

# Hot Topics Newsletter



## WHAT'S A SENIOR JUDGE TO DO DURING THE PANDEMIC?

By Hon. Nancy B. Shuger, Member, Senior Judges Committee

The COVID-19 pandemic swiftly changed life for all of us, including the Judiciary. In March, orders were issued closing courts and requiring us to stay at home. Suddenly, we were separated from each other in ways we had not experienced previously. The schedules and habits that mark a judge's professional and personal life were upended overnight and have lasted, even as courts are now reopening in phases.

How have Senior Judges fared during this period? The Judicial Council's Senior Judges Committee wanted to know, so we inquired-- remotely, of course. We shared the task of emailing close to 200 Maryland Judges who have Senior and Recall status. We expressed our hope that everyone was safe and healthy. We acknowledged that many necessary adjustments have been made, some easy, others harder to handle.

We offered our support and invited colleagues to share a favorite piece of music; a recipe; a book title; an exercise regime, or anything else that helped them cope during this challenging time. We noted that we missed our usual routines, including sitting in court and spending time in-person with family and friends.

Those who responded expressed gratitude to the Committee for reaching out. Beyond that, the replies were as varied as we are. Some were bored; some couldn't wait to get a haircut; some missed children and grandchildren; some took daily walks; some reconnected with old friends; some discovered Zoom. Generally, people were positive, not dwelling on the loss and grief inherent in this crisis. Gallows humor provided a ready outlet for some. Two examples stand out. One was the judge who requested a list of organ donors. The other was the judge who listened to the audio book of Jack London's "The Red Plague" while waxing his car. Whatever works!

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The question often asked, but unanswerable at the moment, was whether we would return to court, and if so, when and what that would look like. The answer to this complicated question will have to wait. For now, though, we can take comfort that our colleagues seem to be healthy and safe and faring well in this unprecedented period.

### AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON SENIOR JUDGES

On June 24, Chief Judge Barbera issued a message in response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, stating, in part:

Maryland's economy has been hard hit by the emergency. The State must absorb dramatic shortfalls in tax revenues, and we in the Judiciary, along with the other branches of government, necessarily will be asked to make sacrifices to help make up these shortfalls.

I have determined that the important work that senior judges do in support of the courts' caseloads must be preserved. To the extent that we will be dealing with fewer resources for senior judges, we will use the funds available to recall senior judges to where they will be needed most: in the courts to address the backlogs and to handle dockets and trials.

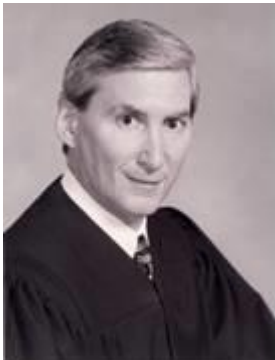
Senior Judges have been and will continue to be the Judiciary's cavalry, to be called upon when extra help and expertise are needed. They are integral to a robust bench that responds to the needs of the people of Maryland.

Fiscal provisions of the amended administrative order include:

As of July 1, 2020:

- Senior Judges will be compensated for court assignments on a half-day or full-day per diem basis.
- Up to seven days of per diem will be compensated for enrollment and completion of judicial educational courses in a calendar year.
- Committee work no longer will be compensated.
- Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

The full Amended Administrative Order on Senior Judges is available on [Mdcourts.gov](https://mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/admin-orders/20200624amendedseniorjudges.pdf) at the following link: <https://mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/admin-orders/20200624amendedseniorjudges.pdf>.



**SENIOR JUDGE AWARD**  
By Hon. Jean Baron,  
Member, Senior Judges  
Committee

2020 Recipient:  
**JUDGE NEIL E. AXEL**

Since 2018, the Maryland Judiciary, in conjunction with the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA), has recognized a senior judge for outstanding service on the bench, for continued service to the judiciary, and for service to the community.

