

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

October 6, 2016

Howard County Sheriff James F. Fitzgerald
8360 Court Ave
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Sheriff Fitzgerald:

We were appalled to see the report from the Howard County Office of Human Rights detailing how you have created a hostile and abusive work environment for the nearly 70-person department you oversee. As federal elected officials with responsibilities for the people of Howard County, we urge you to prioritize the needs of the residents of the county you serve, as well as the officers under your command, and resign your office.

The people of Howard County and its Sheriff's office deserve leadership that understands that bullying, racism, sexism and anti-Semitism should have no place in American law enforcement. We find the behavior outlined by the Office of Human Rights unacceptable and an affront to the people who elected you and to the law enforcement officers of Howard County who serve this community with honor despite such toxic leadership.

At a time when trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve has been strained in Maryland and nationwide, we hope you will do the right thing and allow the Howard County Sheriff's Office to heal and move forward with new leadership that can demonstrate respect for all law enforcement personnel and the entire Howard County community.

Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



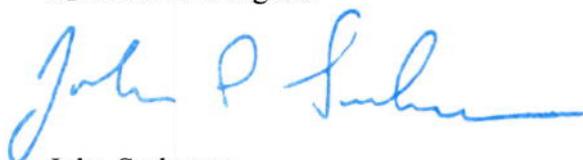
Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppberger
Member of Congress



John Sarbanes
Member of Congress