STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER PROVIDES SUPERIOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO INDIGENT DEFENDANTS IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND

JUSTICE. FAIRNESS & DIGNITY FOR ALL

CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE
CLIENT CENTERED
TENACIOUS ADVOCACY
UNITED IN OUR MISSION

FISCAL YEAR 2014
ANNUAL REPORT
With Strategic Plan

Paul B. DeWolfe
Public Defender

www.opd.state.md.us
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For more than 30 years the attorneys and social workers of the Office of the Public Defender and its panel of private capital defenders have been fighting to end the death penalty in Maryland. Over this time, every capital case defended in the trial courts of Maryland or argued in its appellate courts constituted a brick in building the case so that a steadily growing consensus in Maryland rejected death as a penalty that a civilized people should ever impose. Drawing encouragement from the visionary courage of Governor O’Malley, enlightened legislators, countless individuals and organizations, OPD attorneys and private capital defenders tenaciously litigated every capital case. Achieving an 80% reversal rate in the appellate courts and no death verdicts from a judge or jury in more than 10 years, these efforts rendered the death penalty virtually irrelevant and repeal inevitable. On May 2, 2013, Governor O’Malley signed the bill repealing the death penalty law, putting an end to Maryland’s 375 year history of capital punishment. In October 2013, the defense and advocacy community came together to celebrate this historic event. Speaking at the celebration was Kirk Noble Bloodsworth who, on March 6, 2013, could be seen in the gallery of the General Assembly thrusting his arms in the air and shouting “yes, yes, yes” as the votes in favor of repeal flashed on the electronic tote board. Twenty-eight years before, Bloodsworth had been on death row awaiting execution for a crime he did not commit. He became the first-in-the-nation death row inmate exonerated through DNA evidence.

OPD attorneys fought for and gained the release of more than 60 inmates who have been incarcerated more than 30 years by challenging convictions that resulted from trials in which juries were told they did not need to follow rules designed to protect the innocent from wrongful convictions. As a result of the Court of Appeals decision in Unger v. State, numerous judges around the state have granted new trial motions filed by OPD attorneys for clients who were convicted by a jury before 1981. The majority of the inmates affected by this ruling are in their sixties and seventies and many suffer from significant health problems. Although convicted of serious crimes several decades ago, most of these inmates, like most older inmates nationwide, have demonstrated through their behavior and achievements while incarcerated, that they would not pose a danger to the public if released.

The final section of this annual report contains our yearly caseload charts, which measure attorney caseloads in each of the districts and divisions against the Maryland caseload standards developed by the case-weighting study prepared by the National Center for State Courts in 2005. Progress has been made by OPD in reducing caseloads in juvenile court in most jurisdictions. The caseloads of our attorneys in district court (misdemeanors) and circuit court remain prohibitively high. Excessive caseloads are
considered the number one constitutional issue facing indigent defense systems nationwide. In a recent “Statement of Interest” filed in federal court in New York State, the Attorney General of the United States opined that there exists “constructive denial of counsel” when, “on a systemic basis, lawyers for indigent defendants operate under substantial structural limitations, such as severe lack of resources, unreasonably high workloads, or critical understaffing of public defender offices, and/or when traditional markers of representation---such as timely and confidential consultation with clients, appropriate investigation, and meaningful adversarial testing of the prosecution’s case---are absent or are significantly compromised on a systems-wide basis”.

OPD is now in the third year of implementation of its strategic plan. A copy of the plan is included in this Annual Report. Progress has been made in developing employee evaluation systems, performance standards and equitable resource allocation. Concurrently, District One, Baltimore City is instituting a team representation model consistent with its local as well as the agency strategic plan. The Collateral Review Division has developed its own strategic plan modeled after that of the agency. It will be published in the next couple of months.

Our attorneys throughout the state continue to achieve successful results for their clients. These achievements, too numerous to list, are a testament to the dedication, commitment and passion of all our employees. We are inspired in this work by OPD’s vision statement, Justice, Fairness and Dignity for All.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul B. DeWolfe
Public Defender
September 30, 2014
Office of the Public Defender
Core Values

Culture of Excellence

- We embody the highest standards of professionalism in all aspects of our work.
- We act with integrity.
- We consistently follow best practices.
- We embrace diversity.
- We learn from our experiences.
- We continuously raise the bar through healthy competition.
- We are open to new ideas and concepts.
- We are hard-working, dedicated, and committed.
- We expect excellence.

