

RESOURCES from *What To Do If Your Child Is Arrested* Webinar

Co-Presented by [Autism Society of Maryland](#) and [Autism Society Baltimore-Chesapeake](#)

September 23, 2024 via Zoom

ADVICE FOR A SELF-ADVOCATE WHO IS STOPPED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND/OR ARRESTED:

1. Stay calm and composed
2. Do not feel pressured to answer questions. State: "I would like to remain silent"
3. You May State: "I don't understand"
4. Identify that you need help and state your disability
5. Ask for an attorney.
6. DO NOT resist arrest
7. DO NOT volunteer any information
8. DO NOT argue or meet disrespect with disrespect
9. If accused, don't explain. Ask for a lawyer or state your choice to remain silent.

Panelists suggested that parents/guardians work with their young person to create a personal plan and then practice that plan in the event that they are stopped by the police or arrested.

LIST OF RESOURCES

211 Maryland Call Center Network

<https://211md.org/about/call-center-network/>

211's network of regional call centers connects Marylanders to essential resources throughout the state. When Marylanders dial 211, they are automatically routed to their regional call center for help.

911 Diversion

In June 2021, Baltimore launched the Behavioral Health 9-1-1 Diversion Pilot Program with the goal of diverting certain behavioral health-related 9-1-1 calls from law enforcement to experienced mental health professionals through the [Here2Help hotline](#).

<https://consentdecree.baltimorecity.gov/behavioral-health-and-consent-decree/9-1-1-diversion>

911 Registries and Flagging Programs through County Police Departments in Maryland

Visit the Autism Society of Maryland's Safety Page (scroll to bottom of page)

<https://autismsocietymd.org/safety/>

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

988 is a support helpline for people experiencing mental health or substance use emergencies.

People can call (or text or chat) 9-8-8 to talk and to connect with services. Connect with a caring call specialist 24/7. You can call, text or chat to 988.

<https://health.maryland.gov/bha/Pages/988md.aspx>

Autism Society of America

[First Responder Initiative](#)

[Autism Justice Center](#)

[Emergency Identification sheet](#)

[Main Website](#)

Autism Society Baltimore-Chesapeake

Baltimore Police Department Communication Facilitator and Communication Board to download and other resources.

<https://www.baltimoreautismsociety.org/>

Autism Society of Maryland - Safety Page

Includes information on registry and support programs through several county police departments (scroll to bottom of page), wandering prevention and water safety.

<https://autismsocietymd.org/safety/>

Baltimore Crisis Response 988

<https://bcresponse.org/>

Carroll County Youth Crisis Hotline and Maryland Crisis Hotline

1-800-422-0009

Decriminalize Developmental Disabilities (Based in VA but serving nationwide)

This is the organization founded by panelist Brian Kelmar. Their goal is to make changes that will save these individuals from the unnecessary cruelty the criminal justice system is putting them through. Implementing this goal will require educating legislators, prosecutors and judges about this population and their need to be understood, rather than prosecuted, by the legal system. Their mission is to ensure equal access to justice, ADA accommodations and effective

education and treatment for defendants with I/DD who are involved with the criminal justice system. Contact info: b.kelmar@dthree.org or 804-363-0767
<https://dthree.org/>

Ethan Saylor Alliance

The Ethan Saylor Alliance was passed in April of 2015 and was aimed at providing increased training for members of law enforcement and other public service entities on specific needs of those with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The premise of the alliance is that self-advocates take the central role in educating and informing the community in regard to the specific needs of those with disabilities. The Maryland Department of Disabilities was tasked with forming an alliance of self-advocates, family members, disability related professionals, educators and members of law enforcement. The alliance will form the framework needed to support and facilitate self-advocates as educators for law enforcement and other public service entities. <https://mdod.maryland.gov/about/Pages/Saylor-Alliance.aspx>

Hussman Institute Autism Kit – for First Responders

Provides backpacks filled with helpful supplies for first responders if they encounter a child/adult with autism (dry erase board, fidgets, communication board, etc.)
<https://hussmanautism.org/autism-kit-for-first-responders/>