The Senior Judge Award is one of prestige and is generally announced at the Judicial Conference and awarded at the MSBA Annual Meeting, neither of which could be held this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

This year's well-deserved recipient is Judge Neil Axel, Senior Judge from the District Court of Maryland for Howard County. Seven years ago, in 2013, Judge Axel assumed senior status, after having served actively for sixteen years since his appointment to the Howard County District Court bench in 1997. The District Court is often the public's only personal exposure to our judicial system; thus, its importance is of paramount significance.

Whether in Howard County or in another jurisdiction, Judge Axel's courtroom presence is one where all attorneys, litigants, witnesses, general public, courthouse support staff, and colleagues are treated with respect and dignity, with fairness and equality. Judge Axel's courtroom demeanor and professionalism have long been recognized and acknowledged, as evidenced by his receipt of the coveted Anselm Sodaro Judicial Civility Award.

Since assuming senior status, Judge Axel has been unrelenting in his continued efforts of providing and championing educational programs for the enhancement and betterment of the Judiciary and the community. He has continued to teach courses for our Judicial College and at the Maryland Annual Problem Solving Court Symposiums. He is also a faculty member of the National Judicial College where his focus has been principally on impaired driving topics. Additionally, he is also actively involved with the American Bar Association (ABA) as its National Judicial Fellow for highway safety issues, all part of the ABA's Judicial Outreach programs for judges' enhanced abilities and concomitant communities' safety.

As part of his continued dedication to the Judiciary, Judge Axel has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Judicial Institute of Maryland, the Committee on Civil Procedures for the District Court, the Judicial Inquiry Board, the Task Force on Military Service and Veterans in the Courts, the Judicial Council's Education Committee, and most recently to the Commission on Judicial Disabilities Peer Review Panel.

In the course of a sterling career, Judge Axel has served on numerous committees, focusing on problem solving courts, drug treatment courts, drug abuse, family advocacy, children in need of supervision, family sexual violence, and domestic violence. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for his efforts, including in 2012 a Criminal Justice Award, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence; and in 2009 an Award of Excellence from the Howard County Bar Foundation. He served as well on the Board of Directors for Maryland Special Olympics.

Judge Axel has maintained membership in the MSBA, Howard County Bar Association, and the ABA. While he has remained extremely active in many

areas of interest, he has also been enjoying extensive travel abroad to different continents and countries.

*According to Chief Judge Barbera:* This year, the Senior Judges Committee of the Judicial Council has chosen the Hon. Neil E. Axel, from among a field of distinguished candidates, as the recipient of the Senior Judge Award. Judge Axel is a wonderful choice. He is, and has been for many years, a judge's judge. Judge Axel has distinguished himself, not only as a jurist, but also as teacher of jurists, having received, in 2016, the National Judicial College's prestigious Flaschner Award in honor of his contributions to continuing judicial education. As you likely know, I have special esteem for teachers in general, and teachers of law in particular. Those who teach law bring a deepened understanding to the law, having learned to teach it—particularly those who teach it as well as Neil Axel.

Judge Axel's commitment to our problem-solving courts has made them more effective in the important work they do. He is one of those jurists who brings luster to the Judiciary through his demeanor, diligence, and civility. On behalf of the Maryland Judiciary, thank you, Judge Axel, for your contributions. Congratulations.

*According to Chief Judge Morrissey:* I remember 15 years ago, as a baby judge, first encountering Judge Neil Axel. My first impression was that he was wicked smart, incredibly well dressed and a great educator. That is still the impression that I have today. When I hear Judge Axel's name the first thing that comes to mind is his untiring commitment and contribution to judicial education. During his service to the Maryland Judiciary his commitment to education was obvious as he served on the Board of Directors of the Judicial Institute, the predecessor to today's Judicial College, for more than a decade. And I know of Judge Axel's passion and commitment to education first-hand, having attended several of his presentations on a multitude of topics. I also have had the honor of presenting with him at the Judicial College and have travelled with him to educational conferences. His extensive and thorough knowledge, particularly with regards to the true nitty gritty of traffic law, and his professional style enable him to effectively educate the public, the bar and his fellow colleagues alike. He has presented on topics of impaired driving, traffic court, substance abuse and self-represented litigants, to name

just a few and has consistently done so in an engaging, thoughtful and professional manner.

