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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
974-2141

ACTING
STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
ROBERT W. McKEEVER

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

February 28, 1990

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND:

This is the thirteenth report submitted pursuant to section 10-409(c) which was enacted by Chapter 692, Acts of 1977. The report covers Calendar Year 1989.

The use of electronic surveillance decreased by 17.9 percent during Calendar Year 1989. There were thirty-nine requests for surveillance or wiretapping authorized during Calendar Year 1988 compared to thirty-two requests during Calendar Year 1989. The number of counties using electronic surveillances also decreased by 22.2 percent during Calendar Year 1989. Seven of the twenty-four political subdivisions filed reports. The greatest number of reports was filed in Baltimore County with twenty-two (68.8 percent) followed by Harford and Prince George's Counties with three reports filed in each county. There were no reports filed in either the Office of the Attorney General or the State Prosecutor's Office.

The thirty-two requests for wiretapping and electronic surveillance were all granted with an initial period of time of thirty days or less. No extensions were requested.

Of the thirty-two requests for electronic surveillances, thirty-one (96.9 percent) involved violations of the controlled dangerous substances laws. The remaining request was for a murder conspiracy. There was only one instance during Calendar Year 1989 when a surveillance was requested for use on a mobile phone. The majority (40.6 percent) of the surveillances were used in business locations followed by single family dwellings which accounted for 31.2 percent of the surveillances. Over eighteen percent of the surveillances were used on pay phones while 6.3 percent were used in apartments. Phone wiretaps were used in all thirty-two cases.

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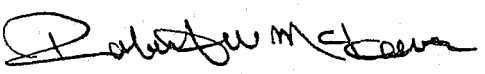
The use of electronic surveillances resulted in the interception of 5,733 conversations of individuals. There were 17,327 total interceptions of which 1,290 (7.4 percent) were of an incriminating nature. Forty-six persons were arrested during Calendar Year 1989 as a result of the surveillances; however, a number of investigations are still pending. Collectively, there was $547,588 expended on the surveillances with an average cost per order approximately $17,664. The cost for a single wiretap ranged from a low of $5,000 in Somerset County to a high of $108,708 in Prince George's County.

A detailed breakdown of each order follows. Reporting numbers have been used to designate related reports filed by the judges and those filed by prosecuting officials.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. McKeever
Acting State Court Administrator

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Enclosure

Statewide Summary of Wiretapping and
Electronic Surveillance for January 1 - December 31, 1989

Offense		Location	
Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine	- 3 (9.3%)	Apartment	- 2 (6.3%)
Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Dangerous Substances	- 2 (6.3%)	Business	- 13 (40.6%)
Distribution and Conspiracy of Controlled Dangerous Substances	- 1 (3.1%)	Cellular Phone	- 1 (3.1%)
Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	- 12 (37.5%)	Pay Phone	- 6 (18.8%)
Distribution of Cocaine	- 9 (28.1%)	Single Family Dwelling	- 10 (31.2%)
Drug Kingpin; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine; Importation of CDS; Conspiracy	- 2 (6.3%)		32 (100.0%)
Murder, Conspiracy to Murder	- 1 (3.1%)		
Narcotics	- 2 (6.3%)		
	32 (100.0%)		

Type of Device	No. of Conversations of Individuals Intercepted
Phone Wiretap - 32 (100.0%)	5,733

No. of Intercepts	No. of Incriminating Intercepts
17,327	1,290

No. of Arrests During Period

46

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
PURSUANT TO 10-409(c) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1989

REPORTS BY JUDGES

Reporting Number*	Court	Official Authorizing Application	Offense Specified	Type of Intercept[1]	Location[2]	Date of Application	AUTHORIZED LENGTH		
							Original Order (Days)	Number of Extensions	Total Length (Days)
Baltimore City									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Narcotics	PW	S	5/23/89	30	-	30
Baltimore County									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	S	3/22/89	30	-	30
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Conspiracy to Distribute CDS	PW	S	3/29/89	30	-	30
3	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine	PW	A	5/30/89	30	-	30
4	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine	PW	A	9/19/89	30	-	30
5	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
6	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
7	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
8	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
9	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
10	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
11	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	10/24/89	30	-	30
12	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	11/1/89	30	-	30
13	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	11/1/89	30	-	30
14	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	11/1/89	30	-	30
15	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	11/1/89	30	-	30
16	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Heroin	PW	D	11/1/89	30	-	30

*Corresponds to same number on reports by prosecuting officers.
[1]TYPE: PW = Phone wire; ME = Microphone-eavesdrop.
[2]LOCATION: S = Single family dwelling; A = Apartment; D = Business location; PP = Pay phone; NR = Not reported.

