



DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor

Maryland Byrne Advisory Board

Date: Monday, November 10th, 2025

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual

Advisory Board Goals and Objectives

- To develop recommendations that guide the implementation of Byrne SCIP funding, as established by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022 ([Pub. L. No. 117-159, 136 Stat. 1313, 1339](#)).
- To provide oversight of the Landscape Analysis and curation of the Byrne SCIP Plan and Budget.
- To establish statewide performance measures to gauge sub-recipient progress in meeting Byrne SCIP goals.
- To review applications and recommend programs for funding based on best- and/or most promising practices to reduce gun violence in Maryland.

Participating Members:

Maryland Department of State Police	Assistance Bureau Chief, Criminal Investigation Bureau	Major Andy Johnson
ROAR Center, University of Maryland, Baltimore	Executive Director	Lydia Watts
Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence	Executive Director	Jeanne Yeager
Johns Hopkins School of Public Health	Associate Professor	Shannon Frattaroli
District Court of Maryland	Associate Judge	Honorable Marina Sabett
Maryland Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association	Executive Director	Sheriff Darren Popkin (Ret.)
Maryland Office of the Public Defender	Public Defender	Natasha Dartigue
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	Director, Centers of Excellence; Chair, Maryland Byrne Advisory Board	James "Jim" Rhoden

Staff:

Alexandra "Lexy" Smith, Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) & Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCIP) Policy & Data Analyst, GOCPP

June Chung, Director of Policy and Legislation, GOCPP

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Presenters:

Jen Pauliukonis, Executive Director, Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention, Maryland Department of Health

Erin Boguski, Program Director, Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention, Maryland Department of Health

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Chairperson, Jim Rhoden. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was confirmed. Members approved the meeting minutes from August 11, 2025. The motion to accept was initiated by the Honorable Marina Sabett and seconded by Shannon Frattaroli.

II. Report from GOCPP

GOCPP welcomed presenters from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), who provided an overview of the [Maryland Firearm Violence Data Dashboard](#). The presentation highlighted statewide and jurisdiction-level trends in firearm-related homicides, suicides, and injuries, as well as demographic information and historical trendlines. Presenters discussed differences between place of injury and place of death, data limitations, and the value of using multiple data sources to understand firearm-related violence in Maryland.

Board members asked clarifying questions regarding the availability of circumstance data and the completeness of reporting. MDH staff noted that while all violent firearm deaths are captured, circumstances may be incomplete or updated over time. Board members expressed interest in making this data resource more accessible to Byrne SCIP subrecipients through a future presentation.

GOCPP provided an update on the progress of current Byrne SCIP subrecipient projects. Staff also provided a federal program update, noting that progress on FY25 Byrne SCIP – Building Engagement Around Crisis, Outreach, and Navigation (BEACON) awards remains temporarily delayed due to the federal government shutdown and the furlough of Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) staff. GOCPP shared that all state-level preparations are complete and that funding recommendations will be submitted to BJA as soon as federal operations resume. Applicants have been informed of the delay and potential timeline adjustments.

III. Open Forum

The Board considered the FY26 BSCIP BEACON Program funding recommendations. After discussion, a motion to approve the recommendations was made by Lydia Watts and seconded by Jeanne Yeager. The motion carried.

VII. Next Steps

GOCPP will prepare and submit the formal funding recommendation letter to BJA once the federal government reopens. The next Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2026, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. and will be held virtually. A calendar invitation will be circulated following the meeting.

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VIII. Good of the Order and Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Shannon Frattaroli and seconded by Lydia Watts. The meeting was officially adjourned by Chairperson Jim Rhoden at 2:48PM.