

## INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

Independent agencies are those offices, commissions, boards, departments, and other agencies of State government established by statute as independent units of government. Generally, the law creating an independent agency originates with the Maryland General Assembly, but occasionally an agency is formed pursuant to a mandate of the U.S. Congress. While statutorily distinct from principal departments of State government, independent agencies may receive budgetary or administrative support from them.

### OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

John W. Hardwicke, *Chief Administrative Law Judge*, 1996  
 James G. Klair, *Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge*  
 Administrative Law Building  
 Green Spring Station  
 10753 Falls Road  
 Lutherville, MD 21093

321-3993

#### BUDGET (CODE 23.01.11)

FY1991 Total Appropriation . . . . . \$8,144,828  
 FY1991 Total Authorized Positions . . . . . 139

#### MANDATED REPORTS

*Annual Report to Governor & General Assembly.*  
*Annual Report of State Advisory Council on Administrative Hearings to Legislative Policy Committee.*  
*Report of State Advisory Council on Administrative Hearings to Governor on recommended exempt agencies due Jan. 1, 1992.*

#### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

John W. Hardwicke, *Chief Administrative Law Judge*  
 (appointed by Governor with Senate advice & consent) . . . . . 321-3993

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
 Paul A. Tiburzi, *Chairperson*, 1992

DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
 James G. Klair . . . . . 321-3993

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES  
 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS  
 William F. Clark, *Executive Administrative Law Judge* . . . . . 321-3993

DIRECTOR OF QUALITY ASSURANCE  
 Melanic A. Vaughn, *Executive Administrative Law Judge* . . . . . 321-3993

ADMINISTRATION  
 Benjamin C. Rudo, *Director of Administration* . . . . . 321-3993

The Office of Administrative Hearings was authorized in 1989 and established in January 1990 (Chapter 788, Acts of 1989). An administrative

hearing provides the opportunity for a citizen to appear before an Administrative Law Judge to obtain an unbiased and objective review of an action taken by a State administrative agency with which the citizen disagrees. The Office is responsible for hearing all contested State administrative law cases except for agencies exempted by law.

The Office is headed by the Chief Administrative Law Judge who is appointed to a three-year term by the Governor with Senate advice and consent (Code State Government Article, secs. 9-1601 through 9-1610).

#### STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Paul A. Tiburzi, *Chairperson*, 1992

*Appointed by Governor:* Susan Dishler Shubin, 1992; Scott M. Uhl, 1993; Doris M. Wright, 1993; George A. Brugger, 1994; W. Marshall Rickert, 1994.

*Appointed by Senate President:* F. Vernon Boozer

*Appointed by House Speaker:* Carol S. Petzold

*Ex officio:* vacancy, designee of Attorney General

Authorized in 1989, the State Advisory Council on Administrative Hearings, was created in 1990 (Chapter 788, Acts of 1989). The Council advises the Chief Administrative Law Judge and identifies issues of importance to Administrative Law Judges that should be addressed by the Chief Administrative Law Judge. The Council also reviews matters relating to administrative hearings and the administrative process, as well as policies and regulations proposed by the Chief Administrative Law Judge.

The Council is composed of nine members. Six are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor. The Senate President chooses a senator and the House Speaker a delegate to serve on the Council. The Attorney General (or designee) serves ex officio (Code State Government Article, secs. 9-1608 through 9-1610).