In 2016, proving that his influence extends beyond Maryland’s boundaries, Judge Axel was presented the Franklin N. Flaschner Award from the National Judicial College, on which Judge Axel serves as faculty. The Flaschner Award honors those who have made significant contributions on local, state and national levels to continuing education of the judiciary. And now, even seven years after he officially retired, Judge Axel’s passion for education continues to resonate

throughout the Maryland Judiciary and is truly deserving of an award.

I commend and thank the Senior Judges Committee for their thoughtful process in determining that Senior District Court Judge Neil Axel should be the recipient of this prestigious award.

Senior Judges are an important part of the Maryland Judiciary’s dedication to providing fair and equal justice to all. We all join in extending our sincere congratulations to Judge Axel, for receiving this well-earned award.

**MESSAGES FROM THE CHIEF JUDGES**

For a number of years, the Chief Judges have addressed the Senior Judges at the Judicial Conference. Because there was no conference this year, they provided written remarks.



**Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera:** We are approaching the mid-point of a year that no one of us is likely to forget. As I write, we are working through the phases necessary to resume full operations of the Maryland Judiciary. The world as we knew it in March is no more. We have become accustomed to wearing masks,

keeping social distance, an oxymoron if there ever was one, and using remote technology. We have begun and will continue to address the backlogs of matters that must be heard and decided, for the people of Maryland.

Just as we have begun, cautiously, to forge ahead, the injustices of unaddressed racial bias and discrimination that so long have festered have erupted. We are confronting now that work that has cried to be done, work that can wait no longer. The world as we knew it in March has changed and, again, necessarily must change for the better.

Together, you and I, and the Maryland Judiciary, will do the work that is needed, as must we all in our other walks of life. We have relied for many years, upon you, the senior judges, who have been the strength we could draw upon to meet the challenges we face. Not

only have you covered dockets when a judge has been ill or out, you have helped to manage caseloads and brought your perspective and wisdom to bear to resolve cases. We will need you in those roles in the coming months as we bring the courts back to full operation. We must do it and know you will be essential in helping to get the work done.

We will also need you to be part of the conversations that must be had, conversations that likely already are going on in your communities. We who have the sworn duty to uphold the promise of equality under law—and the momentous honor to do so—have a special duty to ensure that the Maryland Judiciary, in every courthouse, courtroom, and office, lives up to this promise every day.

Thank you for all that you do on behalf of all of the people in Maryland.



**Chief Judge Matthew J. Fader:** At the 2019 Judicial Conference, Chief Judge Barbera, Chief Judge Morrissey, and I had the opportunity to express our mutual love for the senior judges who do so much to keep the Judiciary on track and able to fulfill its

critical role in the effective, efficient, and fair administration of justice. One of too many disappointments associated with the cancelation of the 2020 Judicial Conference is that we missed out on the opportunity to get together again with the senior judges to express our thanks and appreciation. I am, therefore, grateful to have this opportunity to assure you that my affections have not waned.

Although not the subject on which I was asked to write, I can't help but make a brief comment on our present situation. Although not yet at the halfway point, 2020 has presented far more than an ordinary year's share of unprecedented challenges. For weeks, the battle against the novel coronavirus—and the accompanying effects of both the virus and of the battle on nearly every aspect of life, especially for the most vulnerable among us—appropriately overshadowed nearly all other local, national, and international events. More recently, the tragic, brutal death of George Floyd has seemingly awakened much of the nation to the scope of systemic problems that are not novel at all, but that nonetheless have been brought to the forefront as never before. Unparalleled opportunities for positive change often accompany unprecedented challenges. The question will be how we respond. We don't yet know what the rest of 2020 will throw at us, much less 2021 and beyond. But, under Chief Judge Barbera's leadership, and with your help and that of the entire Judiciary, I am confident we will rise to the level of the opportunities, as well as the challenges.

