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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOINS GOVERNOR O'MALLEY IN ANNOUNCING
HUNDREDS OF ARRESTS RESULTING FROM PROCESSING OF BACKLOG OF
DNA SAMPLES**

More than 250 murderers, burglars, rapists and other violent criminals are behind bars as a result of processing backlogged DNA evidence

BALTIMORE, MD – City Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young today joined Governor Martin O'Malley, Baltimore Police Commissioner Frederick Bealefeld and State law enforcement officials to announce the arrests of 266 violent criminals, which resulted from the processing of backlogged DNA samples. The statewide effort included the arrests of 124 violent offenders in Baltimore City.

In 2007 Gov. O'Malley inherited a backlog of 24,000 DNA samples that were shelved inside State Police labs. Today, because of Gov. O'Malley's efforts, hundreds of violent criminals are behind bars.

"We're putting criminals on notice," Council President Young said. "You will not come into our communities, break the law and terrorize our citizens without facing the most severe of consequences."

The problem of backlogs of DNA evidence is an issue many states around the country are confronted with. Maryland had a backlog of 24,000 DNA samples, which represented prime evidence in some of the state's most heinous crimes. But law enforcement officials, lab technicians and the broader public safety community sprung into action, turning a backlog of evidence into real arrests – 124 of which were right here in Baltimore."

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