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[Prince George's County Councilmember Charged with Assaulting Council Employee](#)

Prince George's County Councilwoman Marilyn Bland has been charged with assault after an employee of Prince George's County reported that she verbally attacked and shoved him. W. Randy Short said the incident occurred on November 17th, but he held off on pressing charges in hopes Bland would apologize for her alleged actions.

The charges were filed in District Court November 28th by Short, who serves as the executive director for the council's Youth Commission. In court papers, Short said the alleged assault occurred at the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro, after he began a commission meeting to install new members.

Short says Bland became irate when he covered the 6:30 p.m. meeting prior to her arrival. He recounts:

"She grabbed me by my collar, screaming, yelling, cursing," Short said. "She was telling me, 'You're crazy'; 'How dare you start a meeting without me?'; 'Who do you think you are?'"

Short says Bland verbally assaulted him again later the same evening. Of the alleged assault, he added:

"You tell me if that's the kind of way that folks should treat people."

Bland, of Clinton, is was elected as Prince George's County Circuit Court Clerk, and is set to take office December 6th. Her chief of staff, David Billings, said Bland's staff had not been aware of the incident prior to the filing of criminal charges:

"We don't understand what is going on... I'm [Short's] immediate supervisor, and he has not come to us with anything."

Bland has been charged with second-degree assault, a charge that is punishable by up to a \$2,500 fine and a maximum of ten years in prison. It was not known whether Bland has yet retained a [Maryland criminal lawyer](#) to fight the charge, and the incident is unrelated to an ongoing federal investigation into the county government.

This article is presented by Price Benowitz LLP, serving Virginia, Maryland and Washington DC. For more information, please visit our [Maryland DUI Lawyer](#) and [Virginia Criminal Attorney](#) websites.