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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE BAIL SYSTEM TASK FORCE
January 21, 2004**

10 The Task Force held its second meeting on January 21, 2004, beginning at 3:15 p.m., at the
11 Maryland Judicial Training, Annapolis, Maryland.

12 Task Force members present were:

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Hon. James N. Vaughan, Chair	Hon. Daniel M. Long, Vice Chair
Dino E. Flores, Esq.	Thomas Paul Raimondi, Esq.
Brian J. Frank, Esq.	Joseph P. Rosenthal
Carolyn Hughes Henneman, Esq.	Hon. Rosalyn E. Pugh
Hon. Maureen M. Lamasney	Elizabeth Ann Ritter, Esq.
Patrick H. Loveless	

16 Also present were:

17 Dennis A. Bartlett, PhD., American Bail Coalition
18 William G. Donahue, Maryland Insurance Administration
19 Solomon Hamilton III
20 Rhea R. Reed, Esq., Director of Internal Audit, Maryland Judiciary
21 John H. Riggle, Chief Enforcement Officer, Compliance and Enforcement Section, Maryland
22 Insurance Administration
23 Linda Williams, Lead Auditor, Maryland Judiciary
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25 With respect to the minutes of the December 2003 meeting, Mr. Frank raised the issue of
26 10% case bonds, procedures for collection, unavailability if there is a judgment, and insertion
27 of “professor” prior to Mr. Warnken’s name, as Mr. Colbert is referenced as Professor
28 Colbert.
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30 The Chair explained that Hon. James K. Bredar, Magistrate Judge, U. S. District Court for the
31 District of Maryland, was unable to attend as he is still recovering from surgery.
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33 Turning to the auditor’s recommendations:
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1 Judge Long moved to accept the recommendation for Statewide rules with elimination of
2 differences between Circuit and District Court rules, but there was no second. There was a
3 consensus to accept the recommendation in theory, while acknowledging that the “devil is in
4 the details” and that the 5th and 7th Circuits might resist changing their respective rules.
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6 The Task Force endorsed a uniform system with access for all Judiciary personnel involved
7 in the process, despite some concerns about the cost of such a system.
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9 The Task Force deferred the recommendation for a bail bond commissioner at headquarters
10 and the regulation of property bondsmen.
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12 The Task Force turned to the recommendation as to effective notice of the State’s interest in
13 property that has been used as collateral for bail bonds, with recording of Declarations of
14 Trust (accommodation sureties) and Deeds of Trust for registered properties of professional
15 property bondsmen. For the next meeting, the Task Force wishes to hear from the 7th Circuit
16 Bail Bond Commissioner on the issue of forfeiture on profession property bonds.
17 Accordingly, the Task Force also deferred the various issues with regard to filing and
18 enforcement of judgments.
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20 The Task Force unanimously endorsed the recommendation to have procedures for the timely
21 release of bonds that have been satisfied and forfeitures that have been stricken, including
22 updates to the bail bond system, Land Records and civil judgment index.
23

24 There was discussion but no resolution with regard to the recommendation to resolve
25 guidance to Judiciary personnel on the application of the “10 year” provision of Rule 4-217(j)
26 to property bonds that have been forfeited and judgment enforced.
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28 There being no further business, the meeting ended at 4:45 p.m.
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30 Respectfully submitted,
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33 Elizabeth Buckler Veronis
34 Staff
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