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BRAC Growth: Dodging a Bullet or Embracing Opportunity

From Elizabeth Bobo., Maryland State Delegate



BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) represents the largest kp l w z qh t g u k f g p v u c p f jobs since WWII. We will not have another chance like this in q w t n k h g v k o g o l Y g e c p take this opportunity to shore up Baltimore City, thus helping the g p v k t g u v c v g q h O c t { -

land and avoid overburdening the counties.

The counties are already struggling to keep up with f g o c p f u q p n q e c n k p h t c u v t w e w t g = y c v g t l u g y g t . v t c p u k v . roads, schools. Baltimore has been losing population to v j g e q w p v k u q x g t v j g { g c t u l K v j c u o q t g q h v j g t g s w k t g f k p h t c u v t w e w t g k p r n c e g v q c e e q o o q f c v g v j g e q o k p i k p l w z l

Howard County has virtually no unemployment. In Baltimore City that is not the case, so it would clearly d g p g L v h t q o D T C E l q d u l D T C E l q d u i q k p i v q v j g e q w p v k u y q w n f o q u v n k m g n { t g s w k t g o q t g j q o g d w k n f k p i c p f v j g k p h t c u v t w e w t g v j c v i q g u y k v j k v l V j g u g u c o g e q w p v k u c t g c n t g c f { w p f g t r t g u u w t g h t q o f g o c p f h q t t q c f u c p f u e j q q n u h q t r t g D T C E i t q y v j l

I realize that competition among counties is a long- u v c p f k p i r t c e v k e g l Q p d c n c p e g . k v o c m g u u g p u g v q o g h q t v j g e q w p v k u p q v v q e q o r g v g u q u v t q p i n { h q t v j g u g p g y l q d u l K h v j g g e q p q o k e f g x g n r o g p v q h L e g u y g t g c u m g f p q v v q i q c h v g t v j g u g l q d u c p f t g u k f g p v u u q c i i t g u u x g n { . c p f k p u v g c f f k t g e v u q o g q h v j g v q D c n v k o q t g E k v { . v j g g p v k t g u v c v g y q w n f d g p g L v l C v v k o g u . p q v g p q w i j c v w g p v k p k u r c k f v q t g i k q p c n k u o . y j c v k u d g u v h q t v j g y j q n g r e g i o n .

U w f { c h v g t u w f { j c u u j q y p v j c v p g y j q w u k p i k p v j g e q w p v k u f q g u p q v r c { h q t k v u g n h l V j g e q u v q h d w k n f k p i o q t g t q c f u . u e j q q n u . c p f y c v g t c p f u g y g t h c e k n k v k u q w v w e i g h s t h e i n c r e a s e i n r e v e n u e . I n H o w a r d C o u n t y i t p q y e q u u v & 3 2 . 2 2 2 k p q r g t e v k p i h w p f u v q u g p f q p g e j k n f

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Htq o " T k e m " U k n d g t . " J E " E j c o d g t " q h " E q o o g t e g . " J q y c t f " County Business Owner



The only thing constant is change. There- h q t g . y g u j q w n f c n y c { u d g r t g r c t g f h q t v j g k p g x k v c d n g l K h e j c p i g k u i q k p i v q q e - c u r i t i s i n o u r i n t e r e s t t o m a n a g e i t t o t h e d g u v q h q w t e q m g e v k x g c d k n k v k u l

The Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) puts Howard and the surround- k p i e q w p v k u q p v j g t e g e k x k p i g p f q h c d w k n f w r q h j k i j r c { k p i i q x g t p o g p v j o b s . T h e r e s u l t i n g b u s i n e s s a c c o c i a t e d y k v j D T C E y k n n f g L p k v g n { d g c d g p g L v h q t v j g t g i k p l O c p { p g y l q d u y k n n e q o g t o o u r a r e a a n d t h i s i s a g o o d p r o b l e m t o h a v e .