Tenacious Advocacy

- We litigate aggressively.
- We are relentless and resourceful problem solvers for our clients.
- We are engaged, prepared, passionate, and assertive.
- We advocate for our clients at every opportunity.

Client Centered

- We are compassionate.
- We strive to achieve our client's objectives.
- We communicate effectively with our clients at every stage.
- We counsel our clients about their choices.
- We listen and are responsive to our clients.
- We respect and advocate for the dignity of each individual.

United in Our Mission

- We are one team working toward shared goals.
- We value and appreciate every employee.
- We take a collaborative approach in all that we do.
- We celebrate our successes as a community.
- We promote shared resources.
- We are inclusive, respectful and supportive of each other.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Area</th>
<th>Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cultivate a Culture of Excellence</strong></td>
<td>1. Develop clear standards of work performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy</td>
<td>2. Build a talent-based organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Establish and Communicate Performance Standards.</td>
<td>3. Develop mechanisms that promote excellence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement: performance standards published for each Job description.</td>
<td>Measurement: frequency with which talent needs are clearly and routinely communicated with relevant partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement: % of performance reviews completed.</td>
<td>Measurement: variety of vehicles available and frequency of use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Establish formal and informal ways to reward excellence.</td>
<td>Measurement: an accurate and effective case management procedure is utilized.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Goals

**Client Centered**

1. OPD provides best legal representation through vigorous advocacy in courtroom and out.
2. Ensure the defense team includes the client.
3. Secure client access to necessary, related services.

**Strategy**

a. Develop team representation that draws on the collective expertise and resources of the OPD and OPD partners.
   - Measurement: number & frequency of team-based case reviews.

b. Design training and professional development programs for defense team members.
   - Measurement: portfolio of development programs available, frequency of communication about programs and level of participation.

**Strategy**

a. Promote active participation of the client on the defense team.
   - Measurement: standard developed, published and assessed regarding client and family member contact by the team.

b. Institute practice of early and frequent contact of the defense team with client and family members.
   - Measurement: standard developed, published and assessed regarding client and family member contact by the team.

**Strategy**

a. Create relationships to develop related services and links to those services.
   - Measurement: breadth of services established in each office.
### Goals

**Leadership & Management**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1. Ensure clear, transparent, and consistent communication.</th>
<th>2. Allocate available resources fairly, consistent with OPD priorities.</th>
<th>3. Appoint effective managers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>a. Established processes within each management unit to regularly exchange information with their “customers.”</th>
<th>a. Establish and communicate clear priorities.</th>
<th>a. Establish regular &amp; progressive management skills training.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measurement</td>
<td>number of identified management units with process to exchange information.</td>
<td>priorities published regularly.</td>
<td>frequency of management skills trainings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Develop communication media that are user friendly, substantive, and utilized.</td>
<td>b. Communicate how resources will be allocated consistent with those priorities.</td>
<td>b. Establish HR management consultation, counseling and support services for agency managers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement</td>
<td>variety of media available and frequency of use.</td>
<td>resource allocation published regularly.</td>
<td>HR staff are fully trained and actively support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. Develop interpersonal communication skills and strategies.</td>
<td>c. Evaluate strengths and needs regularly with input from OPD staff.</td>
<td>c. Hold managers accountable to management standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement</td>
<td>number of training and other resources supporting interpersonal communications skill and strategies.</td>
<td>process established for OPD staff to provide input on strengths and needs; senior management reviews as a regular agenda item.</td>
<td>Performance standards and reviews incorporate management standards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Goals

**Positive Work Environment**

1. Create a team-driven agency.
2. Improve morale within the agency.
3. OPD employees have sufficient resources and adequate physical workplaces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Compose relevant teams throughout the organization.</td>
<td>a. Enhance employee understanding of their contribution to the agency mission.</td>
<td>a. Provide adequate, safe, clean physical work space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Create avenues for collaboration between teams.</td>
<td>b. Establish ways to appreciate each employee’s contribution to the agency’s mission.</td>
<td>b. Provide adequate office equipment, supplies and services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Create opportunities for professional advancement and professional development.</td>
<td></td>
<td>c. Establish standard resource package for new employees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement: professional development resources and paths for professional advancement established.</td>
<td>Measurement: all new employees receive a resource package.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. Provide sufficient training to ensure full use of resources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Measurement: post-training survey of resource use demonstrates increased use of resources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals</td>
<td>1. Achieve and maintain current technology.</td>
<td>2. Empower full use of technology resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/T Is Mission Critical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy</strong></td>
<td>Continuously assess agency technology needs. skills training.</td>
<td>Develop incentives to encourage full use of technology resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement:</td>
<td>Number of quarterly technology assessment committee meetings held.</td>
<td>Number of users leveraging incentives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Develop a comprehensive I/T financing plan.</td>
<td>b. Provide full access to resources.</td>
<td>b. Ensure I/T division has resources and structure to support I/T leadership and innovation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement:</td>
<td>I/T financing plan published.</td>
<td>Survey results demonstrate high level of satisfaction with access to resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Ensure resources meet agency technology priorities.</td>
<td>Measurement: Survey results demonstrate high level of user satisfaction with I/T resources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Office of the Public Defender is to provide superior legal representation to accused indigent defendants in the State of Maryland.

