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**(Biographical Series)**



**Charles Markell (1882-1955)**
*MSA SC 3520-1632*
**Associate Judge, Maryland Court of Appeals, 1944-52;**
**Chief Judge, August-December, 1952 (retired December 16, 1952)**



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| [**Biography**](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc3500/sc3520/014300/014352/html/14352bio.html) | [**Images**](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc3500/sc3520/014300/014352/html/14352images.html) |
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Maryland Commission on Artistic Property
MSA SC 1545-0915

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**Biography:**

*Born in Baltimore City, December 16, 1882.  Son of John Markell and Elizabeth Charlton Harris Markell.  Attended public schools in Hagerstown and Baltimore; The Johns Hopkins University, A.B., 1902; University of Maryland School of Law, LL.B., 1904.  Married Jeanette Jones (d. 1923) in 1909; three children.  Resided in Baltimore City.  Died February 24, 1955.*

After graduation from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1904, Charles Markell entered private practice as a Law associate with Gans and Haman, later Cook and Markell, where he stayed from until 1944, eventually becoming a partner. Judge Markell earned the respect of the legal community when he took over a plan to reform Maryland’s judicial system after its creator, Judge Carroll T. Bond, died prior to its enactment. Shortly after Markell’s success with judicial reform, Governor Herber O’Conor, a Democrat, appointed the Republican attorney to the Maryland Court of Appeals in 1944. Governor McKeldin later appointed him Chief Judge three months before his mandatory retirement in 1952 due to the statutory age limit, and Judge Markell remained one of the most respected members of the Maryland Bar until his death in 1955.

After his retirement from the court Judge Markell returned to his former firm.  He served as President of the Maryland State Bar Association from 1941-42, a member of the Bond Commission to study judicial reforms in Maryland in the early 1940s, and as a member of the Commission on the Judicial Organization of the State. He was also a vestryman at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Baltimore.

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**Images:**

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**Related Collections:**

[R. Garland Chissell, et al v. Mayor and City Council of Baltimore Papers Collection, MSA SC 5905](http://speccol.mdarchives.state.md.us/msa/speccol/catalog/cfm/dsp_number.cfm?speccol=5905).

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