R g r n g y j q e w t t g p v n { e q o o w v g h t q o J q y c t f E q w p v { v q V j g F k u v t k e v q h E q l u m b i a o r N o r t h e r n V i r g i n i a n o l o n g e r n e e d t o c o m m u t e a n d m a y b e a b l e t o

L p f l q d u t k i j v j g t g c v j q o g c h v g t v j g D T C E t g e n k i p o g p v q e e w t u l U q o g q h v j g j k i j v g e j r q u k v k q p u v j c v y k n n d g e q o g c x c k n c d n g j g t g u j q w n f d g y g n n u w k v g f h q t v g n g e q o o w w k p i l

F w g v q q w t r t q z k o k v { v q v j g H g f g t c n I q x g t p o g p v q w t t g i k p p h a s b e e n v e r y r e s i l i e n t t o t h e e c o n o m i c u p s a n d d o w n s t h a t g h h g e v q v j g t c t g c u q h v j g e q w p v t { l V j g D T C E t g e n k i p o g p v u j q w n f u q n k f k h { q w t g e q p q o k e u v c d k n k v { h q t p q y c p f q p k p v q v j g h w v w t g l

Yes, the opportunity is certainly available. We can build k p h t c u v t w e w t g . r t q x k f g h w p f k p i h q t q w t L t u v e n c u u u e j q q n u a n d d o m a n y t h i n g s t h a t w i l l c r e a t e a r e g i o n t h a t i s r o b u s t a n d v i b r a n t , m a i n l y d u e t o e c o n o m i c g r o w t h .

J q y g x g t . v j g t g c t g u q o g e q p e g t p u c v t c h L e . j q w u k p i . schools, the environment and others.

V j g J q y c t f E q w p v { E j c o d g t q h E q o o g t e g j c u h q t { g c t u r t g u g p v g f q w t r q u k v k q p . k p v j g h q t o q h c Y j k v g R c r g t . q p o c p { q h v j g u g c p f q v j g t k u u w g u l V j g E j c o d g t k u t g r t g u g p v g f q p u g x g t c n V c u m H q t e g u v j c v u r g e k L e c n n { c f f t g u u D T C E i s s u e s .

From Kent Menser
G z g e w k x g F k t g e v q t q h v j g J q y c t f E q w p v { D c u g T g c n k i p o g p v c p f E n q u w t g * D T C E + Q h L e g Q h L e g q h v j g E q w p v { G z g e w k x g

Howard County's BRAC Task Force includes 130 residents, business women and men who u v c h h 3 3 E q o o k v g g u l V j g k t o k u u k q p k u v q r t g r c t g v j g e q w p v { h q t v j g k o r c e v u q h H q t v O g c f g i t q y v j c p f v c m g c f x c p v c i g q h k v u q r r q t v w p k v k u l V j g h q w t e q o r q p g p v u q h v j k u i t q y v j c t g r t q l g e v g f v q d t k p i 2 2 , 0 0 0 n e w j o b p o s i t i o n s f o r F o r t M e a d e d u r i n g v j g p g z v 7 / 9 { g c t u l V j g h q w t e q o r q p g p v u c t g E P U C I t q y v j < 6 . 2 2 2 E G p j c p e g f W u g N g c u g I t q y v j E c r c e k v { < 3 2 . 2 2 2 E D T C E I t q y v j < 8 . 2 2 2 E C f f k v k q p c n I t q y v j c v H q t v O g c f g < 4 . 2 2 2

O g o d g t u q h v j g V c u m H q t e g c t g e w t t g p v n { c p c n { | - i n g r e g i o n a l a n d c o u n t y g r o w t h d a t a s o t h a t i t m a y d g v t c p u h q t o g f k p v q t g n g x c p v k p h q t o c v k q p v j c v e c p b e u s e d i n d e c i s i o n - m a k i n g b y o u r r e s i d e n t s , b u s i - n e s s e s a n d c o u n t y g o v e r n m e n t . W e u n d e r s t a n d t h a t p r o j e c t i n g j o b a n d h o u s e h o l d l o c a t i o n s a n d n u m b e r s w i l l b e c r i t i c a l t o o u r s t u d y . W e k n o w v j c v o c p { h c e v q t u y k n n w n v k o c v g n { k p l w p e g y j g t g h c o k n k g u y k n n y c p v v q n x x g l V j g V c u m H q t e g f q g u n o t m a r k e t H o w a r d C o u n t y , b u t w i t h t h e o t h e r c o u n t i e s s u r r o u n d i n g F o r t M e a d e , e d u c a t e s t h o s e p g y g o r n q { g g u c p f v j g k t h c o k n k g u q p v j g s w e n k v { q h n k h g c p f v j g y k f g x c t k g v { q h t g u q w t e g u c x c k n c d n g i n o u r r e g i o n . * E q p v k p w g f q p R c i g 3 7 +

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Our State Representatives' Votes:	Page 5