DECLARATION OF POLICY

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State of Maryland to provide for the realization of the constitutional guarantees of counsel in the representation of indigents, including related necessary services and facilities, in criminal and juvenile proceedings within the State, and to assure effective assistance and continuity of counsel to indigent accused taken into custody and indigent defendants in criminal and juvenile proceedings before the courts of the State of Maryland, and to authorize the Public Defender to administer and assure enforcement of the provisions of this article in accordance with its terms.

Prior to the creation of the Office of the Public Defender by the Maryland Legislature on July 1, 1971, the appointment of counsel for indigent defendants in state prosecutions was limited to those cases where, in the judgment of the trial court, “a just regard for the rights of the accused require[d] it.” Acts of 1886, Ch. 46, Section 1. Thus, by statute, in Maryland there was no right to appointed counsel, only the discretionary authority of the trial court to appoint counsel.

On March 18, 1963, the United States Supreme Court, in *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963), announced that the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution guaranteeing the right to counsel in federal prosecutions, applied with equal force to state prosecutions. Between the years 1963 and 1970, the United States Supreme Court continued to expand the right to counsel beyond the trial itself to include the right to counsel at line-ups, custodial interrogations, preliminary hearings and arraignments.

In response to the continuing expansion of the right to counsel, the Governor of Maryland created a Commission to study the need for a statewide public defender system. This culminated in the passage of Article 27A, creating a statewide public defender system funded by the State of Maryland which opened its doors in 1972.1

A thirteen-member Board of Trustees is composed of 11 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and one member each appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates respectively. The Board of Trustees appoints a Public Defender who serves a six-year term.

**OPD Structure**

The General Administration of the Office of the Public Defender provides statewide administrative and management support for its statewide divisions and Division Chiefs, twelve districts and the District Public Defenders, and over 900 employees statewide. In addition to the Public Defender and Deputy Public Defender, General Administration includes the following Administrative departments:

1. Administrative Services Unit
2. General Counsel
3. Information Technology
4. Government Relations
5. Human Resources
6. Recruitment
7. Training

The State is divided into twelve operational districts, conforming to the geographical boundaries of the District Court of Maryland. The District Public Defenders appointed by the Public Defender with the approval of the Board of Trustees, are responsible for representing all defendants.

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1 The OPD enabling statute can be found in Criminal Procedure Article, Title 16. The statute sets forth OPD’s mandate, structure, and eligibility for OPD representation.
eligible indigent defendants in the District, Juvenile and Circuit Courts within their geographical boundaries.

In addition to the district offices, there are statewide operational divisions within the OPD that represent indigent defendants at all levels of the criminal justice process and in other proceedings where the rights of indigent defendants are implicated:

**Statewide Divisions**

(1) The Appellate Division;

(2) The Collateral Review Division;

(3) The Children In Need of Assistance Division (CINA);

(4) The Innocence Project

(5) Juvenile Protection Division

(6) Mental Health Division

(7) The Litigation Support Unit consists of a collaboration of the following Units:

   (a) The Aggravated Homicide Division;
   (b) The Forensics Division;
   (c) The Mental Health Division;
   (d) The Social Work Division.

**OPD Representation**

By statute, OPD representation of an indigent individual extends to criminal (or juvenile) proceedings in which a defendant (or party) is alleged to have committed a serious offense. Md. Code, Criminal Procedure Article, Section 16-204(b).

