

Elected by lawyers in 13th Commission District: Robert C. Bonsib, Esq.; Edward P. Camus, Esq.; Christopher R. Dunn, Esq.; Walter E. Laake, Jr., Esq.

14th COMMISSION DISTRICT (Baltimore City)
George L. Russell, Jr., Esq., *Chair*

Appointed by Governor (who names chair): Andrew M. Brooks; Elizabeth Chen; Michael M. Hart; Veronica Henderson; Harry S. Johnson, Esq.; Kara C. King-Bess; Susan Souder, Esq.; Garland O. Williamson. *Terms expire 1999.*

Elected by lawyers in 14th Commission District: Arthur S. Alperstein, Esq.; Paul D. Bekman, Esq.; Sheila K. Sachs, Esq.; Lynn K. Stewart, Esq.

15th COMMISSION DISTRICT (Charles County)
Stephen J. Braun, Esq., *Chair*

Appointed by Governor (who names chair): Amy J. Bragunier, Esq.; Francis C. Garner; Keith A. Hettel; Salome F. Howard; John M. Sine, Ph.D.; Merle K. Turner, Esq.; Carmella D. Watkins; Jean M. Winkler. *Terms expire 1999.*

Elected by lawyers in 15th Commission District: Rudolph A. Carrico, Jr., Esq.; David Harris Chapman, Esq.; Stephen P. Fitzgerald, Esq.; Sue Ann Greer, Esq.

16th COMMISSION DISTRICT
(Caroline, Dorchester & Talbot Counties)
George D. Brennan II, *Chair*

Appointed by Governor (who names chair): Louis C. Andrew; Robert S. Collison, Esq.; Betty W. Crothers, Esq.; Hilliard E. Gardner, D.V.M.; Gladys H. Giddens; Anne W. Ryan; Kathleen O. Tieder; Evelyn W. Townsend. *Terms expire 1999.*

Elected by lawyers in 16th Commission District: John G. Billmyre, Esq.; Dennis J. Farina, Esq.; Karen M. Kaludis, Esq.; Connie G. Marvel, Esq.

In 1970, the Governor by executive order established statewide judicial nominating commissions to propose nominees for appointment to the appellate courts, and regional commissions to perform the same function for trial court vacancies. The commissions began operation in 1971. The commissions were reconstituted by the Governor in 1991 (Executive Order 01.01.1991.05) and in 1995 (Executive Orders 01.01.1995.06/07/10/13). Each judicial vacancy filled pursuant to the Governor's appointing power must be filled from a list of nominees submitted by one of these nominating commissions.

When a judicial vacancy occurs or is pending, the Administrative Office of the Courts notifies the appropriate nominating commission and then solicits applications by press announcements and from interested bar associations. Applications received are distributed to the commission members.

After the filing deadline for a vacancy has passed, the nominating commission meets to consider applications and relevant information, such as recommendations from citizens and bar associations. Each candidate is interviewed by the full commission or by commission panels. By secret written

ballot, the commission then prepares a list of those candidates deemed legally and professionally most fully qualified for judicial office. No applicant may be added to the list without the affirmative vote of a majority of the commission members present at a voting session. The list is forwarded to the Governor who must make the appointment from it.

APPELLATE JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION

Albert D. Brault, Esq., *Chair*

361 Rowe Blvd.
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 974-2141

The Appellate Judicial Nominating Commission nominates candidates for the Court of Appeals and the Court of Special Appeals.

The Commission is composed of seventeen members. The Governor, who chooses the chair, appoints one member from each of the seven appellate judicial circuits, one at-large member, and one member of the Maryland Bar. The remaining eight members are lawyers elected by the Maryland State Bar Association.

TRIAL COURTS JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSIONS

Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building
361 Rowe Blvd.
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 974-2141

Sixteen Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commissions recommend nominees for Circuit Courts and District Courts. Each commission consists of thirteen members. Six are lawyers: four elected by members of the Maryland State Bar Association within designated geographical areas; two appointed by the Governor. Six are lay members chosen by the Governor. Named by the Governor, the chair may be either a lawyer or a lay person. Terms extend to the date of qualification of the Governor after election, and until their successors are duly chosen. The Administrative Office of the Courts is the secretariat to each commission.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISABILITIES

Amy S. Sherr, *Executive Secretary*

Goldstein Treasury Building
80 Calvert St., Room 406 (410) 974-2177
Annapolis, MD 21401 fax: (410) 974-2182