

Justice Matters

Vol. 3, Issue 3 Winter/Spring 2000

The State of the Judiciary

Despite a statewide snow emergency on January 26, Chief Judge Robert M. Bell gave his third annual State of the Judiciary Address as scheduled.

He delivered a message of optimism and good news to the General Assembly, focusing on the Judiciary's progress in 1999, and on its goal of making justice more accessible to all in the new millennium.

"I am pleased to report that Maryland's Judiciary has entered the 21st century, having met the Y2K challenge, and that it remains poised to meet whatever other challenges this century has to offer," Chief Judge Bell said. He applauded the dramatic improvements made throughout the Judiciary, including the progress in Baltimore City's

criminal courts, the work of Maryland's *Pro Bono* Commission, and the success of the Judiciary's Family Divisions and Family Services programs.

Chief Judge Bell also asked for increased funding to develop pilot programs in schools and communities utilizing alternative dispute resolution, which will help people find ways to manage conflict without resorting to litigation.

"The administration of our court system is hampered by a 'culture of conflict,'" Chief Judge Bell said. "It strains our court system, overcrowds our prisons and creates fear in our neighborhoods and schools. There are productive ways to manage conflict, both within and outside the legal system," he said. "These techniques, if effectively used, save time and money, and ease the burden of our courts."

The full text of Chief Judge Bell's address can be found at the Judiciary's website (www.courts.state.md.us) or you can request a copy from the Court Information Office. ❁



photo by Ron White

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Pro Se Committee Meets in Scottsdale, Arizona

Maryland at Forefront in Providing *Pro Se* Services

On November 18-21, a delegation from Maryland met with representatives from throughout the U.S. at the National Conference on *Pro Se* Litigants in Scottsdale, Arizona. The group, under the direction of Somerset County Circuit Judge Daniel Long, Team Leader, determined that Maryland was "far ahead of most states" in providing assistance to *pro se* litigants.

Other team members included District Court Chief Judge Martha F. Rasin; Robert Rhudy, Executive Director of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation; Ayn H. Crawley, Director of the Maryland Legal Assistance Network, Pamela Q. Harris, court administrator for Montgomery County, and Larry W. Shipley, an officer with the Maryland Clerks Association.

In December, the Maryland delegation, along with other participating states, submitted an Action Plan to the Conference, detailing Maryland's proposed plan to build on its existing resources, and improve coordination between already-established programs.

Maryland's report cited three key goals for its proposed program:

- to provide for more comprehensive and uniform data collection to identify areas most in need of *pro se* services, and to determine which services are most required;
- to develop better ways to identify existing resources, and coordinate their delivery; and
- to increase the awareness of the Bench and Bar to the need for services; and to suggest recommendations for statutory/rule changes to handle growing procedural and ethical concerns. ❀

District Court Receives Governor's Award



District Court Human Resources Manager Lee Robinson (pictured on left) accepted the 1999 Governor's Award for Excellence in Risk Management, on behalf of the District Court.

This award was presented at the State Employees Risk Management Association conference on November 9. Congratulations to Lee and the District Court for significantly reducing the number of employee injuries in the past year. ❀

photo courtesy of Carolyn Morris

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Mediation Program Underway in Baltimore City

In his State of the Judiciary Address, Chief Judge Robert M. Bell spoke of the importance of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), and the Judiciary's work in advancing its use throughout Maryland's communities, schools, and courts. "Mediation and other dispute resolution techniques, if used effectively, can ease the burdens on the court, save time and money, improve relationships and generally enhance civility in our community," Judge Bell explained.

Mediation is already being used extensively in Baltimore City with favorable results. On November 1, the Circuit Court for Baltimore City—already well-known for its pioneering efforts in the use of mediation in family cases and for using volunteer attorneys as settlement conference facilitators—initiated court-ordered mediation in certain civil cases.

Baltimore City Administrative Judge Ellen M. Heller is pleased with the new program and its effectiveness to date. "Baltimore City has almost half of the civil court filings in the entire state. Although we are currently able to provide timely trials, we are excited that we can offer litigants this opportunity to resolve their disputes earlier in the process," she said. Judge Heller cited such benefits as saving parties the cost and time associated with discovery and legal motions, while giving them an opportunity to meet and work out their differences without traditional litigation.

At press time, approximately 110 cases had been referred for mediation, which represents 18% of the civil cases set for trial. Although the initial reports on the program's effectiveness are not due out until later this month, it can be noted that litigants in only one case have elected to opt out of the mediation process so far. Cases subject to mediation include business/commercial, worker's compensation and employment disputes, environmental issues and contract litigation involving over \$20,000.