“An individual may apply for services of the Office as an indigent individual, if the individual states in writing under oath or affirmation that the individual, without undue financial hardship, cannot provide the full payment of an attorney and all other necessary expenses of representation…” Md. Code, Criminal Procedure Article, Section 16-210(a). Every applicant for OPD services must complete a detailed written application that includes income, liability, and assets that are measured against the projected expenses of representation based on the complexity of the case and the charges involved, as mandated by statute.
The January 2012 Court of Special Appeals mandate from *DeWolfe v. Richmond* now requires OPD to provide representation to indigent clients at judicial bail reviews. This new responsibility places additional burdens on both OPD attorneys and intake staff. To comply with this mandate, OPD received sufficient funding to staff the judicial bail review hearing in all jurisdictions. The addition of attorney and support staff resulted in some relief to the excessive attorney caseloads in District Operations.

Eligible clients are represented in court by Assistant Public Defenders except when there is an ethical conflict. In those cases, the Public Defender, or District Public Defender, appoints a panel attorney from the public defender’s list of private attorneys approved to represent public defender clients. Panel attorneys receive $50 per hour, subject to a maximum of $750 in most misdemeanor cases and $3,000 for most felony cases. The Public Defender exercises discretion in approving fees exceeding the maximum amount.

More information about the Office of the Public Defender is available at the website: [http://www.opd.state.md.us](http://www.opd.state.md.us).
District Operations

The Public Defender’s Office employs over 900 employees, 570 attorneys alone. There are 52 offices located throughout the twelve districts within the state. Most of the offices are located in the District Court Buildings, while some are located in detention centers and mental health facilities. The District Public Defender supervises each district and each has a Deputy District Public Defender. Due to budget constraints, panel attorneys are now primarily used in cases involving conflicts-of-interest.

This section outlines the caseloads of attorneys of OPD. In addition to actual caseloads, OPD staff attorneys must represent clients at pretrial hearing, bond reviews, bench warrant hearings, non-support and contempt hearings and they perform other supporting duties as a result of support staff vacancies. For this reason, the workload standards, while an important benchmark in determining effective assistance at trial do not fully measure the extent to which the agency is understaffed.

OPD continues to address the challenge of excessive caseloads. Added to this challenge is the increase in the utilization of problem solving courts and specialty dockets, requiring more and more intensive attorney input. According to the FY2013 Office of the Problem Solving Courts (OPSC) Annual Report, over the past ten years, the court systems have established over 40 drug courts, 2 re-entry courts, 3 mental health courts and 9 truancy reduction courts. And during FY2013, there were over 4,000 participants in the problem solving courts programs. These courts replace the traditional methods of incarceration and general probation and offer strict court oversight of the progress of the participants as they progress through each phase of the program. As a result, the courts have increased its level of involvement in the pretrial or predisposition phases of a case and conduct frequent review hearings. During FY2013 there were over 26,600 of such hearings held. OPD attorneys and/or panel attorneys represent their clients at such hearings in all of the jurisdictions. OPD’s budget has not been increased to hire additional staff to cover these courts and dockets.

Drug Courts have been established in 19 jurisdictions and include the adult district and circuit court as well as the juvenile court area of law. The majority of the drug court programs handle cases involving a controlled dangerous substance and the participants are evaluated to determine the level of substance abuse and to recommend a course of treatment. Those facing conviction for violent crimes such as Rape, Murder and Robbery are excluded from the programs. Currently, there are 3 courts that specifically target clients with drinking and driving offenses. Prince George’s County is moving toward accepting alcohol abuse in its drug court. This trend would lead to an increase in the number of review hearings for which OPD staff would be required to attend.

Mental Health courts are established in three jurisdictions, Baltimore City, Harford County and Prince George’s County. The focus is to decriminalize mental health by marking a case STET or other disposition which focuses on the provision of comprehensive mental health services rather than incarceration. This, of course, requires more attorney input to monitor the process of obtaining these services. In addition to these courts, a number of jurisdictions have judges who assume specialty dockets to provide oversight to certain clients with mental health issues. Anecdotally, attorneys report an increase in the number of hearings that they might be required to attend as a result of the multiple review hearings held before final disposition. The
court often requests that OPD attorneys attend these hearings. These dockets do require additional attorney time. Again this additional workload has not been funded in the current OPD appropriation. Additionally the hearings are not taken into consideration in the caseload reports found in this Annual Report.

Truancy Court is unique in that it provides early intervention to address issues of youth’s school attendance both after and prior to the initiation of criminal proceedings. Truancy Courts are located in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Talbot County, Prince George’s County and all of the counties in District Two.