IBCCES – Autism Training & Certification for First Responders

<https://ibcces.org/first-responder-training/>

Jeremiah Josey’s Website: Jeremiah’s Cooking Adventure

<https://www.jeremiahscookingadventure.com/>

Maryland Mobile Crisis Teams

Maryland's mobile crisis teams are made up of behavioral health clinicians who can visit people in crisis at their home or in the community. They work with other community resources, such as police, crisis intervention agencies, and shelters. There’s a nice list at this link:
<https://maryland.optum.com/content/ops-maryland/maryland/en/participants-families/crisis-resources.html>

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Maryland Child Interrogation Protection Act

Went into effect in October 2022. The Child Interrogation Protection Act is one of the laws going into effect this Saturday. It will require an attorney be consulted when a child is taken into custody. The bill also ensures that parents/guardians will be notified if their child is taken into custody. Finally, the bill establishes a rebuttable presumption that a statement made by a child during a custodial interrogation is inadmissible if a law enforcement officer willfully failed to comply with the bill's requirements.

<https://www.aclu-md.org/en/press-releases/child-interrogation-protection-act-goes-effect-saturday>

Maryland State Elected Officials – To reach out to your local elected officials

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

MVA Blue Card

The Developmental Disability Disclosure Card was designed to help with effective communication between law enforcement officers and people with developmental disabilities. It is available through the Maryland Motor Vehicles Administration (MVA) The card is the size of a driver's license and blue for easy recognition. It includes space for an individual to provide details on their particular developmental disability, and includes a message to law enforcement officers on how best to interact with the customer. The MVA provides this card **upon request** to customers, parent/guardians, and organizations for distribution. If you are an individual who would like to pick up a Voluntary Developmental Disability Disclosure Card, please visit the information desk at any of our 24 branches statewide during normal operational hours. MVA will NOT ask customers to explain or show proof of their disability in order to obtain this card. <https://mva.maryland.gov/about-mva/Pages/Persons-With-Disabilities.aspx>

Montgomery County Police Department

Autism/IDD (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities), Alzheimer's and Dementia Outreach Program

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pol/howdol/autism-alzheimer-outreach.html>

Pathfinders for Autism

Pathfinders offers a variety of safety resources that include Traffic Stop Training, First Responder Training, County 9-1-1 Flagging Programs, Interacting with Law Enforcement, and more at this link:

<https://pathfindersforautism.org/resources/safety/>

Traffic Stop Training

Offered by Pathfinders for Autism, police departments, and other partners, The Traffic Stop Training is also helpful for the police officers. Here's a link to register for a session on October 18, 2024 from 10am-2pm in Howard County, MD - whether you are a driver or a passenger.

<https://autismsocietymd.org/event/what-to-do-during-a-traffic-stop-2/>

PANELIST BIOS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Carlean Ponder (cponder@autismsociety.org) serves as the founding director of the Autism Justice Center, an initiative of the Autism Society of America. Carlean is an attorney and civil rights advocate working at the intersection of disability, race, and the criminal justice system. She started her legal career with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights where she combined federal litigation with public policy advocacy. Next, she served as an appellate attorney for 11 years with the Social Security Administration in its disability adjudication division. During that time, Carlean joined other grassroots advocates to advance initiatives in her local community and the state of Maryland to address a spate of police shootings involving people experiencing a mental health crisis. Prior to joining the Autism Society of America, she combined her legal, grassroots, and public policy experience as Director of Disability Rights for the Arc of the United States, where she championed the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities before Congress and federal agencies. Carlean received her law degree from the University of Illinois and Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.

Jeremiah Josey (jeremiah.josey1@gmail.com) is a 23-year-old Maryland-based baker, model, author, and motivational speaker. He also hosts a cooking show on YouTube called "Jeremiah's Cooking Adventures" which chronicles and highlights his culinary escapades with famous Chefs Kwame Onwuachi, Marcus Samuelson, Christina Tosi, JJ Johnson, and Duff Goldman to name a few. He was acknowledged as an Honorary Scholar by US Foods, received the National Black Chef's Association 2019 Chef's award, named one of 14 top Autism Influencers on social media by Autism on The Mighty community and is a Flutie Fellow sponsored by the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc. Visit his website, Jeremiah's Cooking Adventures, at <https://www.jeremiahscookingadventure.com/> Jeremiah's mom is Simone Greggs (simonegreggs@gmail.com)

