

members appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate for five-year terms. No more than two members may belong to the same political party. One member must have been admitted to the practice of law in Maryland for not less than five years prior to his appointment. The Governor designates the Chairman. The Board appoints the Executive Director through the State Merit System.

The Board was established to fulfill the legislature's intent that aid, care, and support be provided by the State, as a matter of moral responsibility for the innocent persons suffering personal physical injury or death as a result of criminal acts or in their efforts to prevent crime or apprehend persons committing or attempting to commit crimes as provided in the Act. The Board also established and maintained an office and staff, and hears claims for awards filed with it (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., Art. 26A).

Appropriations	1971	1972
General Funds	\$250,392	\$298,176
Staff: 8.		

FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION AND FIRE MARSHAL

Fire Prevention Commission

Chairman: Earl W. Smith, 1976
 Vice Chairman: P. Paul Lochary, 1973
 Joseph Kirby, 1972; Julius E. LeBrell, 1973; John J. Long, 1974;
 Kenneth W. Prinkey, 1974; Joseph R. Bachtler, 1975.

Fire Marshal

James C. Robertson, Fire Marshal
 Benjamin R. Benson III, Chief Fire Investigator
 John H. Farrell, Assistant Chief Fire Investigator
 David M. Hammerman, Fire Protection Engineer

301 W. Preston Street, Baltimore 21201 Telephone: 383-2520

The Fire Prevention Commission was established by Chapter 46, Acts of 1964, to replace the position of ex officio Fire Marshal held by the Insurance Commissioner by Chapter 521, Acts of 1916. The Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with the approval of the Governor for five year terms. Of the members, three must be members of paid or volunteer fire companies; three must be representatives of industry, and one must represent the general public. One member must represent Western Maryland, one Central Maryland, one Southern Maryland, one the Washington Metropolitan area, one the Eastern Shore, and two the State at large. The Commission is to promulgate regulations for the safeguarding of life and property hazards of fire and explosion. It also appoints the State Fire Marshal and serves as a board of appeals for matters connected with the enforcement of the Code and interpretation of conflicts with local codes.

The State Fire Marshal enforces all laws of the State dealing with the prevention of fires, storage, sale and use of explosives, combustibles, and other dangerous articles in solid, liquid, or gas form, the installation and maintenance of equipment of all sorts intended for fire control, detection and extinguishment; the means and adequacy of exits in case of fire for buildings except from private dwellings and the suppression of arson (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 38A).