



SAO UPDATE

The Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office • State's Attorney, Ivan J. Bates

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ABOUT THE OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE CITY:

The mission of the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City is to create true public safety through partnerships with elected officials, law enforcement, and our residents.

The Office fulfills this goal through the successful prosecution of all crimes in Baltimore City.



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SUMMER 2025

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STATE'S ATTORNEY HOSTS 2ND
ANNUAL SOLUTIONS PACT TOWN
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STATE'S ATTORNEY HOSTS 2ND ANNUAL SOLUTIONS PACT TOWN HALL FOCUSED ON JUVENILE CRIME



The Second Annual Solutions Pact, hosted on May 20 at Huber Memorial Church, brought together leaders from law enforcement, government agencies, service providers, and

the community to foster a meaningful discussion around the issue of juvenile crime in Baltimore City.

Councilman Mark Conway and WBAL Radio's T.J. Smith co-hosted with State's Attorney Bates to speak with concerned residents about how youth can be held accountable while also providing possible solutions like programming, services, or employment opportunities. The Q&A panel was composed of agency heads like Stephanie Mavronis, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, and community leaders like Carlmichael "Stokey" Cannady.

Baltimore Police, Baltimore City School Police, the Baltimore City School Board, the Mayor's Office of African American Male Engagement, the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Family, as well as organizations that aim to empower young leaders, including B-360, We Our Us, and No Boundaries were present to address questions from community and discuss the work they are doing as it relates to juveniles.

"Juvenile crime remains one of the most pressing concerns for communities and families across Baltimore City. Every parent wants to know that their child is safe, both from crime and from becoming entangled in the criminal justice system," said **State's Attorney Bates** in his opening remarks at the town hall. "And every neighborhood wants to know that public safety is a priority, and people, regardless of who they are, are being held accountable for their actions."

If you missed the town hall, you can watch it on the BaltimoreSAO Facebook page at facebook.com/baltimorecitysao.



CONVICTION ALERTS

A Baltimore City Jury found defendant **Deonte Price** guilty of the fatal shooting of Dabrae Edwards and the non-fatal shooting of another male in the 200 block of East Street. The defendant faces a maximum penalty of Life plus 80 years at sentencing. Assistant State's Attorney Kurt Bjorklund prosecuted this case.

Defendant **Jamar Brockington**, a former police officer with the Coppin State University Police Department, pled guilty to Misconduct in Office and Fourth-Degree Sex Offense. The defendant was sentenced to an aggregate of three years, suspending all but 110 days of time served, and three years of probation upon release. He must also register as a Tier 1 sex offender for up to 15 years. Assistant State's Attorney Kimberly Rothwell prosecuted this case.

Defendant **Aurielle Montgomery** pleaded guilty in Baltimore Circuit Court to one count of second-degree depraved heart murder for the murder of her 1-year-old daughter in 2022, and sentencing is scheduled for July 16. This defendant withdrew her initial plea of not being criminally responsible. Special Victims Unit Chief Jesse Halvorsen prosecuted this case.

Defendant **Eric Morris**, a repeat offender for drug use and firearm possession, pleaded guilty to First Degree Murder in connection with the fatal shooting of **Wayne Stewart Archer, Jr.** He was sentenced to Life, suspending all but 25 years, with five years of supervised probation upon release. Assistant States Attorneys **David Wiseman** and **Lauren Rosenberg** prosecuted the case.



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LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP



This session, the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office advocated in Annapolis for legislation to improve public safety and create a fairer and more equitable criminal justice system. Through compelling testimony, extensive research, and collaboration with local legislators, the State's Attorney's Office secured the passage of the following bills:

Second Look Act (HB0853) – authorizes qualified individuals to file a motion to reduce the duration of their sentence when they have demonstrated significant rehabilitation while incarcerated.

Geriatric and Medical Parole (SB0181) - requires the Maryland Parole Commission to consider the age of an incarcerated individual when determining whether to grant parole and alters how the Commission evaluates a request for medical parole.

Expungement Reform Act (SB432) – reforms certain eligibility requirements for what convictions can qualify for expungement, including some non-violent misdemeanor convictions.

Organized Retail Theft Act (SB11/HB0179) - creates a specific crime of “organized retail theft” and modifies how theft cases can be prosecuted when they are part of a broader pattern, including multiple thefts committed by the same person in numerous counties under one scheme.

Firearm Crimes Convertible Pistols (HB1287) – prohibits a person from manufacturing, selling, offering for sale, purchasing, receiving, or transferring any semi-automatic pistol that can be converted into a machine gun solely by the attachment of a switch/auto-sear.

Truancy Reduction Pilot Program (HB1442) – establishes a Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in Baltimore City to address the chronic issue of absenteeism amongst city students.



This year, State's Attorney Bates was selected as the new President of the Maryland State's Attorney Association, which governs State's Attorneys in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions.



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BATES' ADMINISTRATION CELEBRATES THREE YEARS

State's Attorney Ivan J. Bates won the primary election for State's Attorney on July 23, 2022. As we approach this three-year anniversary, we reflect on the many accomplishments the State's Attorney and his team have achieved in this short amount of time.



State's Attorney Bates was sworn-in as the 26th State's Attorney for Baltimore City on January 3, 2023.



In 2024, the State's Attorney's Office secured the passage of the Pava Marie LaPere Act which prevents first degree sex offenders from earning diminutive credits while incarcerated so that they are not released early. Pava LaPere was murdered by an offender who was released early on diminutive credits. Her father is pictured here and was a major advocate of the bill.



State's Attorney Bates launched a Cold Case Unit in 2024 led by Chief Kurt Bjorklund to focus on older homicide cases where investigations have gone dormant.



The State's Attorney's Community Engagement Team has hosted dozens of crime and grime walks throughout the year to connect with community members about their specific needs and concerns in their neighborhood.



Following the mass shooting in Brooklyn Park on July 2, 2023, State's Attorney Bates and his Victim Witness Division responded to the scene to distribute food and provide resources to the community.



State's Attorney Bates launched an Older & Disabled Persons Unit his first year in office. The team hosts an annual Senior Luncheon to provide valuable information about avoiding economic crime scams and reporting abuse.



The 2nd Annual Solutions Pact was hosted on May 20 of this year and focused on the issue of juvenile crime. The above panel was comprised of leaders in local law enforcement, government agencies, and non-profits.



The State's Attorney's External Affairs Division has hosted an annual Community Heroes Awards Ceremony to celebrate individuals making a difference in their neighborhood.



The State's Attorney's Office has attended dozens of job hiring fairs over the years to recruit new talent to the team.



Since taking office, State's Attorney Bates has hosted an annual community meeting series called L.E.A.R.N. (legislative, engagement, advocacy, resources, and networking) to get community feedback on his upcoming legislative agenda.



The State's Attorney's Major Investigations Unit has partnered with local and federal law enforcement to take down numerous drug trafficking organizations operating in Baltimore City and seize significant amounts of narcotics and firearms.



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