

the Division. The Division is concerned with the control and regulation of unfair and deceptive trade practices and is responsible for the enforcement of certain civil and criminal provisions provided by the Act. The Division is also charged with the responsibility of recommending to the Governor and the General Assembly legislation to protect the public from fraudulent schemes and promotions and also reports to the appropriate law enforcement officers any information concerning violations of laws affecting consumers. The Division also seeks to assist, develop, and conduct programs of consumer education and information through publications and other informational and educational materials prepared for dissemination to the consuming public. The Division also undertakes activities to encourage business and industry to maintain high standards of honesty, fair business practices, and public responsibility in the production, promotion, and sale of consumer goods and services (Code Commercial Law Article, secs. 13-101 through 13-501).

MARYLAND CONSUMER COUNCIL

Chairperson: Dorothy Murray, 1982

Franklin Beard, 1980; Ellen Haas, 1980; Esther Peterson, 1980; Sarah L. Giles, 1982; Douglas Schmenner, 1982; John Fisher, 1984; Stanley Kauffman, 1984; Dorothy Murray, 1984.

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The Maryland Consumer Council, created by Chapter 609, Acts of 1974, as part of the Divi-

sion of Consumer Protection, consists of the Division Chief and nine members appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate. Three members represent consumer groups or interests, three represent business groups or interests, and three represent the private sector in staggered terms of six years. The Council has a staff of one and members serve without compensation. It selects its own chairperson and meets to advise the Division on general goals, undertake studies and reports, and foster cooperation among federal, State, and local agencies and private groups (Code Commercial Law Article, sec. 13-202).

ANTITRUST DIVISION

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The Antitrust Division was created by Chapter 357, Acts of 1972, and is headed by an Assistant Attorney General. The Division is concerned with enforcing the Maryland Antitrust Act, which governs restraints of trade, unfair competition, monopolies, and other acts or practices that restrain or tend to restrain trade and commerce within the State of Maryland. The Act calls for both civil and criminal enforcement of its provisions and permits the Attorney General to cooperate with officials of the federal government and the several states in the enforcement of the antitrust laws (Code Commercial Law Article, secs. 11-201 through 11-213).