Beyond the personal challenges, I know that the limited operational status of the Judiciary for much of the last few months has been particularly challenging for many of our senior judges. In that regard, I am pleased to report that the Court of Special Appeals's ADR Division is once again scheduling and holding mediations. The ADR Division continues to serve a very important role in the Court's work, which would not be possible without the great efforts of our senior judge mediators. Although mediations, like many other Judiciary functions, were not held beginning in mid-March, they resumed in early June and are expected to pick up through the summer and beyond as we create and discover the "new normal."

Mediations are currently being scheduled to take place both remotely and in person. I understand that the Division's ability to hold effective mediations

remotely is going to be greatly aided by the Judiciary's recent decision to adopt Zoom for Government as an approved technology platform. Zoom is a very intuitive platform that includes important functions such as virtual breakout rooms, which should permit remote mediations to mimic in person sessions to the maximum extent possible. For those of you who work with the Division, I would encourage you to become familiar with Zoom for Government as JIS and the Judicial College roll out training in the near future.

The Division is also scheduling in-person and hybrid mediations in cases in which the mediators and some or all of the attorneys/parties are willing and able to do so. Those mediations are being held in full compliance with Judiciary policies and best practices regarding social distancing, screening, cleaning, etc. Although we anticipate increasing use of in-person mediations as Maryland continues to open up, we also anticipate that many parties, attorneys, and mediators will continue to prefer remote proceedings for some time. The Division stands ready to adapt to the circumstances that will fit each case best and the parties, attorneys, and mediators involved.

Thank you for your continued support, patience, guidance, wisdom, experience, and judgment. We couldn't do it without you.



**Chief Judge John P. Morrissey:** I hope this message finds you safe and well. In normal times, I would have already worked over the buffet line and perhaps had a refreshment before I addressed the Senior Judges at the annual Judicial Conference. But as we all know, these are not even close to normal times.

These are exceptional times that have required unprecedented actions necessary to balance the safety of our judges, staff, justice partners and the public we serve, with the need to continue operations to ensure that due process and the rule of law are safeguarded. In the matter of a day, the District Court pivoted from conducting in-court proceedings with all persons and

parties present in a courtroom to proceedings held largely remotely, by telephone and video. Phase I, as we are now calling it, brought us down to core functions like bail reviews and domestic violence protective orders, reductions in staffing by 50% or more and the triage of protective and peace orders which continued day in and day out. As of Monday, June 8, we entered Phase II, a 6-week block of time with the clerk's offices still closed and the public not generally allowed to enter the courthouse, to try to come current on domestic violence protective orders, peace orders and Extreme Risk Protective Orders. Bail reviews, re-reviews, and sentence modifications continue to be filed, scheduled and held in the hundreds each week. When the ensuing phases occur, the court will hopefully expand capacity by hearing criminal cases, then specified civil proceedings, then our higher volume dockets until we are back to full operations provided it is safe to do so. One thing is certain, that the way things used to be and the speed at which we formerly operated will not be the same for a considerable period of time to come.

At headquarters, we used this time to develop new protocols, to locate and provide personal protective equipment to the Districts and to plan the gradual reopening of the courts. Consistent with advice from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Maryland Department of Health and local health departments, each District has been provided with enough gear to give each staff member two cloth masks and face shields for judges, bailiffs and commissioners. Administrative Judges and staff have been busy marking out courthouses so that physical distancing can be safely accomplished, and plexiglass dividers are being installed in courtrooms and other designated locations within the courthouses. Bailiffs will be asking each person (including staff and judges) that comes to a courthouse several screening questions and a no contact thermometer reading will be taken. All this is necessary as we gradually resume operations while still greatly concerned about the ongoing pandemic.