Re-Entry Court is the newest problem solving court. Participants must have an HG-8-505 evaluation to participate. This program begins at the post conviction phase and starts while the participant is incarcerated. OPD represents the client by filing HG-8-505 requests for evaluation. Unlike other problem solving courts, if the request is granted, OPD does not follow the client during the general course of progress through the program. While incarcerated the participant begins with a 6 month jail based program, followed by a 6 month work release program. Once released, there is a community based program with heightened supervision on probation. Attorney follow-up is not required unless there is a subsequent violation of probation.

The judiciary system is currently developing Veteran’s Court which will likely model the current adult drug court and include the same eligible charges as those in the adult drug court. The establishment of this subset of problem solving courts seems imminent and thus will require additional attorney staff assistance and training. This Court will likely serve veterans regardless of the status of their military discharge. Prince George’s County may be one of the first jurisdictions to have a veteran’s court. Prince George’s County OPD is currently negotiating the inclusion of gun charges and domestic violence charges.
District One
Baltimore City

Elizabeth Julian is the District Public Defender of the largest District in the Office of the Public Defender. District One has eight locations throughout Baltimore City and also staffs all of the detention facilities in the city including the Central Booking and Intake Facility. District One has instituted a team representation model consistent with its local as well as the agency strategic plan.

The Youthful Defendant Unit is a group of attorneys, social workers, and OPD staff who represent children charged as adults in Baltimore City. They work as a team to achieve the best possible results for the clients. The Unit represents its clients zealously and comprehensively through all phases of the criminal case both within and outside of the courtroom. Representation is provided through all phases including arraignment, trial, and motions to transfer to the juvenile court system. The Unit continues to follow the client through the juvenile system, if the case is transferred and also provide representation in post-disposition matters when the case is closed. Likewise, if the case remains in adult court jurisdiction, the team continues to represent the client through disposition in circuit court.

The Eastside OPD attorneys staff the Early Resolution Court (ER) at the Eastside District Building located at North Avenue. Over the years, ER Court has continued to experience tremendous growth in both number of cases and in the innovative solutions and alternatives to traditional criminal prosecution. The large number of criminal citations has created daily dockets that have occasionally exceeded 200 cases. Many of these cases are disposed through the performance of community service in lieu of guilty findings. A new Circuit Court protocol permits eligible clients to proceed in the ER Court with the assurance that their Circuit Court probation will not be violated. The result of these innovations has been a decline in the severity of ER dispositions. Also, the success of the ER Court has helped to limit the growth of cases docketed for trial in the District Court of Baltimore City. These cases are not considered as cases opened by the OPD and not considered in the attorney caseload.

During calendar year 2013, District One handled 55,219 cases, representing 24% of the Agency’s total statewide caseload. District One experienced a decrease in the number of cases opened over last year. As a result, the caseloads standards are met in the District Court and Juvenile Court areas of law.

2012 – 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cases Opened</td>
<td>55,430</td>
<td>55,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
District Two
Lower Eastern Shore
Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties

District Two has five office locations, one located in each of the counties within the jurisdiction. Worcester County has two locations; one is located at the court building in Ocean City, Maryland and operates only during the summer months. The other is located in Snow Hill.

The District Public Defender is Chasity Simpson. There are 22 attorneys employed in District Two, many of them handle a mixed caseload. In 2013, District Two handled 12,380 cases assigning 1,087 of those cases to panel attorneys. Despite an increase in staff and a 3% decrease in cases over calendar year 2012, the only area of law in which District Two met its caseload was circuit court.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cases Opened</td>
<td>12,747</td>
<td>12,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>1,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
District Three
Upper Eastern Shore
Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne and Talbot Counties

District Three has an office in each of the five counties. The District Public Defender is Stefan Skipp, whose primary office is in Centreville. The Deputy District Public Defender, John Northrop, is stationed in Elkton. There were a total of 21 attorneys assigned to this District in calendar year 2013. Kent and Queen Anne’s Counties share one of its attorney staff. Cecil and Kent Counties share one of its support staff. During calendar year 2013, District Two opened 11,492. Additional attorney staffing resulted in a decline in its district court caseloads. However, caseloads continue to exceed standards in all three areas of law.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cases Opened</td>
<td>11,170</td>
<td>11,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
District Four
Southern Maryland
Calvert, Charles and St. Mary’s Counties

There is an office location in each of the three Counties in District Four. Michael Beach is the District Public Defender assigned to the Charles County office. The Deputy District Public Defender and a managing supervising attorney supervise the other two offices. During 2013, 5,317 cases were opened and 1,115 were paneled. Additional staffing did not have any impact on caseloads due to the 9% increase in the number of cases over 2012.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cases Opened</td>
<td>14,014</td>
<td>15,317</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
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</table>

Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
District Five  
Prince George’s County

District Public Defender (DPD), Janet Hart supervises the two District 5 offices. In addition to the DPD and Deputy District Public Defender there are 49 attorneys. For the second year in a row, District Five represented the second largest OPD district handling 12% of the agency’s total statewide caseload. During calendar year 2013, District 5 opened 29,119 cases, an increase of 7% over last year. The District experienced slight increases in District and Circuit court cases, but for the second year in a row the number of juvenile cases handled increased substantially. Additional staff resulted in a decrease in the caseload in district and juvenile court areas of law. Nonetheless, the decrease in the number of cases did not result in caseload standards compliance in any area.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>29,119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>51</td>
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Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>194</td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>1,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>418</td>
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</table>
Brian Shefferman is the District Public Defender for District 6. He supervises its two locations; one in Silver Spring and the other in Rockville.

During Calendar year 2013, District Six had 32 attorneys. A total of 17,863 cases were opened in 2013. District court was the only area of law that experienced an increase. As a result this area of law significantly exceeded the caseload standard for district court. Circuit and Juvenile court areas of law experienced a slight increase in caseload despite a decrease in the number of cases opened. This is related to the decrease in the number of cases paneled. Nonetheless the caseload standards were met in the circuit and juvenile court areas of law.

### 2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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### Calendar Year 2013– Caseload

<table>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>1,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>109</td>
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</table>
District Seven
Anne Arundel County

William Davis oversees operation in the three office locations. There is a location at the Glen Burnie and Annapolis District Court buildings as well as one on Margaret Avenue in Annapolis. During Calendar year 2013, District 7 opened 18,269 cases.

Decreases in the number of cases in the juvenile and circuit court areas of law resulted in a decrease in the caseload in those areas. The number of cases in district court increased slightly. This factor, together with a decrease in the number of cases paneled, resulted in an increase in the caseload. Attorney caseloads exceeded standards in both district and circuit court.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Caseload</th>
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</thead>
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<td>District</td>
<td>1,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>105</td>
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</table>
District Eight
Baltimore County

Donald Zaremba supervises its sole office in Towson. The office now employs 48 full time attorneys and three half time attorneys. The attorneys in District 8 cover three courthouse locations: Towson, Essex and Catonsville. During calendar year 2013, 21,796 cases were opened in District 8. This number represents zero growth for the district overall. Additional staffing created a decrease in each area of law. However, the only area of law in which the caseload standards were met was in the juvenile court representation.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>21,796</td>
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<tr>
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<td>49.5</td>
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Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>195</td>
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</table>
District Nine
Harford County

The Harford County office is located on Bond Street and is supervised by District Public Defender, Kelly Casper. There were 16 attorneys at the end of 2013. There were 6,885 cases opened last year. Circuit court was the only area of law which experienced an increase in the number of cases opened resulting in a corresponding increase in caseloads. While both the district and juvenile court areas of laws experienced a decrease in the number of cases opened, juvenile court is the only area of law that meets its caseload standard.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>6,885</td>
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<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>16</td>
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Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
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<td>District</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
District Ten  
Central Maryland  
Carroll and Howard Counties

Carol Hanson supervises the two offices situated in Ellicott City and Westminster. There are now 23 attorneys on staff. During calendar year 2013, District 10 handled 11,967 cases. The number of cases increased in each area of law. Therefore, caseload standards were not met in any of the areas.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>11,967</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>23</td>
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</table>

Calendar Year 2013 – Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>District</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mary Riley is the District Public Defender with an attorney staff of twenty-five full time attorneys. During 2013, the District opened 12,534 cases and paneled 1,361, slightly less than last year. An increase in staffing resulted in a continued decline in the District Court caseload from 728 to 659 cases per attorney. This new caseload number is just outside the standard. However, a significant increase in the number of juvenile cases opened coupled with the decline in staff caused the caseload for this area of law to rise to 484 cases per attorney.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cases Opened</td>
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<td>12,534</td>
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<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
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<td>25</td>
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Calendar Year 2013 Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>269</td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
District Twelve  
Allegany and Garrett Counties

District Twelve is comprised of Allegany and Garrett counties with a total of ten staff attorneys. The District Public Defender is James Malone. The district opened 5,303 cases in 2013. Caseload numbers increased in all three areas of law. As a result, there was no significant decrease by the addition of one attorney staff.