READER COMMENTARY

Handling Growth

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Having lived in Ellicott City, West Friendship, and Yqqfuvqem"cm" o {"nkhg."K."nkmg"cmn"qh"wu."wpfgtucpf" vjg"ko o gpgu"ko rqtvcpeg"qh"qrgp"urceg."rtgugt"xpki" Jqyctf"Eqwv{"ø"htc"okpi"vtc"fkvqp."cpf"dcncpeki" vjg"kpvtg"uvu"qh"fgxgnqr"gtu"cpf"vjg"rwdnke"cv"ncti"gl" Kp"dqvj"qwt"eqwv{"1ci"cpf"qwt"ugcn."c"ujgch"qh" wheat is prominently displayed, highlighting the ci tkewnwtcn"jgtkvcig"qh"Jqyctf"Eqwv{"."vjg"ngice{" qh"vjg"Gnnkeqvuu."vjg"Ecttqmu."vjg"Tkfi"gn{u."cpf" ujqy"p"kp"vjg"dcemi"tqwpf"qh"qwt"ugcn."tqmkpi"j"kmnu." eqpxg{kpi"vjg"ko cig"qh"rtqwf"n{"twctn"eqwv{"0"

Howard County is at a crossroads with development and growth, and we all have one thing on our minds—how can we preserve the Howard County we know and love?

Yg"cm"mpqy"vjg"kuuwgu"yg"hcgc"y jgtg"vq"dwknf." jqy"o wej"vq"dwknf."jqy"swkemn{"vq"dwknf."jqy" o wej"vq"gzrgev"htqo"fgxgnqr"gtu."jqy"itqy"vj"ykmn" ko rcev"qwt"kphtc"uvtwewtg."cpf"jqy"yg"ecp"gpuwtg" chhqt"fdng"nkxkpi"urceg"0"K"vj"kp"vjg"dguv"yc{"vq"dg- gin a conversation on growth is by keeping an open o kpf"cpf"nqmqkpi"htq"eq o o qp"itqwpf"yg"ecp"uvctv" htq o 0"Cnnqy"og"vq"qhht"uqog"i gpgtcn"vj"qwi"jvu<

Hktuv."fgxgnqr o gpv"jcu"ugtqwu"tgrgtewuukqpu"htq" gzkuvkpi"tgukf"gpv"cpf"fgxgnqr"gtu"ujqwnf"dg"tg- swktgf"vq"eqpvtkdwv"uki"pkLcpvn{"vq"vjg"eq o o wkv{"0" Pgy"fgxgnqr o gpvu"ogcp"gpqt o quw"wr/htqpv"equvu" kp"vgtou"qh"uejqn"ecrcekv{"cpf"tqcfu."cpf"itqy"vj"ku" qeewttkpi"uq"swkemn{"vjcv"vq"ucfng"vczrc"gtu"ykvj" o cuukxg"vcz"kpetgcugu"vq"rc{"htq"vjgug"wr/htqpv"equvu" ku"uko rn{"wphckt0"

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From DWRD in Western Howard:

Howard County has recently tended toward an autocracy such that 20+ story buildings could be approved by political appointees (the Planning Board) and we're now seeing that the pop- wnceg"y cpvu"cxqvg"kp"kvøu"eqwv{"ø"hwvwtg"0"Vjg"tg" are changes that can be made to the County Charter to prevent these backroom agreements dgvyggp"fgxgnqr"gtu"cpf"eqwv{"qhLekcnu0

Cp"gzegm"gpv"Eqfg"qh"Gvj"keu"jcu"dggp"ytkv"v"gp" cpf"ku"cxckncdng"htqo"vjg"p"cvkqpcn"Cuukec- vkqp"qh"Eqwv"kvøu"0"Cnn"yg"pggf"vq"fq"ku"ejcpi"g" vjg"eqwv{"ejctvgt"vq"wug"vjgkt"Eqfg"qh"Gvj"keu" kpuv"gc"qh"qwt"qyp."cpf"ocmg"ejcpi"gu"uq"vjcv" the Ethics Commission is more accountable hqt"vjgkt"fgkukqpu"/"tki"jv"pqy"vjgkt"ogv"kp"i" minutes are never made public. Right now, vjg"eqwv{"ejctvgt"qpn{"cnnqy"urwpku"j o gpv"htq" eqwv{"g o rnq{ggu."pqv"htq"vjg"rqnk"vkecn"cr- pointees who can really do the most damage by backroom deals. The charter must be changed.