I know this has been a particularly tough time for you, both in dealing with the potential health consequences from the COVID disease, and the abrupt change to your schedules as we went into emergency operations. So where does this now leave you, our senior judges? First and foremost, your safety is of paramount importance. I want to be very clear that

your decision to return to work is entirely yours to make and you should base this decision on CDC, Health Department and your own medical provider's recommendations. If you are not ready to return or feel you may want to take a couple more months to see where we are at the end of the summer, that decision will be understood and respected. Whenever you are ready, Carole Burkhart will work you back into the schedule.

In terms of how many senior judges will be scheduled moving forward, the answer is not entirely clear at this time. Coinciding with entry into Phase II is the lifting of the suspension of judge's leave that occurred in Phase I. Accordingly, active judges will now be taking personal and vacation leave and courts, on a case-by-case basis, have been making requests to Carole for senior judge coverage. Carole may have already called or will be reaching out to you to see if you are interested in sitting on certain days. I expect it to be slow at first remembering that in Phase II, most courts are only at about 50% capacity. But as we move from phase to phase, it is likely that the demand for senior judges will increase.

I have always maintained that the District Court could not function effectively without our senior judges. Without you filling in, a courtroom would otherwise go dark. You are an important part of our operations and for that I am thankful. As we gradually increase our capacity, to the extent that you feel comfortable serving, we will be reaching out.

I hope you stay safe and well and I hope I will see you at next year's Judicial Conference, if not before. Next summer will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of the District Court. While it is difficult to envision under the current circumstances, we hope to have some type of celebration to mark the occasion. If you have any suggestions of how we can honor this milestone, please let us know.

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## 2019 PRESCRIPTION DRUG LEGISLATION IS NEW FOCUS OF STATE RETIREES LEGAL CHALLENGE

By Hon. Robert A. Zarnoch

The 15-month old federal litigation challenging Maryland's decision to curtail prescription drug benefits for Medicare-eligible State retirees enters a new phase, as the attack broadens to include 2019

legislation conferring on retirees some benefits, but not the full State subsidy. A hearing on the State's motion to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint in the case is set for August 11, 2020, before U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte.

In September of 2018, a group of State retirees challenged the constitutionality and legality of a 2011 enactment of the General Assembly that eliminated State prescription drug coverage for Medicare-eligible retirees (*Fitch v. State of Maryland*). The change was to take effect in Fiscal Year 2020, when improvements to Medicare Part D prescription coverage were slated to take effect. The retirees convinced Judge Messitte to issue a preliminary injunction to halt the elimination of the State prescription drug subsidy for retirees and that injunction has been in effect since October 16, 2018.

In the 2019 legislative session, the General Assembly declined to fully restore the prescription drug subsidy but did enact three new prescription drug programs to defray some costs for retirees. These are described in the Fiscal & Policy Note on the bill:

- The Maryland State Retiree Prescription Drug Coverage Program is available only to an individual who (1) retired from the State on or before December 31, 2019; (2) is enrolled in a prescription drug benefit plan under Medicare; and (3) is eligible to enroll and participate in the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefit Program (State plan). It reimburses a participant for out-of-pocket prescription drug costs that exceed limits established in the State plan, which are currently \$1,500 for an individual and \$2,000 for a family;
- The Maryland State Retiree Catastrophic Prescription Drug Assistance Program is available to an individual who (1) began State service on or before June 30, 2011; (2) retired on or after January 1, 2020; and (3) is eligible to enroll and participate in the State plan. It reimburses a participant for out-of-pocket costs after the participant enters catastrophic coverage under the Medicare drug benefit plan; and
- The Maryland State Retiree Life-Sustaining Prescription Drug Assistance Program, which is

provided automatically to an individual who (1) is eligible to enroll and participate in the State plan and (2) is enrolled in either of the two prescription drug cost reimbursement plans described above. It reimburses a participant for out-of-pocket costs for a life-sustaining drug that is covered under the State plan but is not covered under the individual's Medicare prescription drug plan.

These benefit programs are not presently in effect because of a complicated contingency clause contained in the 2019 legislation that is keyed to the resolution of the federal litigation and the beginning of plan years.

