

## JUDICIAL OFFICES AND AGENCIES

### MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

*Chairperson:*

Robert C. Murphy, *Chief Judge, Court of Appeals*

*Executive Secretary:*

James H. Norris, Jr., *State Court Administrator*

Courts of Appeal Building  
361 Rowe Blvd.

Annapolis, MD 21401

974-2141

The Maryland Judicial Conference was organized in 1945 and presently operates under the provisions of Maryland Rule 1226. The Conference considers the status of judicial business in the various courts, devises means for relieving congestion of dockets, and considers improvements of practice and procedure in the courts. It also considers and recommends legislation and discusses proposals for improving the administration of justice and the judicial system in Maryland.

The Conference meets annually in plenary session. Between sessions, its work is conducted by an Executive Committee and by a number of other committees, as established by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Chief Judge. Committees of the Conference receive staff support from the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The Conference consists of all judges of the four courts of Maryland: the Court of Appeals, Court of Special Appeals, Circuit Courts, and District Court of Maryland. The Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals serves as chairperson, and the State Court Administrator as executive secretary.

### COURT OF APPEALS STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

*Chairperson:*

Alan M. Wilner, *Associate Judge, Court of Special Appeals*

Appointed by Court of Appeals: Francis M. Arnold; Walter M. Baker; Lowell R. Bowen; Robert R. Bowie; Albert D. Brault; Howard S. Chasanow; D. Warren Donohue; Audrey B. Evans; James S. Getty; John O. Herrmann; William S. Horne; H. Thomas Howell; Harry S. Johnson; Alexander G. Jones; Joseph H. H. Kaplan; James J. Lombardi; Anne C. Ogletree; Kenneth C. Proctor; Roger D. Redden; Linda M. Richards; Alan M. Rifkin; Mary Ellen T. Rinehardt; Melvin J. Sykes.

Una M. Perez, *Reporter*

District Court Building, Room 401

580 Taylor Ave.

Annapolis, MD 21401

974-2492

The Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, known as the Rules Committee, was appointed by order of the Court of Appeals in 1946. The Committee succeeded an ad hoc committee on rules appointed by the Court in 1940.

The Committee advises the Court of Appeals on rules governing the practice and procedure of law and judicial administration. Appointed by the Court of Appeals, members include lawyers, judges, and others competent in judicial practice, procedure, or administration (Code Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, sec. 13-301; Md. Rule 1225).

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

James H. Norris, Jr., *State Court Administrator*

Robert W. McKeever, *Deputy State Court Administrator*

Judith C. Levinson, *Legal Officer*

Peter J. Lally, *Assistant State Court Administrator, Research & Planning*

Michael V. O'Malley, *Assistant State Court Administrator, Special Projects*

J. Allen Hines, *Assistant State Court Administrator, Administrative Services*

Jerry A. Powell, *Assistant State Court Administrator, Judicial Information Systems*

Ernest L. Bailey, Jr., *Assistant State Court Administrator, Personnel*

Ellen Marshall, *Assistant State Court Administrator, Education & Information*

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In 1944, administrative direction for the courts became the responsibility of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals as "the administrative head of the judicial system of the State" (Const., present Art. IV, sec. 18(b)). Not until 1955, however, did the General Assembly take steps to provide professional administrative staff to assist the Chief Judge in carrying out administrative duties. In that year, the General Assembly created the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The Administrative Office is headed by the State Court Administrator appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The State Court Administrator and the