2012 v. 2013 Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Total Cases Opened</td>
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<td>5,303</td>
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<td>Total Number of Attorneys</td>
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<td>10</td>
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Calendar Year 2013– Caseload

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Area of Law</th>
<th>Caseload</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Circuit</td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STATEWIDE DIVISIONS

There are eight distinct statewide operating divisions within the Office of the Public Defender. The Agency also operates the Innocence Project.

Appellate Division

Brian Saccenti is the Chief Attorney of the Appellate Division. The Appellate Division represents OPD clients in direct appeals from the circuit court to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland. The appellate Division also represents clients on appeals to the Maryland Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court.

The lawyers of the OPD Appellate Division handle the majority of the appeals from criminal cases, juvenile delinquency cases, and child-in-need-of-assistance cases in the State of Maryland.

Collateral Review Division

Becky Feldman is theChief Attorney of the Collateral Review Division. This Division provides representation for state post conviction hearings, DOC parole revocations and immigration coram nobis, state habeas corpus, motions to reopen, parole revocation, and extradition hearings. The vast majority of the cases handled by this division are post conviction relief and parole revocations.

CINA DIVISION
(Child in Need of Assistance)

Vanita Taylor is the Chief Attorney of the CINA Division. When the local Department of Social Services (DSS), through their Child Protective Services Unit (CPS), institute court proceedings regarding abuse or neglect of a child by a parent or legal guardian, the CINA Division’s attorneys represent the parents/legal guardians.

The Office of the Public Defender provides legal representation through all of the stages of the Juvenile Court case. These stages may include:

(a) Emergency Shelter Care Hearing  
(b) Adjudication Hearing  
(c) Disposition Hearing  
(d) Review of Placement Hearing  
(e) Permanency Planning Hearing  
(f) Court Ordered Mediation  
(g) Termination of Parental Rights  
(h) Guardianship Review Hearing
Innocence Project

The OPD also operates the Innocence Project in collaboration with the University of Baltimore Law School Law Clinic. This unit screens over 200 cases annually to assess whether an inmate claiming innocence may have a viable wrongful conviction claim. It utilizes contemporary forensic testing on old evidence retained by the police. It litigates viable innocence claims through all stages of the process.

Juvenile Protection Division (JPD)

The Juvenile Protection Division was created in 2007 to serve as a specialized statewide unit to monitor the conditions of confinement of all OPD juvenile clients committed to the care and custody of Juvenile Services. JPD is also responsible for protecting the individual rights of juveniles who are committed to DJS facilities, ensuring the safety and appropriateness of their placements and assuring timely implementation of juvenile court orders.

The JPD is comprised of three attorneys, one social worker and one paralegal, who work collaboratively with the trial attorneys who represent the individual juvenile ensuring that the commitment orders for those clients are fully complied with and ensuring the health, education and safety of the juveniles while detained.

The Mental Health Division

The Mental Health Division, consisting of 7.5 attorneys headed by Chief Attorney, Lois Fisher, represents clients facing involuntary commitment to mental health facilities. Its offices are located in Baltimore City and in three state-run mental health facilities.

Litigation Support Unit

Steve Mercer is the Director of the Litigation Support Unit. The Litigation Support Unit assists attorneys throughout the state with their trial and litigation preparation. Support is provided in the following areas:

A. Aggravated Homicide Division: This division, consisting of two attorneys, provides direct representation, case review, litigation assistance and expert preparation to attorneys throughout the state who are preparing complex homicide litigation. With the recent repeal of the death penalty, this unit has turned its attention to assisting clients facing life imprisonment including those cases in which the state is seeking life, without the possibility of parole.

B. Forensics Division: OPD’s Forensic Division has quickly become noted nationally as one of the premier Forensic Science litigation units in the country. The tragic and continuing saga of wrongful convictions illustrates that many are avoidable if there is
meaningful scrutiny of scientific evidence. The Forensic Division provides OPD attorneys with training as well as technical and litigation support in order to facilitate effective use of defense experts as well as cross examination of state forensic experts.

In that regard, the Forensics Division has been charged with the following:

(1) Formalize collaborative relations with Districts/Divisions to increase the utilization of forensic experts and to ascertain forensics needs specific to the individual Districts/Divisions
(2) Develop experts in all present and emerging forensic fields
(3) Provide individualized and specialized training in the respective Districts/Divisions
(4) Provide trial support in cases with forensic evidence
(5) Draft and litigate comprehensive forensic discovery motions
(6) Litigation by the Division of unique or groundbreaking litigation
(7) Development and maintenance of a forensic expert transcript databank

C. Mental Health Division: A mental health attorney specialist assists trial lawyers with obtaining appropriate experts, case reviews, trial preparation and, if necessary, direct litigation of competency and criminal responsibility issues at trial.