Judge Heller announced that there are currently 52 mediators involved in the program, who were selected for their expertise in pertinent areas of law. She lauded the work of the lawyers and judges who worked on the program.

The ADR Commission will assist the Baltimore City Circuit Court in evaluating the success of the program, by compiling statistics on how many cases are being referred to mediation, how many are resolved, levels of satisfaction, and other pertinent data for comparison with cases that are not referred to mediation.

(Continued on page 9)

The Council on Jury Use and Management Takes Its Message "On the Road"

Recently, judges from the Council on Jury Use and Management were featured on television and radio to discuss its recommended reforms to the state's jury service program, and to obtain feedback from the public.

On December 20, Howard County Circuit Judge Dennis M. Sweeney and Prince George's Circuit Judge Michael D. Hotten were featured on Maryland Public Television's "Newsnight." On January 12, Allegany County Circuit Judge, and Council Chair J. Frederick Sharer (pictured) appeared on "The Marc Steiner Show," which airs on WJHU, Baltimore's National Public Radio station.



photo by Maria Smiroldo

Congratulations to:

Court of Special Appeals Judge Ellen L. Hollander; Baltimore City Circuit Judges Audrey J. S. Carrion, Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman, and Marcella A. Holland; Howard County District Judge Alice P. Clark; and Baltimore City District Judge C. Yvonne Holt-Stone, who were honored among the Daily Record's "Top 100 Women of 2000."

Allegany County Circuit Judge J. Frederick Sharer, who was invited to participate in an American Judicature Society meeting to discuss its proposed *Guide to Jury Deliberations*. Judge Sharer chairs the Maryland Council on Jury Use and Management.

Montgomery County District Judge Cornelius J. Vaughey, who deserves commendation for his efforts in masterminding a successful new crime prevention program, which was later implemented by the Montgomery County

Sheriff's Office. The program, which helps to protect victims of domestic violence, received the Governor's Certificate of Merit for an Outstanding Crime Prevention Program.

Court of Special Appeals Chief Judge Joseph F. Murphy, Jr., who recently authored his third edition of the *Maryland Evidence Handbook*.

Leslie Gradet, Clerk of the Court of Special Appeals, who was elected President of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks for 1999-2000.

ADR Commission Executive Director Rachel Wohl, who joined *The Daily Record's* Editorial Advisory Board.

Baltimore County Circuit Administrative Judge Edward A. DeWaters, who was honored by his bench with a surprise private dinner at the Williamsburg Inn last fall, and presented with a plaque. The assembled judges—both active and retired—held the dinner to express their appreciation for the extraordinary work that Judge DeWaters has performed for the past 10 years in his role of Administrative Judge. ❁

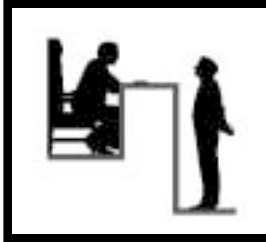
Judges Meet Leah Rabin at Luncheon



On October 7, several of our most distinguished jurists joined their Court of Appeals colleague Judge Irma Raker at a luncheon sponsored by Network 2000. Network 2000 strives to open doors for women through education and meaningful action.

The luncheon, featuring keynote speaker Leah Rabin, widow of the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, was part of the organization's "Women of Excellence" Series.

Pictured, l-r; Samuel Raker, Judge Alan M. Wilner, Judge Lawrence F. Rodowsky, Robert M. Bell, Leah Rabin, Judge Irma S. Raker, Judge John C. Eldridge, Judge Dale R. Cathell.



News from the Bench

The Court of Special Appeals welcomes **Judge Peter Krauser**, filling the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Glenn T. Harrell, Jr. to the Court of Appeals. Judge Krauser's 30 years of legal practice encompass both the public and private sectors. His extensive experience at the appellate and trial levels have included managing his own law firm, Krauser & Taub, and serving as a public defender. He has also chaired the Maryland Democratic Party since 1997. Judge Krauser is the junior judge in his family; since his wife, Sherrie L. Krauser, has been a judge since 1989.

Judge Janice Ambrose joins Frederick County District Court, filling a position created by the General Assembly in 1999. Judge Ambrose has served as a Domestic Relations Master for Frederick County's Circuit Court since 1996. She also brings nearly two decades of experience as an Assistant State's Attorney (for both Frederick and Washington Counties), and in private civil practice, to the bench. ❁

Creativity and Kindness Flourish at the Judiciary

A group of "crafty" Judiciary employees, calling themselves **Administrative Office Knitters and Crocheters (A.O.K.C.)**, led by Deborah Unitus, have put their talents to good use as part of the *Warm Up America Project for the Homeless*, sponsored by Michael's Arts and Crafts.