Although the case raises federal constitutional questions, one of the key issues may turn on Maryland law, specifically, whether the State has met the test for *municipal employee retirement* changes set forth in *City of Frederick v. Quinn*, 35 Md. App. 626 (1977). There, the Court of Special Appeals said that the contractual or vested rights of the employee "are subject to a reserved legislative power to make reasonable modifications in the plan, or indeed to modify benefits if there is a simultaneous offsetting new benefit or liberalized qualifying condition." *Id.* at 630-31. The Court added that each change must be analyzed to determine whether it was "reasonably intended to preserve the integrity of the pension system by enhancing its actuarial soundness, as a reasonable change promoting a paramount interest of the State without serious detriment to the employee. In short, the employee must have available substantially the program he bargained for and any diminution thereof must be balanced by other benefits or justified by countervailing equities for the public's welfare." *Id.* at 631.

While the State continues to argue that the retirees have no contractual or property rights in the prescription drug subsidy, it also contends that the 2019 legislation meets the test established in *City of Frederick v. Quinn*. The retirees (now joined by intervenor, the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees) contend that "while the new legislation extended some benefits to retirees, the level and extent of the benefits did not reach the level of the benefits of the State prescription drug benefit and still leaves retirees worse off."

**JUDICIAL INSURANCE COVERAGE OPTIONS FOR SENIOR JUDGES**

By Hon. Julie R. Rubin, President, Maryland Circuit Judges’ Association



**(This is not a communication or product offering of the Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts or otherwise under the authority of the State of Maryland or an agency thereof, nor is the product endorsed by any court of the State of Maryland)**

In spring 2019, the Maryland Circuit Judges’ Association (MCJA) announced the first ever Maryland Judicial Insurance Plan – a custom, Judicial Disabilities defense cost-only policy for Maryland judges (all judges of every court, sitting and senior/recalled) offered by Berkley Insurance in coordination with Baltimore-based Mason & Carter, Inc. Shortly after the Maryland Judicial Insurance Plan became available, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual launched its Judicial Disciplinary Insurance product for Maryland judges. The MCJA is delighted that Maryland judges now have multiple options to ensure they have experienced and able representation for all stages of proceedings before the Maryland Commission on Judicial Disabilities.

Here are some of the highlights of the policies – although I encourage you to read the policies and speak directly with the insurance carriers to be sure you have the most accurate and up-to-date information in deciding what coverage might best serve your needs.

<b>Berkley/Mason &amp; Carter Maryland Judicial Insurance Program*</b>	<b>Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Judicial Disciplinary Insurance*</b>
Two levels of coverage: \$50k and \$100k; premium of \$606.67 and \$1,212.31, respectively	Two levels of coverage: \$50k and \$100k; premium of \$500 and \$1,000, respectively
No deductible	No deductible
Retroactive to date of judicial appointment	Retroactive to date of judicial appointment
“Claims made” policy	“Claims made” policy
List of approved attorneys (including, as of this writing, Alvin Frederick, Andrew Graham, Paul Kemp, Steven Silverman, William Brennan); judge may request approval of representation by other counsel	List of approved attorneys (including, as of this writing, Alvin Frederick, Phil Zuber, Kathleen Meredith and others); judge may request approval of representation by other counsel
Step rate premium increases	Fixed rate premium
No-cost tail (extended coverage) for retired judges who had active policy at time of retirement and who are <b>not</b> sitting as recalled judges; fee-based tail available for retired judges <b>not</b> sitting as recalled judges who did <b>not</b> have an active policy at time of retirement	Fee-based tail (extended coverage) available for retired judges <b>not</b> sitting as recalled judges; no-cost tail for retirement due to permanent disability or death
Senior judges sitting in a recalled capacity must have an active insurance policy to be covered by the policy; senior/retired judges not sitting as recalled judges may rely on tail coverage (described above)	Senior judges sitting in a recalled capacity must have an active insurance policy to be covered by the policy; senior/retired judges not sitting as recalled judges may rely on tail coverage (described above)
Contact: Mr. Phillip Vong or Mr. Read Carter at pvong@masoncarter.com, rcarter@masoncarter.com; (410) 539-6767	Contact: Ms. Kiernan Waters at kwaters@mlmins.com; (612) 344-4367