Qpg"qh"vjg"fgxgnqr"gtu"vq"qnu"vjcv"ku"hwvn{"uwr- ported by a government whose main campaign hwpf"kipi"eq o gu"htq o "vjg"fgxgnqr"gtu"ku"vjg"vug" qh"tgtvtqcev"kvxg"l"qpkpi"ejcpi"gu"uq"vjcv"y jgp" someone wants to build a structure, be it a shed or a skyscraper, they just change the regulations vq"cnny"kv0"C"pw o dgt"qh"uvcv"gu"jcxg"rtqkukqpu" in their state constitutions that prevent counties htq o "wukpi"tgtvtqcev"kvxg"l"qpkpi"ejcpi"gu"/"gzegr"v" vq"rtqv"gev"rwdnke"uchgv"0

Hkpcnn{"vjg"eqwv{"jcu"pq"QhL"eg"qh"vjg"Kpur"ge- vqt" I gpgtcn"vq"eqpf"wev"kpfg"rgp"fgpv"gxcnwcvkqpu" qh"y jgvjgt"vjg"xctkqwu"fg"rctv o gpv"ctg"cev- kpi"ykvj"kp"vjgkt"i wkg"nkp"gu"ghhgevkvxgn"0"Gxgt{" fg"rctv o gpv"qh"vjg"Hgfgtcn" Iqxgtp o gpv"jcu"qpg" cpf"vjg{"jcxg"dgpp"kpetg"fdknkv{"ghhgevkvxg"cv" making Federal departments accountable. No qt"icpk|cvkqp"ku"cdng"vq"ghhgevkvxgn{"rnk"eg"kvugnh." be it a church, a government department, a rtqhg"uukqpcn"qt"icpk|cvkqp"qt"gxgp"c"ejctkvc"dgng" qt"icpk|cvkqp"0"Jqyctf"Eqwv{"pggf"fu"cp"QKI" vq"rgthqt"o"iqxgtp"cepeg"qxgt"kvugnh0

Xkukv"vjg"p"cvkqpcn"Cuukec"kvkqp"qh"Eqwv"kvøu"cv" www.naco.org

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From LW in Columbia:

I would like to know how the people who tgrtgugpv"qwt"eqwv{"kp"vjg" I gpgtcn"Cuug o dn{ cpf"vjg"Eqwv{"Eqwpekn"xqvg"qp"fkhhgtgpv"dknu0 K"jcxg"jcf"vtqwdng"Łpfkpi"qww"vjku"kphqt o cvkqp0

From Ken in Ellicott City:

Vjg"cdugpeg"qh"engct"dwfi"gv"eqpvtqnu"cpf" o cpcig o gpv"0"Yg"ctg"xtg{"uwr"rqtvkxg"qh"iqx- ernment, but believe there is a responsibility vq"ujqy"cvvg o rvu"vq"o cpcig"ghhgevkvxgn{"cpf" don't see that happening here in the County- either either with the current Administration or the previous one. Budget increases like those just approved at the state and county level may be understandable but it isn't obvious that they ctg"uwr"rqtvc"dgng"qxgt"vjg"pgzv"ugxgtcn" { gctu"0" We need to think about what we are doing.

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http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_ArchivedBills_2007.htm

6]''	-GGI 9	6U''	:cl	G][Uhm	HYffUgU	KUhgcb
CB4	An Act to require that pre-submission community meetings required for residential subdivision applications in the County be held in public or institutional buildings within a five mile radius of the subdivision site.	y	y	y	y	y
CB5	An Act to require that pre-submission community meetings required for residential subdivision applications in the County be held for minor sub-divisions outside the Planned Service Area for Public Water and Sewer.	y	y	y	y	y
CB6	An Act to require developers to send notice of pre-submission community meetings at least three weeks prior to the scheduled meeting and <u>allow citizens to request a meeting with a staff member of the Department of Planning and Zoning.</u>	y	y	y	y	y
CB7	AN ACT amending certain definitions related to firearms control; adding certain definitions; adding that certain prohibitions shall not apply to a public safety officer acting within the scope of the cZ]WfDg'cZ]WU' Xi h]Yg'cf'hc'WfHJ]b' hfUbgZYfg'cZY'YVfcb]W weapons; and generally related to firearms control.	y	y	y	n	y
CB8	AN ACT amending the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County to adopt certain local amendments relating to certain plumbing facilities, fixtures, and fire protection systems; and generally relating to the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County.	y	y	y	y	y
SAO5-FY07	AN ACT transferring \$44,100 from the Grant Fund Contingency to the Department of Police for a grant to combat gangs and gang violence.	y	y	y	y	y

Gi a aYf'&\$\$+di V'WUh]cb.