Knitters and crocheters nationally have been asked to make 7 x 9 inch yarn rectangles (based on a uniform pattern), which will be sewn together to make afghans for homeless persons. As it takes 49 sections to make a blanket, everyone's efforts count. **Kudos to everyone who contributed their time and skill!** ❁

Deborah Unitus contributed to this story

Report Presented to General Assembly

Family Services

The Annual Report of the Family Divisions and Family Services Programs, presented to the General Assembly on December 1, provides a status report on the new family divisions (for the five largest jurisdictions) and family services programs (for all other counties) underway in Maryland.

According to the report, "Each jurisdiction, regardless of size, has followed the mandate

of Maryland Rule 16-204 to establish a spectrum of services and to reorient its case management processes to ensure the comprehensive and holistic treatment of families."

If you would like more information about the report, or to obtain a copy, please contact Pamela Cardullo Ortiz, Esq., Executive Director, Family Services Program, at (410) 260-1258. ❁

Supreme Court Justice Roger Brooke Taney

(Part of an occasional series featuring Supreme Court Justices who hail from Maryland)

Roger Brooke Taney is considered by many the most infamous and notorious of Supreme Court Justices because of his ruling in *Dred Scott vs. Sanford* (1857) which split the Court in bitter debate, causing Justice Benjamin Curtis to resign in protest. But Roger

B. Taney, upon inspection, is an irony and a contradiction. Born in Calvert County, he studied and practiced law in Frederick, befriending Francis Scott Key and eventually marrying Key's sister, Anne Phoebe Carlton Key. Though a Federalist, Taney became a staunch supporter of Andrew Jackson, and followed his mentor to great heights.

He was named by Jackson as Attorney General in 1831, served briefly as Secretary of War, and was appointed Treasury Secretary. In that position, Taney withdrew all federal funds from the National Bank of the United States, thereby causing that institution's collapse and ending the calamitous strife between President Jackson and the Senate on re-chartering of the bank, which was so acrimonious and bitter that Vice President Van Buren wore a brace of pistols to preside over the Senate when it debated the bank's future.

On March 15, 1836, President Jackson appointed Taney to fill the position of Chief Justice, upon John Marshall's death. Taney modernized the Court, assigning opinions to individual members, and allowing them to live in quarters other than a boarding house, thus allowing the justices to bring their families to Washington.

Long before authoring the *Dred Scott* decision, Taney had freed all his slaves, at considerable expense to himself. Thirty-five years prior to *Dred Scott*, Taney argued the case of a northern Methodist minister accused of inciting slaves to rebellion. During that trial, he said, "A hard necessity, indeed, compels us to endorse the evil of slaving for a time; yet while it continues it is a blot on our national character." How ironic that having said those words, he would render a decision that would permanently injure his reputation and hasten the inevitability of the civil war by classifying slaves as chattels, and depriving them of federal court standing. ❀

Submitted by Judge Ralph M. Burnett

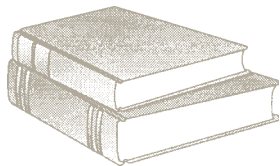


ADR

Commission Issues Action Plan

Copies of the ADR Commission's Practical Action Plan, "Join the Resolution," are hot off the printing press and are available on request by calling the ADR Commission at (410) 321-2398. The ADR Commission, which is chaired by Chief Judge Bell, will also provide copies of its latest "status report," which describes the progress being made on projects to implement the Action Plan. ❀

From the Library of



The Maryland Judicial Institute

The Judicial Institute announces the following additions to its library:

Domestic Abuse and Custody Mediation Training for Judges and Administrators

A three-hour training course for judges, court administrators, and mediation program directors (American Bar Association, State Justice Institute, & Academy of Family Mediators 1999)

Domestic Abuse and Custody Mediation Training for Mediators

Six three-hour modules for practicing mediators (American Bar Association, State Justice Institute, Academy of Family Mediators 1999)

Managing Juvenile Cases

Model Curriculum for implementing a two-day program on managing juvenile cases (Krista R. Johns, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges 1999)

An Ethics Guide for Part-Time Lawyer Judges

(Cynthia Gray & Nancy Biro, American Judicature Society 1999)