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
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REPORTS BY JUDGES

Reporting Number*	Court	Official Authorizing Application	Offense Specified	Type of Intercept[1]	Location[2]	Date of Application	AUTHORIZED LENGTH		
							Original Order (Days)	Number of Extensions	Total Length (Days)
Baltimore County (continued)									
17	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	PP	11/22/89	30	-	30
18	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	S	11/16/89	30	-	30
19	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	PP	11/16/89	30	-	30
20	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	PP	11/16/89	30	-	30
21	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	PP	11/16/89	30	-	30
22	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	PP	11/22/89	30	-	30
Dorchester County									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution and Conspiracy of Controlled Dangerous Substances	PW	S	5/16/89	30	-	30
Garrett County									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Murder, Conspiracy to Murder	PW	PP	4/13/89	30	-	30
Harford County									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	D	2/20/89	30	-	30
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	S	2/20/89	30	-	30
3	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Distribution of Cocaine	PW	S	2/20/89	30	-	30
Prince George's County									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine	PW	S	7/14/89	30	-	30
2	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Drug Kingpin; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine; Importation of CDS; Conspiracy	PW	S	10/25/89	30	-	30
3	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Drug Kingpin; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine; Importation of CDS; Conspiracy	PW	Cellular Phone	11/1/89	28	-	28
Somerset County									
1	Circuit Court	State's Attorney	Narcotics	PW	S	7/27/89	30	-	30

*Corresponds to same number on reports by prosecuting officers.
[1]TYPE: PW = Phone wire; ME = Microphone-eavesdrop.
[2]LOCATION: S = Single family dwelling; A = Apartment; D = Business location; PP = Pay phone; NR = Not reported.

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE
PURSUANT TO 10-409(c) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1989

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	Incrimi-nating Intercepts	Total ($)	Other Than Manpower ($)	Persons Arrested	Trials	Motions to Suppress Intercepts	Persons Convicted
Baltimore City											
1	30	8	26	230	50	$27,333	$ 6,000	2	----------Pending----------		
Baltimore County											
1	22	27	45	584	21)[1]	40,697	7,000	----------Pending----------			
2	22	16	45	341	46)[1]						
3	15	70	37	1,054	173	35,079	3,500	11	1	11	1
4	18	151	38	2,725	435	50,500	3,500	5	----------Pending----------		
5	16	16	225	254	0)						
6	27	8	185	205	3)						
7	16	18	240	285	0)						
8	27	102	2,240	2,763	14)						
9	16	21	310	332	0)						
10	27	13	330	362	0)[2]	102,508	35,108	----------Pending----------			
11	27	12	300	331	6)[2]						
12	20	42	800	841	5)						
13	20	64	153	1,276	5)						
14	9	23	180	211	0)						
15	9	15	110	136	0)						
16	9	14	100	125	0)						
17	6	0	0	0	0)						
18	12	11	10	126	1)						
19	12	.08	1	1	0)[3]	30,000	10,000	0	0	0	0
20	12	.16	2	2	0)[3]						
21	12	.08	1	1	0)						
22	6	0	0	0	0)						

[1] These figures are the net result of two related cases constituting a single investigation.
[2] These figures are the net result of twelve related cases constituting a single investigation.
[3] These figures are the net result of six related cases constituting a single investigation.

*Corresponds to same number on reports by judges.

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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
Dorchester County											
1	23	50	18	1,157	175	Not available		Pending			
Garrett County											
1	5	2	3	9	2	7,500	300	1	Pending		
Harford County											
1	21	28	150	587	51)						
2	21	5	15	97	17)[4]	68,200	2,400	3	2	1	2
3	21	11	20	222	15)						
Prince George's County											
1	24	96	41	2,300	179	108,708	4,989	11	Pending		3
2	15	33	60	500	50)[5]	72,063	6,467	13	Pending		
3	6	33	40	200	40)						
Somerset County											
1	21	3	8	70	2	5,000	2,500	Pending			

[4] These figures are the net result of three related cases constituting a single investigation.
[5] These figures are the net result of two related cases constituting a single investigation.

*Corresponds to same number on reports by judges.