CB9-2007	AN ACT providing for a credit against the County property tax for certain devices that generate electricity under certain circumstances; providing for an application date for the credit and generally relating to property tax credits.	y	recused	y	y	y
ENRCB10-2007	AN ACT altering the qualifications for a property tax credit for certain senior citizens; providing for the rate of the credit; clarifying certain calculations; providing for publicity for the credit; and generally relating to property tax credits.	y	n	y	y	n
CB11-2007	AN ACT requiring applicants for a certain property tax credit to also apply for other credits; clarifying how certain property tax credits are to be applied; and generally relating to property tax credits.	n	y	n	n	y
CB12-2007	AN ACT altering the amount of the County supplement to the <ca Yck bYfgDDfcdYfHmHUI '7fYX]h' fYdYU']b['U'WfHJ]b' dfcdYfHmHUI credit for certain senior citizens; and generally relating to property tax credits.	y	y	y	y	y
ENRCB13-2007	AN ACT amending the 2000 General Plan by adjusting the Planned Service Area boundary of the Master Plan for Water and Sewerage to include a religious facility located on approximately 12.47 acres with an address of 8300 Old Columbia Road, Fulton, Howard County, Maryland; and generally relating to the 2000 General Plan.	y	y	y	y	y
CB14-2007	AN ACT amending the 2000 General Plan by adjusting the Planned Service Area boundary of the Master Plan for Water and Sewerage to include a religious facility located on approximately 3.28 acres with an address of 11795 Scaggsville Road, Fulton, Howard County, Maryland; and generally relating to the 2000 General Plan.	y	y	y	y	y

<http://mlis.state.md.us/>

**Maryland Senate and House Votes (Howard Delegation)
Spring 2007**

Bill #	ISSUE	SENATORS						DELEGATES				
		Robey	Kittleman	Kasemeyer	Turner	Pendergrass	Miller	Malone, Jr.	Guzzone	DeBoy, Sr.	Bobo	Bates
SB693/HB216	HIV Testing - Exposure - Forensic Scientist	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB702	Yellow Perch Conservation and Sustainability Act	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB774/HB1049	Establishing the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine subcommittee in the Cervical Cancer Committee	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB873/HB1181	Altering the process for the appointment of specified members of the Task Force to Study State Assistance to Veterans	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB915/HB1412	Adding a member of the Colonial Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America to the Maryland Veterans Commission	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB937/HB1177	Repealing the State Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Administrators Fund	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB973	Authorizing the Department of the Environment to serve complaints, corrective orders, notices, or other instruments	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB1022	Authorizing insurers that issue policies of group life insurance to extend coverage to the domestic partner of the employee or member	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
SB83	Sexual Offenders - Evaluation Before Sentencing	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Not voting	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB332/HB942	Establishing the Maryland Green Building Council	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB632/HB713	Prohibiting a person from participating in a specified criminal gang knowing that the members of the gang engage in a specified pattern of criminal gang activity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB920/HB1359	Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Respite Care - Sunset Extension	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB1018/HB627	Task Force to Study Rent Stabilization for the Elderly in Prince George's County	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB1030	Critical Areas - Applications for Variances - Local Jurisdictions	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
SB237/HB102	Natural Resources - Open Air Burning Limitations - Application	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB148/HB133	Establishing the Oyster Advisory Commission in the Department of Natural Resources	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HB204	study and compile information regarding specified costs associated with textbooks for higher education	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Not voting
SB784/HB786	Stormwater Management Act of 2007	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HB772	Authorizing the Howard County Council to provide by ordinance for an administrative proceeding to enforce specified zoning violations; and providing that a specified ordinance may include authority to impose specified civil fines and penalties and create	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB883/HB1284	Ground Leases - Redemption - Preferred Interest Rate Loans	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HB390	Sexual Offenders - Evaluation Before Sentencing	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HB423	Workforce Housing Grant Program - Fund Establishment - Administrative Clarifications	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB576/HB689	Defining the term "emergency responder" for purposes of the Maryland Emergency Management Assistance Compact	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HB745	Requiring the State to ensure that at least 50% of the heating equipment using specified heating oil in State buildings and 50% of the heavy equipment owned by the State using diesel fuel use, subject to availability, a blend of fuel containing at least 5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB759/HB1030	Requiring a wholesale distributor to hold a permit issued by the State Board of Pharmacy before the wholesale distributor engages in the wholesale distribution of prescription drugs or devices in the State	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HB1288	Requiring individuals who sell any real estate as sales agents for home builders to be licensed by the State Real Estate Commission	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SB624/HB992	a person convicted of a specified drug-related offense is not eligible for parole during a specified mandatory minimum sentence if the person has been convicted of a violation of a specified crime of violence arising out of the incident	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	A	Y	N	Y	N