Brian Kelmar (b.kelmar@dthree.org or 804-363-0767) is the President and cofounder of **Decriminalize Developmental Disabilities (Dthree)**, a national advocacy organization focused on criminal justice reform for individuals with autism. He collaborates with families of autistic individuals entangled in the criminal justice system across the U.S. and partners with

organizations in the U.S., Canada, and the UK. As the lead advocate for criminal justice reform, he has championed five legislative bills related to this cause, all of which have been signed into law in Virginia. Brian has presented at numerous conferences and has been featured in various media outlets. He was honored with the Catalyst for Change award from the ARC of Virginia for his advocacy efforts. Brian is a proud father of three sons, including one with autism. He holds a degree from Penn State, an MBA from Troy State, has completed doctoral studies at Nova Southeastern, and has executive education from Harvard.

Kimber D. Watts, (kimberlee.watts@maryland.gov) Supervising Attorney, Forensic Mental Health Division, Office of the Public Defender

Kimber Watts heads the Forensic Mental Health Division, assisting attorneys with cases involving mental health issues, particularly juvenile cases, and Waiver and Transfer Hearings. Kimber is a graduate of the University of Baltimore School of Law, and the University of Delaware, and is a career public defender. As an undergraduate, Ms. Watts worked briefly at a group home for intellectually disabled people before deciding to pursue a legal career. She started as a public defender 1999, and has worked in Juvenile Court, District Court, and Circuit Court. She has a particular expertise in working with adolescents with mental health issues. Kimber was appointed by Governor Hogan to the Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Commission (which advises the Behavioral Health Administration on matters of policy) where she currently serves as co-chair of the Children, Youth, and Families Committee.

Deana Krizan, (DKrizan@bcresponse.org) works as Director of Clinical Operations and Community Services at Baltimore Crisis Response Inc. (BCRI). She has been a clinical social worker for the past 18 years working in the public behavioral health field in Baltimore City, specializing in crisis response work. She has also worked in the mental health public policy sector as the Director of Public Policy for the Mental Health Association of Maryland. She is committed to promoting mental health wellness and recovery in Baltimore City through direct practice, advocacy, and public policy.

Darian Senn-Carter, Ed.D., (dsenncarter@gmail.com) Director, Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Institute, School of Business and Law, Anne Arundel Community College
Darian Senn-Carter Ed.D., is Director and Tenured Professor of the Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Institute at Anne Arundel Community College (AACC). He is a nationally recognized leader, facilitating student engagement and success. As an educator, he believes that education plays a vital role in the community and has become immersed in rich and diverse offerings to support student success. His passion is in the development and implementation of structures to support the success of all students, and regularly participates in a number of student engagement and success initiatives. Dr. Senn-Carter has served as a Member of the Board of Directors for the Maryland Book Bank, Civic Works Inc., Reach Partnership School, Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Center, and CollegeBound Foundation Alumni Association. He is the founder and coordinator of the Aspiring Leaders Academy mentoring program, co-founder of the University of Maryland College Park Incentive Awards Visionary

Scholarship Award, co-founder of the CollegeBound Foundation Alumni Scholarship Award, and co-founder of the Dunbar High School Alumni Scholarship Award.

Dr. Senn-Carter has served in key leadership roles including serving as a member of the American Association of Community Colleges's National Faculty Council, City Councilmember in the City of Bowie, Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Citizens Academy, Instructor at the National Institutes of Health, and Chair of AACC's Middle States Accreditation – Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience. Notably, he is a recent recipient of the Daily Record's Top 40 VIP Award, League for Innovations Excellence Award, CollegeBound Foundation Distinguished Alumni Award, Anne Arundel Community College Transfer Champion Award, Dr. Martin Luther King Zeitgeist Award, Towson University Philanthropic Alumni Award, Edgewood College Promise Award.

Dr. Senn-Carter earned a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Maryland in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Master's Degree in Homeland Security and Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Security Assessment and Management from Towson University and a Doctorate Degree in Education from Edgewood College. Dr. Senn-Carter is a certified Life Coach (International Coach Federation), licensed Emergency Medical Technician, obtained a Teaching Certificate in Special Education, and has completed numerous courses and trainings in leadership and education. He has participated in conferences, workshops, presentations, and panel discussions both regionally and nationally

LINKS TO WEBINAR RECORDING

Link to recording of webinar in English

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyjhPPHDMio&feature=youtu.be>

Link to recording of webinar in Spanish

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-47K8QvdNQ>