

Raymond G. Thieme, Jr.1983
Vacancy

John Hisley, *Administrative Clerk*

District 8

Baltimore County — 12 Judges

William T. Evans, *Administrative Judge*1982

Paul E. Alpert1982

David N. Bates1985

Allen E. Buzzell1981

Edward D. Hardesty1981

J. William Hinkel1981

Cullen H. Hormes1981

James Kardash1981

John P. Rellas1986

Werner G. Schoeler1981

Fred E. Waldrop1981

Gerald W. Wittstadt1986

Joseph T. O'Melia, *Administrative Clerk*

District 9

Harford County — 2 Judges

Charles J. Kelly, *Administrative Judge*1981

Harry St. A. O'Neill1981

Edward Utz, *Administrative Clerk*

District 10

Carroll and Howard Counties — 3 Judges

J. Thomas Nissel, *Administrative Judge*,
Howard County1981

Robert F. Fischer, Howard County1983

Donald M. Smith, Carroll County1981

Martha Bush, *Administrative Clerk*

District 11

Frederick and Washington Counties — 4 Judges

Frederick C. Wright, III, *Administrative Judge*, Washington County1981

J. Louis Boublitz, Washington
County1981

Stanley Y. Bennett, Frederick
County1981

Byron W. Thompson, Frederick
County1981

Charles L. Schleigh, *Administrative Clerk*

District 12

Allegany and Garrett Counties — 3 Judges
Lewis R. Jones, *Administrative Judge*,

Garrett County1981

Miller Bowen, Allegany County1981

Milton Gerson, Allegany County1981

James S. Stafford, *Administrative Clerk*

A proposed constitutional amendment in 1969 which was ratified by the voters in the State at the November, 1970 General Election brought into existence the new Maryland District Court, a state wide court of limited jurisdiction. The initial implementing legislation for the court was contained in Chapter 528 of the Acts of 1970 and was further supplemented by Chapter 423, Acts of 1971 and by other 1971 legislation.

The court commenced operation on July 5, 1971 and functions on a state wide basis in every county in the State and Baltimore City. The District Court is part of the State's Judicial system, is a court of record and replaces entirely the theretofore existing justices of the peace, the county trial magistrates, the People's Courts in certain counties, the People's Court of Baltimore City and the Municipal Court of Baltimore City. It has uniform jurisdiction throughout the State and, in Montgomery County only, it has also been given juvenile court jurisdiction as existed prior thereto in the People's Court for that county. Although the District Court is a court of limited jurisdiction, it has been given expanded jurisdiction over the prior existing lower court systems.

In accordance with constitutional provisions, the first Chief Judge of the District Court was appointed by the Governor. Any subsequent chief judges will be appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals from among the judges of the court. By statute, the State is divided into twelve judicial districts. In addition to the Chief Judge, eighty associate judges are authorized by law. District Court judges are appointed by the Governor for ten-year terms, subject to confirmation by the Senate. At the expiration of a ten-year term, the name of the judge is automatically presented to the Senate for confirmation for an additional