statistics. The Assistant Secretary oversees Personnel Services and Audit and Compliance, as well as the Commission on Correctional Standards, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, the Emergency Number Systems Board, the Handgun Permit Review Board, the Inmate Grievance Office, and the Sundry Claims Board.