



Maryland's First
Nationally Accredited
Sheriff's Office



Raymond M. Kight
Sheriff

Darren M. Popkin
Chief Deputy

50 Maryland Avenue • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240-777-7000 • 240-777-7148 Fax

February 16, 2010

Ms. Lesa N. Hoover, Esq.
Vice President for Governmental Affairs
Apartment and Office Building Association
86 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1906

Re: Eviction Workload

Dear Ms. Hoover:

Thank you for contacting the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office for an update on the scheduling status for the service of pending real property writs of restitution and writs of possession.

Once a writ of restitution has been issued by the District Court and the landlord has transmitted the writ to the Sheriff's Office, we are attempting to schedule service of the writs as promptly as workload and conditions allow. The 2009 holiday season reduced the number of available calendar dates for evictions. The disastrous weather conditions in January and February, 2010 have further delayed already scheduled eviction dates. Pursuant to standing court orders and Sheriff's Office policy, eviction writs cannot be served if the outside air temperature is 32 degrees or below, or if it is raining or snowing when service of the writ is attempted.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office will prioritize "walk through" evictions in situations where the tenant is no longer present in the rental facility. If a landlord with a scheduled eviction date becomes aware that the tenant has vacated the rental facility, the landlord should contact the evictions unit to see if an earlier walk through date can be established.

As you are aware, over the last year the Courts and Sheriff's Office have experienced dramatic increases in the number of eviction and foreclosure cases that have been filed and resulted in writs of restitution or possession. In an effort to accommodate this workload on January 4, 2010 an additional full time deputy sheriff was permanently assigned to the evictions unit complement.

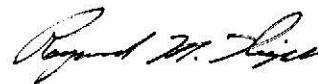
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Page 2 of 2

Unfortunately, as a result of current economic conditions, \$310,000 has been cut from our FY2010 budget year ending June 30, 2010 and \$1.23 million has been cut from our budget for FY11, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. Since over 90% of our budget is personnel costs, the budget cuts have resulted in the elimination of 3 deputies from the April, 2010 police academy class, 3 additional deputies from the July 1, 2010 police class, a clerk's position in the civil division for FY10 and another clerk's position for FY11.

Thus, the Sheriff's Office will be entering FY2011 with an increased eviction work load and the loss of 6 sworn and 2 civilian positions. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office will be attempting to fulfill all of its assignments with a substantial reduction in our work force. Periodically we will review and reevaluate the eviction scheduling procedure and resource allocation.

I trust that this information is responsive to your inquiry and that you and your members can appreciate the changed environment in which we are currently operating.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond M. Kight". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Raymond M. Kight, Sheriff