

The Honorable Karen A. Murphy Jensen (Ret.) retired as County Administrative Judge, Caroline County Circuit Court, 2nd Judicial Circuit serving from November 5, 1999 to March 1, 2016. She was the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Drug Court Program. She was a member of the Maryland Judicial Commission on Pro Bono from 1998-2000, Family and Domestic Relations Law Committee from 2000-01, and Family Law Committee from 2001-03 and 2006-12 for the Maryland Judicial Conference. She has been a member of the Supreme Court of Maryland Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service since 2002, representing the 2nd Judicial Circuit, Conference of Circuit Judges since 2009. Judge Jensen has been a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sentencing Alternatives, Re-Entry, and Best Practices since 2010 and a member of the Judicial Council since 2013 for the Maryland Judicial Conference. Judge Jensen was the Assistant County Solicitor from Anne Arundel County from 1981-1986, and a member of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council in Caroline County since 2004. Judge Jensen attended the Notre Dame Preparatory School and the University of Delaware earning her B.A. in 1977; and the University of Maryland School of Law receiving her J.D. in 1980. She was admitted to Maryland Bar in 1980 and is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association where she has served in numerous capacities as board of governors from 1985-86 and 1989-91, chair of the young lawyers' section council from 1985-86, chair of the standing committee on membership from 1986-87, and as a member of the bar insurance trust. She has also served as president and treasurer of the Caroline County Bar Association. She has been the treasurer of the Women's Bar Association of Maryland in the Second Circuit Bar Association since 1996. Judge Jensen is also a member of People's Pro Bono Action Center and has served on the board of directors and as president of the Center from 1992-93. She is on the Board of Directors for the Maryland Bar Foundation and the Mid-Shore Pro Bono, Inc. She received a Service Award from the Maryland Pro Bono Resource Center in 2007 and the Judge of the Year Award from the Maryland Access to Justice Commission in 2012. She also earned the Women and Girls Fund Award from the Women and Girls Fund of the Mid-Shore in 2012 and the Arthur Machen Award from the Maryland Legal Services Corp. in 2016. In 2017, Judge Jensen was named to the "100 Women of the Daily Record".