D. Social Work Division: The Social Work Division works in partnership with attorneys, interns, mental health professionals, educators, families and others to assess the needs of OPD clients. Social workers develop mitigation information for sentencing and provide access to necessary services for clients by forming partnerships with community programs and making referrals. The Unit is responsible for providing social work services to all districts and divisions in the agency.
The following charts illustrate the average annual caseload per attorney in each of the agency’s Districts and Divisions. The State of Maryland, in compliance with recommendations of the American Bar Association, adopted caseload standards for all Maryland case types in 2005. These standards protect the right to effective assistance of counsel by establishing the maximum number of cases an attorney can competently handle. The following charts measure average annual attorney caseloads against these caseload standards.

The Office of the Public Defender uses caseload data to project its personnel and operating budget needs, support its operating budget submissions and allocate its resources effectively across the state.

By any measure, attorney caseloads in almost every area of law and region of the State far exceed acceptable caseload standards established to protect effective representation as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, the Maryland Declaration of Rights and Maryland law. The American Bar Association has declared that public defenders have an ethical obligation to decline new cases when current caseloads prevent them from effectively representing their clients. As the charts show, excessive caseloads jeopardize effective assistance of counsel, statewide. While some jurisdictions have seen modest reductions (especially in the area of juvenile law), these caseloads, continue to exceed the established caseload standards.

Methodology used to establish caseload standards, case-weighting study and detailed caseload standards are published in “Maryland Attorney and Staff Workload Assessment, 2005” by the National Center for State Courts; this report is available at the OPD website: www.opd.state.md.us.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year 2013</th>
<th>CIRCUIT</th>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>JUVENILE</th>
<th>DISTRICT TOTALS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2,789</td>
<td>55,219</td>
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<td>2,362</td>
<td>9,350</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>12,380</td>
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<td>DISTRICT 3</td>
<td>3,348</td>
<td>7,797</td>
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<tr>
<td>DISTRICT 4</td>
<td>3,534</td>
<td>10,888</td>
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<td>15,317</td>
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<tr>
<td>DISTRICT 5</td>
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<td>17,863</td>
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<td>18,269</td>
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<td>CINA</td>
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<td>COLLATERAL REVIEW</td>
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<td><strong>OPD GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>234,552</td>
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</table>

Chart 2
AVERAGE ANNUAL CASELOAD BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION

BALTIMORE CITY - URBAN DISTRICT
2012-2013 Average Annual Caseload

Chart 3
Chart 4

CIRCUIT COURT - RURAL DISTRICTS
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads

Caseload Standard for Rural Circuit Court cases is 191 annually

Chart 5

CIRCUIT COURT - SUBURBAN DISTRICTS
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads

Caseload Standard for Suburban Circuit Court cases is 140 annually
DISTRICT COURT - RURAL DISTRICTS
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads

Caseload Standard for Rural District cases is 630 annually.

DISTRICT COURT - SUBURBAN DISTRICTS
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads

Caseload Standard for Suburban District Court cases is 705 annually.
JUVENILE COURT - RURAL DISTRICTS
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads

Chart 8

JUVENILE COURT - SUBURBAN DISTRICTS
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads

Chart 9
2012-2013 Average Attorney Caseloads Divisions

Chart 10

- 37 -
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

CY2013 Total Cases Opened by District by Area of Law & Matter Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>CI</th>
<th>DA</th>
<th>JT</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>OD</th>
<th>PH</th>
<th>TR</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Dorchester</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6,960</td>
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<td>Somerset</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>1,113</td>
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<td>1,242</td>
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<td>633</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,261</td>
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Key:
- CI = Criminal Information/Indictment
- DA = District Court Appeal
- JT = Jury Trial Demand
- SC = Sentence Review Circuit
- OD = Criminal District
- PH = Preliminary Hearing
- TR = VOP Circuit
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- 39 -
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District Court - Eastside
Eastside Courts Building
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Baltimore, Maryland 21213
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District Court - Westside
Borgerding District Court/MSC
5800 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215
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700 East Patapsco Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21225
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30509 Prince William Street
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170 East Main Street
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