

CONFERENCE OF MARYLAND COURT LAW LIBRARY DIRECTORS

SPRING ZOOM 2026 MEETING

March 25, 2026

1:30-3:30 pm

REVISED MEETING NOTES

In Attendance: Julia Viets, Sandy Brewer, Audrey Dingler, Heather Wetzel, Florence Barnes, James Durham, Kimberly Viera, Catherine McGuire, Joan Bellistri, and Brittany West

Approval of Meeting Notes from the Annual CMCLLD Meeting held on 12/16/25
- Approved

Introductions

Round the Room – Member Updates

Howard County – Sandy Brewer

- The law library continues to be very busy.
- The Howard County Circuit Court received the award for completing the security training the fastest.

Prince George's County – Tonya Baroudi reported by Flossie

- Preparing for our 18th annual National Library Week book drive. We invite courthouse complex and Bar Assn to donate gently used books. This year's recipient is New Horizons, a nonprofit in the area.
- Hoping to get AIDA installed on our public computers.
- Challenges with Lexis continue re responsiveness.
- Vickie will attend the 2026 MLA/DLA conference.

Baltimore County – Scott Stevens via email

- Missing the meeting due to a staff meeting today to discuss the future and hopefully clarify what direction we are headed in next."

Charles County – Kim Viera

- Charles County held their second Family Law Legal Access Program for inmates on 2/17/2026. Six were helped by the Help Center attorney.
- Kim has completed the ICM program.
- Westlaw has been renewed for 3 years.
- LexisNexis print has been renewed for 3 years. The contract included provision for shipping charges.

Washington County – Heather Wetzel

- Recent projects include organizing and updating the inventory.
- AIDA used in Help Center.
- Heather has joined the AI User Group.
- Family Help Center is offered twice a week.
- Working on a partnership with the Gatekeepers nonprofit that helps newly released incarcerated individuals. Special service is offered weekly.
- Has reached out to Platoon 22 to assist veterans.

Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

James Durham

The transition to the new contract for hosting the People's Law Library of Maryland went smoothly.

New policies, posted on the TMSLL website, were passed at the Annual Library Committee meeting:

Collection Development Policy

Patron Conduct Policy

Legal Information Services to the Public Policy (in the approval process)

Catherine McGuire

The official groundbreaking for the new appellate court building has taken place.

The building should be completed in three years with a move-in date in 2029.

Court TV has been installed in the building lobby.

Audrey Dingler

Attended the GLL SIS new member program.

Recent Digital Mini webinars included Lexis ebooks, HeinOnline and the General Assembly website.

Outreach – Visited Harford County with Jessica Mundy. They met CHC Guide, Kaitlyne Jett and discussed retention of library materials. Audrey will invite her to the June meeting.

Montgomery County – Julia Viets

- The law library is as busy as usual.
- The law library is in an audit cycle.
- The law library is planning a Lunch & Learn with the Register of Wills Department.
- The law library will participate in the Montgomery County Public Schools High School Summer RISE Program by teaching a half-day legal research program.

Carroll County – Florence Barnes

- Reshelving project to make added space for MD Reports/MD App Reports.
- Flossie is preparing for their local Annual Law Library Committee meeting in April.
- The Collection Development Policy is being revised and will be reviewed at the upcoming Annual Law Library Committee meeting.

Anne Arundel County – Joan Bellistri

- Annual Report for FY2025 has been completed.
- A rebranding effort was suggested to Court Administration.
- Joanie has notified Court Administration that she is not planning on working beyond 2029.
- The law library has added a weekly volunteer who is a retired attorney from the DOJ and more recently as a volunteer with the SAO.
- The law library is working on a Lexis e-book contract and a separate print for the court contract.

Laws of Maryland - Update – Joanie Bellistri

Last email sent 1/19/2026.

As a result of a LLAM Board Meeting discussion, Mary Jo Lazun will follow up with Legislative Services Library as they are having the same issue.

Conference libraries have not received volumes ordered and paid for. Some members have not placed orders, and some have sent the order form without payment.

Catherine will ask Jessica Mundy to contact Andy Yamazaki with the Archives library and Annette at the Legislative Services Library to see how those libraries are handling the issue.

Joanie will share spreadsheet summarizing what Conference members have ordered and received.

A2J - Updates – Brittany West

Brittany reported on a new video project:

Estate Administration for the Personal Representative includes a series on Opening an Estate in 3 parts, and You've Been Named Personal Representative in 7 parts. Tip sheets will be more detailed. It is hoped that the videos will be posted in April.

A2J is continuing to collaborate with Family & Juvenile Services to produce a Standby Guardianship video in Spanish.

A2J is continuing to review publications for WCAG compliance. Publications designed for court staff may be moved to CourtNet.

The following publications are being revised:

- MCHC flyer

- Video series information cards

- Access to court records brochure series

The A2J Department has a new staff member who will be working with Christian on projects like Guide & File and CourtTV.

The redesign of the Court Help pages is continuing.

Operational Plan – Adding Tasks

See [Strategic Plan for the Maryland Judiciary 2025-2030](#)

Teams – Protocols Policies Procedures Planning – Strategic Plan [CMCLLD Operational Plan.xlsx](#)

Joanie will investigate whether the Conference can add directly or send to the Court Administrator.

Sub-Committee Updates

Revisions to the Recommended Titles for the Core Collection – Catherine, Audrey, Joanie and Julia – Catherine McGuire

The Committee has completed the 1st and 2nd review. It will also be sent to Jessica Mundy and Julia Topper at the TMSLL for review. The document will be sent to the full conference for review with an April 10 review deadline.

Survey of Chambers Collections & Other Court Department Collections - Flossie and Joanie

The chambers standards will include a summary of the survey and notes as to where titles can be accessed. Draft for review should be sent before the next meeting.

Promotion of Court Law Libraries: Marketing/Outreach Inside/Outside the Law Library – Committee of the whole – Audrey Dingler

The online court law library directory has been revised.

Audrey will be attending MLA/DLA and will be sharing resources. Conference members can forward materials to her to be included.

Catherine and Audrey are discussing whether they should attend the SLRC Conference.

The last Frontlines spring session will be on life and health planning. Frontlines is in its 10th year. Registration is expanding beyond public libraries with more academic and government agencies attending.

SLRC is offering an online class, Legal Reference 2.0 class, Navigating Maryland Resources. TMSLL staff will attend and review content.

Begin to discuss succession planning for the CMCLLD Chair & Vice-Chair leadership roles since the current Chair & Vice-Chair 2-year terms end June 2026

Audrey Dingler agreed to become the next vice-chair. Catherine suggested Joanie or Tonya to be the next chair. Joanie will contact Tonya to see if she is interested.

Next CMCLLD Meeting: Summer 2026 In-Person Meeting to be held on 6/2/26, at the Baltimore Bar Library from 10am - 3pm