Enhancing the Jury System A Guidebook for Jury Reform

(American Judicature Society 1999)

Behind Closed Doors

A resource manual to improve jury deliberations

(American Judicature Society 1999)

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus

A resource guide for judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement

(U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration 1999)

Caseflow Management in the Trial Court

(Task Force on the Reduction of Litigation Cost and Delay, Maureen Solomon & Douglas K. Somerlot, American Bar Association 1998)

Most materials are available on loan for a 30-day period for judges and masters. If you would like to receive a copy by mail, please contact Ellen DeChant at (410) 946-4902 or (410) 946-4925. ✿

Submitted by Fred Williams

Chief Judge Bell Joins the Y2K Effort on New Year's Eve in Annapolis



photo courtesy of David Weissert

As expected, all systems ran smoothly at the stroke of midnight 2000, and we toast the Judicial Information Systems personnel for their months of hard work in defeating the Y2K bug! *Justice Matters* is not alone in extending its congratulations to our Information Systems team.

The team also received a commendation from IBM, lauding the Judiciary not only for its success in correcting its Y2K issues, but also, for doing so without hiring an outside vendor. IBM's representative, Daniel Heigl, called this a "unique achievement." Again, our kudos!

DISTRICT COURT OFFICES GET TEMPORARY HOMES

The District Court Headquarters, Office of the Chief Clerk located in the Tawes Building in Annapolis is undergoing major renovations. To accommodate the contractor, while still maintaining functional operations, the offices have moved temporarily to new locations. The mailing address has not changed: District Court of Maryland, Tawes Building, Pod A, 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Office of the Chief Clerk

Patricia Platt, Chief Clerk
Tawes Building, Pod A-Basement
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401
Telephone number remains the same:
410/260-1234

Office of Finance

Richard Clemens, Asst. Chief Clerk
Tawes Building, Pod A-Basement
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401
Telephone number remains the same:
410/260-1300

Coordinator of Commissioner Activity

Dave Weissert, Coordinator
District Court of Maryland
2002A Industrial Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401
Telephone number remains the same:
410/260-1232

Office of Operations

Charles Moulden, Asst. Chief Clerk
District Court of Maryland
2020A Industrial Drive (off of Commerce)
Annapolis, MD 21401
Main number: 410/974-7028
Fax: 410/974-7029

Office of Human Resources

Carolyn Morris, Asst. Chief Clerk
District Court of Maryland
Sweeney Building
251 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, MD 21401
Telephone number remains the same:
410/260-1200

These renovations should be completed by the end of June, but it is recommended that would-be visitors call first.

Judge Carr Honored for Work with Maryland's Poor



On December 6, Harford County Circuit Judge William O. Carr was a recipient of the prestigious **Arthur W. Machen, Jr. Award**, presented annually by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation. Judge Carr was acknowledged for his leadership in providing civil legal services and outstanding advocacy on behalf of Maryland's poor.

Pictured left to right: Maryland Legal Services Chairman Herbert Garten, Judge Carr, Chief Judge Robert M. Bell, who presented the award; and Susan Erlichman, MLSC Acting Director.

photo courtesy of the Maryland Legal Services Corp.

Retired Judges
Report from
the Field

Judge Paul Alpert Busy with Retirement

When a court is swamped with cases and needs some expert assistance, who do they call?

Thanks to a little-heralded resource, dockets flow more smoothly, even in the busiest jurisdictions. Few people realize that the Judiciary routinely relies on the services of retired judges to handle cases statewide. Currently, there are 78 retired judges who are “subject to recall,” (i.e., available to sit during a busy period.) And these judges aren’t given the lightest of assignments, either. For example, retired Baltimore City Judges Rombro and Angeletti work alternate months overseeing the complex asbestos class action litigation docket, among other duties. Many of these dedicated jurists continue to serve long after they have earned the maximum annual compensation permitted for a retired judge.

In this esteemed category, one of the busier judges is the Hon. Paul Alpert, who retired from the Court of Special Appeals in 1995. Since then, this distinguished jurist has devoted more time to hearing cases than any other retired Maryland judge, serving on both the Baltimore City Circuit Court and Court of Special Appeals. And, once he earns the maximum amount permitted for a retired judge, he continues to work, without financial compensation (except for “lunch money,” he says.)

Since “retiring,” Judge Alpert, who boasts the distinction of having served at nearly every level of the Judiciary (including 13 years at the Court of Special Appeals), still puts in four-day weeks. He divides his time between civil and criminal trial work, and filling in at the appellate level, working, on average, 35-50 hours weekly.

