

The hearing record closes a minimum of fifteen days after the final public hearing.

*Board Deliberation and Decision.* Following the public hearing, the Board deliberates for a maximum of sixty days and decides whether to issue or deny the Certificate.

The Board maintains a mailing list and regularly distributes minutes, agenda, and information concerning its activities. A brochure describing the Board's membership, purpose, powers, statutory considerations, and review process is available on request, as are certain technical publications. Call the Secretary's office.

### MARYLAND HEALTH AND HIGHER EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

*Chairperson:* Mrs. Lyn Meyerhoff, 1984

*Vice-Chairperson:* E. Leister Mobley, Jr., 1987

*Ex officio member:* William S. James, *State Treasurer*

*Appointed members:* Joel A. Carrington, 1983; Francis X. Knott, 1983; Paul B. Meritt, 1984; Leonard I. Frenkil, 1985; Robert D. H. Harvey, 1985; Walter D. Pinkard, 1986.

Edward W. Lister, Jr., *Executive Director*

Charles N. Saunders, *Assistant Director*

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The Maryland Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority was created by Chapter 408, Acts of 1970. The Authority was established to provide certain hospitals and institutions of higher education with the facilities and structures that are needed to carry out the purposes of the Maryland Health and Higher Facilities Authority Act of 1970. The purpose of the Authority is to enable private health and higher educational facilities to use the Authority as a vehicle to issue bonds and thereby pay a lower rate of interest.

The Authority consists of nine members. Eight members are appointed by the Governor for five-year terms. The State Treasurer serves *ex officio*. Members may be reappointed. The Governor designates the chairperson and the vice-chairperson. The Authority appoints the Executive Director and a general counsel, neither of whom can be members (Code 1957, Art. 43C).

### HEALTH CLAIMS ARBITRATION OFFICE

Walter R. Tabler, *Director*

Janna K. Vavroch, *Administrative Assistant*

301 W. Preston St., Room 1514  
Baltimore 21201  
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Toll Free: 800-492-1951

The Health Claims Arbitration Office was created in 1976 as a unit within the Executive Department (Chapter 235, Acts of 1976).

Any person asserting a claim against a health care provider, for damages in excess of \$5,000 and due to medical injury, must file the claim with the Health Claims Arbitration Office. The Director is responsible for notifying all affected parties and for supplying a list of qualified arbitrators, five from each of the three categorical lists, from each of which one mutually agreed upon arbitrator is chosen to sit on the three-person arbitration panel. That panel then must determine the issue of liability with respect to the claim and, if it determines that a health care provider is liable, it must consider and assess appropriate damages. The decision of the arbitration panel is final, unless rejected by any party, in which case the rejecting party must file an appeal action at the circuit court level to reverse or modify the award.

The Office is headed by a Director appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director is responsible for preparing three lists of qualified persons willing to serve as arbitrators of health care malpractice claims, one list consisting of attorneys, one of health care providers, and one of persons from the general public who are neither attorneys, health care providers, nor in the employ of insurance interests.

### HERRING RUN PUBLIC WATERSHED ASSOCIATION COMMISSION

*Chairperson:* John Carroll Byrnes,

Charles R. Buck, Jr., *Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene*; Mary Dolan, *Regional Planning Council*; Jody Landers, *Baltimore City*; Norman W. Lauenstein, *Baltimore County Council*; Constance Lieder, *Secretary of State Planning*; Samuel R. Martin, *Regional Planning Council*; Louise G. Murphy, *State Senate-44th District*; Michael Nelson; *Department of Natural Resources*; Paul Solomon, *Baltimore County*.

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