

# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
269-2141



STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR  
JAMES H. NORRIS, JR.

DEPUTY STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR  
ROBERT W. MCKEEVER

## REPORT ON WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE PURSUANT TO SEC. 10-409(c) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE

February 28, 1984

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND:

This is the seventh report submitted pursuant to section 10-409(c) which was enacted by Chapter 692, Acts of 1977. The report covers Calendar Year 1983.

According to the statistics contained within this report, wiretapping and electronic surveillance were not extensively used by law enforcement authorities in Maryland. Reports came from within only four of the twenty-four political subdivisions in the State. The reports indicated that wiretapping and electronic surveillance are most prevalent in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Charles Counties. No report of any activity was filed by the Attorney General or the State Prosecutor's Office.

According to the information received, a total of six court orders authorizing wiretapping and electronic surveillance were applied for, statewide, during 1983. All were granted, with the initial length of the period of surveillance generally being limited to 30 days or less. Twelve extensions were also granted.

Narcotics and distribution of controlled dangerous substances violations constituted the majority of the crimes involved in wiretap orders (five out of six), and only one order involved gambling offenses. Single family dwellings were involved in the majority of the orders (50%), followed by apartments (33.3%), and business locations (16.7%). A phone wiretap device was used in all instances (83.3%) except one in which a microphone-eavesdrop was authorized (16.7%).

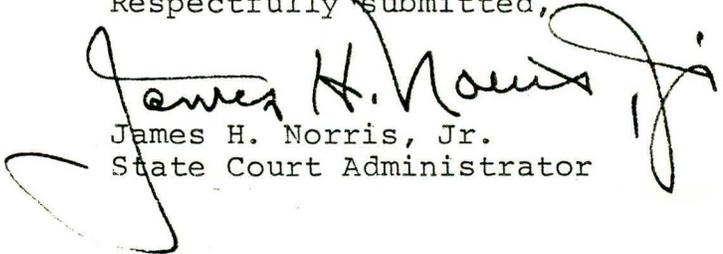
As a result of all approved orders, conversations of 158 individuals were intercepted. Of the total reported intercepts (15,843), 4.5 percent were regarded as incriminating (711). This led to the arrest of 16 individuals.

In those five orders where cost information was furnished, a total of \$95,011.34 was expended at an average cost of \$19,002.27 per order. The cost of individual orders ranged from a high of \$49,457.06 in

Baltimore County to a low of \$771 in Charles County. Cost of an order was directly related to the number of man hours involved in surveillance.

Details as to each individual order follow. Reporting numbers are used to designate each particular order to relate it to reports filed by judges and also those submitted by prosecuting officials. Also attached is a revised summary of wiretap and electronic surveillance orders from Calendar Year 1982. This report has been updated because of a number of orders which were received late during that reporting period.

Respectfully submitted,



James H. Norris, Jr.  
State Court Administrator

JHN:npg  
Enclosures

STATEWIDE SUMMARY OF WIRETAPPING AND  
ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE FOR JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1983

OFFENSE

Narcotics	- 2 (33.3%)
Narcotics, conspiracy	- 1 (16.7%)
Distribution of controlled dangerous substances	- 2 (33.3%)
Gambling	- <u>1 (16.7%)</u>
	6 (100.0%)

LOCATION

Single family dwelling	- 3 (50.0%)
Apartment	- 2 (33.3%)
Business location	- <u>1 (16.7%)</u>
	6 (100.0%)

TYPE OF DEVICE

Phone Wiretap	- 5 (83.3%)
Microphone-eavesdrop	- <u>1 (16.7%)</u>
	6 (100.0%)

NO. OF CONVERSATIONS OF  
INDIVIDUALS INTERCEPTED

158

NO. OF INTERCEPTS

15,843

NO. OF INCRIMINATING INTERCEPTS

711 (4.5% of total intercepts)

NO. OF ARRESTS DURING PERIOD

16

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE  
PURSUANT TO §10-409(c) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE  
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1983

REPORTS BY JUDGES

Reporting Number*	Court	Official Authorizing Application	Offense Specified	Type of Intercept <sup>1</sup>	Location <sup>2</sup>	Date of Application	AUTHORIZED LENGTH		
							Original Order (Days)	Number of Extensions	Total Length (Days)
<u>ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Gambling	PW	S	1/13/83	28	0	28
<u>BALTIMORE CITY</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Narcotics	PW	S	1/20/83	30	5	180
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Narcotics	PW	S	2/1/83	18	5	168
<u>BALTIMORE COUNTY</u>									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of controlled dangerous substances	PW	A	3/15/83	30	0	30
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of controlled dangerous substances	PW	A	4/12/83	29	2	80
<u>CHARLES COUNTY</u>									
1	Circuit Court	Sheriff's Dept.	Narcotics, conspiracy	ME	D	1/16/83	7	0	7

\*Corresponds to same number on reports by prosecuting officers.

<sup>1</sup>TYPE: PW = Phone wire; ME = Microphone-eavesdrop.

<sup>2</sup>LOCATION: S = Single family dwelling; A = Apartment; D = Business location; PP = Pay phone; NR = Not reported.

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REPORTS BY PROSECUTING OFFICERS

Reporting Number*	Number of Days in Operation	Average Number of Intercepts Per Day	NUMBER OF		COSTS		NUMBER OF				
			Conversations of Individuals Intercepted	Intercepts	Incriminating Intercepts	Total (\$)	Other Than Manpower (\$)	Persons Arrested	Trials	Motions to Suppress Intercepts	Persons Convicted
<u>ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY</u>											
1	Authorized wiretap not installed.										
<u>BALTIMORE CITY</u>											
1	163	58 )	97 <sup>a</sup>	9,472	266	14,113.00	810.52 )	8 <sup>a</sup>	0	9 Denied	N/A
2	151	11 )		1,624	59	13,832.00	529.12 )		0	9 Denied	N/A
<sup>a</sup> These totals are the net results of two separate but concurrent intercepts; together, constituting a single investigation.											
<u>BALTIMORE COUNTY</u>											
1	30	18	19	562	61	16,838.28	481.16	-----Not given-----			
2	80	52	40	4,180	320	49,457.06	385.70	4	-----Not given-----		
<u>CHARLES COUNTY</u>											
1	2	2.5	2	5	5	771.00	15.00	4	0	4 Denied	4

\*Corresponds to same number on reports by judges.