And that’s not all. This judicial dynamo is also involved with myriad committees, including chairing the Code Revision Committee for the Criminal Procedure Article, and serving as Vice President of MICPEL. He is a member of the MSBA’s Pattern Jury Instruction Committee, and active with the Baltimore County Bar Association and its CLE Committee. In 1997, he chaired the Code Revision Committee for the Public Utilities Article. He even serves on the Board of the Jewish Big Brother League.

When asked if he ever considered spending a leisurely retirement, say, fishing, Judge Alpert noted that he makes time for enjoyable pursuits. His Fridays-off schedule allows him to spend long weekends with his wife, Wilma.



photo by Maria Smiroldo

He also plans to visit his only grandchild, who resides in Israel, for a month this spring. According to Judge Alpert, his current workload, which allows him to hear both trial and appellate cases, offers him “the best of both worlds.”

“I didn’t retire to stop working,” he said. “I decided I would prefer it if I could go back and try cases—I was a District and Circuit court judge for 10 years.” About his situation today, he says, “I like the mix.”

Debra Kaminski contributed to this article

Mediation (from page 3)

According to Rachel Wohl, Executive Director of the ADR Commission, “Judge Heller and her working committee have been very thoughtful about the details of constructing a sound ADR program. The court is now working with the ADR Commission and an evaluation team from UMBC’s Institute for Policy Analysis to develop a project that will assess the effects of the new program. We have high expectations and grounds to believe that the Baltimore City Circuit Court will meet them.”

-- Judge Ellen Heller and
Rachel Wohl contributed to this article

The New Maryland Judicial Center

The Administrative Office of the Courts has moved.

These AOC offices are now consolidated in one building, the old Annapolis District Courthouse:

- State Court Administrator
- Deputy State Court Administrator
- Fiscal Department
- Human Resources
- Circuit Court Management Services
- Legal Officer (temporary)

The AOC's new address is:

The Maryland Judicial Center
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401

All telephone numbers remain the same.

EMPLOYEES ON THE MOVE



Administrative Office of the Courts

Welcome William Hoffman. Best wishes on your retirement, Thomas Meushaw.

Court Related Agencies

Welcome Joyce Hunt.

Court of Special Appeals

Welcome Janet Mezzack and Ereka White.

Judicial Information Systems

Welcome Francis Benvenega and James Schuyler. Congratulations on your promotion, Freyae Jones.

Circuit Courts

Anne Arundel County

Welcome Christine Boschert, Lauren Pittendreigh, Sharon Serio, Kimberly Vernon and Cathy Thompson. Congratulations on your promotions, Kimberle Early and Jennifer Franks.

Baltimore City

Welcome Charles Bowman, Lenwood Ivey, and Sherry Love. Congratulations on your promotion, Darryl Clay. Best wishes on your retirement, Walter Cohen.

Baltimore County

Welcome Charles Bridgett, Kathleen Knott, Catherine McClelland and Constance Morgan. Congratulations on your promotions, Melissa Foehrkolb, Maureen Jones and Noel Wojtulewicz.

Caroline County

Welcome Carol Payne.

Carroll County

Welcome Catherine Diehl.

Cecil County

Welcome Kimberly Devonshire.

Frederick County

Congratulations on your promotion, Mary Green.

Montgomery County

Welcome Santosh Ahulwalia, Kelli Hahn, Kimberly Horn, Kasturi Kedlaya, Aura Lau, Michelle Lease, and Donna Simpson. Congratulations on your promotions, Linda Daly, Diane Hazard, Brenda Millette, Theresa Mozzano, Kim Stark, Fannie Stokes, Debra Duvall, and Venecia Monsano-Thomas.

Prince George's County

Welcome Leigh Collins, Regina Gatton, Michele Johnson, Jonathan Norman, Sonia Smith and LeVonne Wiseman. Congratulations on your promotions, Magella Kincaid and Quanda Smith.

Wicomico County

Welcome Serena Johnson. Congratulations on your promotion, Janet Fox.

Worcester County

Congratulations on your promotion, Sharon Sturgis.

District Court

Headquarters

Welcome Sheila Blackwell.

Allegany County

Welcome Mike Smith and Annetta Lamonica.

Baltimore County

Welcome Mary Beth Connolly, Dona Bartlett, Richard Arnold, and Gus Vaselaros. Congratulations on your promotions, Maria Fields and Cindy Spieth.

Frederick County

Welcome Marcia Clatterbuck and Earl Page. Congratulations on your promotion, Cecelia Shank.