An important consideration for a senior judge (or a judge contemplating retirement) is whether the judge will serve in a recalled capacity. Both insurance carriers have been careful to advise us that a senior judge sitting in a recalled capacity must have an active policy for coverage to extend to complaints regarding judicial conduct while sitting as a recalled judge. Tail coverage pertains only to claims made where the senior judge is fully retired and is not sitting as a recalled judge. Some may wonder, “If I’m not going to serve as a recalled judge, why should I care about tail coverage?” For many, tail coverage offers the comfort of knowing you can protect your reputation even after you’ve tucked away your robe for posterity. After a career in civil service, many want to ensure they can protect their legacies. Tail coverage is there to enable you to do that. As one judge was heard to say, “it’s the principle of the thing.”

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Legislative Update:** On March 18, 2020, the Maryland General Assembly adjourned early due to the public health crisis surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. The Legislative Committee’s Final Report can be accessed through CourtNet at the following link:

<https://courtnet.courts.state.md.us/reference/pdfs/legislativereport/2020legislativefinalreport.pdf>

**Appellate Advance Mediation:** Appellate Advance Mediation Training with Peter Robinson that was postponed in March has been tentatively scheduled to occur on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, either remote or in person.

**UPCOMING ADVANCED PAYROLLS FOR SENIOR JUDGES**

- ❖ 6/10/20-6/23/20: Timesheets need to be submitted by noon on Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- ❖ 8/19/20-9/1/20: Timesheets need to be submitted by noon on Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ 10-14-20-10-27-20: Timesheets need to be submitted by noon on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ 11/11/20-11/24/20: Timesheets need to be submitted by noon on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ 12/9/20-12/22/20: Timesheets need to be submitted by noon on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. This will be the last pay period paid in 2020. The 2021 Earnings Limitation will begin on December 23, 2020.
- ❖ 5/12/21-5/25/21: Timesheets need to be submitted by noon on Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Hon. Patrick Cavanaugh, Circuit Court for Baltimore County

**THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL’S SENIOR JUDGES COMMITTEE**

- Hon. James A. Kenney III, Chair
- Hon. Jean Baron, Senior Judge, District Five
- Hon. Lynne A. Battaglia, Senior Judge, Court of Appeals
- Carole Burkhart, Judicial Assistant, District Court Headquarters
- Hon. Leonard J. Eiswert, Senior Judge, District Twelve
- Hon. Deborah Sweet Eyler, Vice Chair, Senior Judge, Court of Special Appeals
- Hon. Stephen P. Johnson, Senior Judge, District Six
- Hon. Barbara Kerr Howe, Senior Judge, Third Judicial Circuit
- Susan S. Leary, Court Administrator, Carroll County
- Hon. Irma S. Raker, Senior Judge, Court of Appeals
- Hon. Gale E. Rasin, Senior Judge, District One
- Hon. Thurman H. Rhodes, Senior Judge, District Five
- Hon. Nancy B. Shuger, Senior Judge, District One
- Eliana Pangelinan, Staff

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**RETIREMENT SERVICES CONTACT LIST**
**Maryland State Retirement and Pension System**

1-800-492-5909

Charelle Saunders  
[csaunders@sra.state.md.us](mailto:csaunders@sra.state.md.us)  
 410-625-5515

**Social Security Administration (SSA)**

1-800-772-1213  
[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid**

1-800-633-4227  
[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

**Maryland Supplement Retirement Plan (MSRP)**

1-800-545-4730

Angela Anderson  
[angela.anderson@maryland.gov](mailto:angela.anderson@maryland.gov)  
 443-305-9055

**Department of Budget & Management, Employee Benefits Division**

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**Maryland Judiciary: Office of Employment Services**

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