Washington County

Welcome Dominick Marinelli.

Retired Judges

Montgomery County Circuit Judge J. James McKenna; Baltimore County District Judge Patricia Pytash; and Anne Arundel County Circuit Judge Lawrence H. Rushworth.

Judge Clyburn to Make Film Debut

“The Corner”—a six-part television mini-series based on the powerful book by David Simon and Edward Burns—is coming to HBO starting April 16. And if you do a little sleuthing while watching Baltimore-based production, you may spot a familiar face. Baltimore City District Judge Ben C. Clyburn will make his first television appearance, as a lawyer, with his son playing his client. “I was just an extra,” Judge Clyburn said modestly (but hey, that’s how Bruce Willis and Brad Pitt got started!)

“It was very interesting to see how films are made, behind the scenes,” Judge Clyburn said. He noted that it was “very tiring”—it took an entire day to film the four scenes in which he appeared. He also hoped that his appearance would not end up on the proverbial “cutting room floor.”

While Judge Clyburn is the only jurist actually appearing in the mini-series, many of the names and locations will be recognizable to anyone familiar with Baltimore City’s court system. We’ll be watching! ❁

Court of Appeals Clerk’s Office Display Talents at Holiday Luncheon

The winners, reaffirming that yes indeed, they took First Prize.

Top, l-r:
Lori McGraw
and Lisa Zinkand

Bottom, l-r:
Bessie Decker,
Ginny Busik,
Carol Holt, and
Joanne Drewry



photo courtesy of Lynn Sadler

This year’s Holiday Party, held December 13, brought together the AOC, Court-Related Agencies and District Court Headquarters at the Naval Officers’ Club in Annapolis, for an enjoyable afternoon of merry-making and frivolity.

As part of the festivities, a contest inviting staffers to write and perform their own renditions of holiday carols and poems was held. Crowd-pleasures included

“Some Lawyers Got Run Over by by a Reindeer.”

It was a difficult decision, but the judges finally agreed that the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals was the hands-down, number-one winner. Their performance of “The Night Before Bar Admissions,” brought down the house!

Judiciary Mourns Loss of Judges Kircher and Kelly

The District Court has already been dealt two blows in 2000, with the deaths of Baltimore City Judge Martin A. Kircher Sr. on January 4, and Prince George's Judge John F. Kelly, Sr., on February 8. Both were sitting judges.



The late **Judge Kircher**, appointed to the Baltimore City District Court bench in 1973, was known as its “dean,” since he had been there the longest. Formerly a legislator, he represented Northeast Baltimore in the House of Delegates from 1962-1973. He is perhaps best-remembered for introducing the 1972 handgun legislation, which is still in effect today. While on the bench, he was often sympathetic to first-time offenders—but also had a reputation as a “hanging judge” for his tough sentencing of those convicted of carrying or using handguns illegally.



Appointed in 1987, the late **Judge Kelly** served on the Prince George's District Court with distinction. Judge Kelly was on the Attorney Grievance Commission's Inquiry Panel while in private practice, and was also involved with state politics. As a judge, he was well-loved by not only the court staff, but by the other judges, who will remember him as gregarious, outgoing, and passionate, with an innate sense of fairness. In his personal life, he was a devoted fan of the Maryland Terrapins basketball team.



Both of these jurists were extremely dedicated to the District Court, and they will be deeply missed.

Calendar of Events

February

- 21 Court Holiday: President's Day
- 25 Family Law Refresher Course * 9:00-4:30

March

- 16 Basic Computer-Assisted Legal Research* 9:00-4:30
- 16 The Effective Use of Pretrial Conferences in Circuit and District Courts* 9:00-12:00
- 16 Sanctions* 1:00-4:30
- 17 Evidentiary Considerations: Civil Law* 9:00-12:00
- 17 CINA and TPR Potpourri* 1:00-4:30
- 20 Conference of Circuit Judges Meeting, Courts of Appeal Building, Annapolis
- 29 Conference of Circuit Clerks Meeting, Courts of Appeal Building, Annapolis

April

- 10 End of Legislative Session

May

- 15 Conference of Circuit Court Judges, Court of Appeals Building, Annapolis
- 16 Conference of Circuit Court Clerks Meeting, Courts of Appeal Building, Annapolis

Upcoming

- June 8-9 Maryland Judicial Conference, Ocean City

* Judicial Institute of Maryland programs. (Please note that these courses are only open to judges and masters. Masters are permitted to register for courses pertaining to the types of cases they hear.)