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The Emergency Number Systems Board was created in 1979 (Chapter 730, Acts of 1979). The Board coordinates installation and enhancement of county 911 systems. A "911 system" automatically connects a person dialing the digits 911 on a telephone to an established public safety answering point from which police, fire, ambulance, or other public safety services may be dispatched on a 24-hour basis. On or before July 1, 1985, all counties and Baltimore City are to have in operation a "911 system," an emergency telephone number service.

The Board issues guidelines for county 911 system plans, and establishes review procedures for approval or disapproval of these plans. It sets criteria for costs reimbursement to counties from the original 911 Trust Fund and for reimbursement from ongoing funding.

The Board transmits all 911 related information and procedures to the county executive and county council, or to the president of the board of county commissioners of each county, and/or their designated 911 committee representative. Annually, it provides the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with an installation schedule and funding requirements estimate.

The Board consists of eleven members appointed to four-year terms by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. One member represents a telephone utility company operating in Maryland. One member each represents the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services, the Maryland State Police, the Maryland Public Service Commission, and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officers. Of two members representing county fire services in Maryland, one represents the career fire services and the other the volunteer fire services. Two members represent police services in Maryland, and two represent the public. The Governor designates the chairperson (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 204H-1 through 204H-8).

DIVISION OF CORRECTION

Arnold J. Hopkins, *Commissioner*

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Prior to 1916, the Maryland Penitentiary and the Maryland House of Correction were autonomous institutions operating under the jurisdiction of a separate Board of Directors and a Board of Managers appointed by the Governor. By Chapter 556, Acts of 1916, these institutions were administered by the State Board of Prison Control. By Chapter 29, Acts of 1922, the Board of Welfare superseded the Board of Prison Control and administered the prisons. By Chapter 69, Acts of 1939, the Department of Correction and the Board of Correction assumed all rights, powers, and duties that had formerly been vested in the Board of Welfare.

By Chapter 758, Acts of 1953, the Superintendent of Prisons became the administrator of the Department. The Board of Correction established departmental policies and appointed executive personnel of institutions under the jurisdiction of the Department on recommendations made by the Superintendent of Prisons (Code 1957, Art. 27, secs. 667, 669-71, 675, 677). By Chapter 123, Acts of 1962, the administration of the Department of Correction changed. That act established an Advisory Board and created the office of Commissioner of Correction. In 1968 the Department of Correction became the Department of Correctional Services (Chapter 137, Acts of 1968).

Effective July 1, 1970, all State correctional responsibilities were assigned to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Chapter 401, Acts of 1970). The Department of Correctional Services was reestablished as the Division of Correction and continued exercising central administrative control over adult correctional facilities subject to the authority of the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services. The same act also abolished the Advisory Board of the Department of Correction, the Advisory Board of the Division of Parole and Probation, and the Advisory Council for Correctional Services, and created a single advisory board for corrections, parole, and probation.

The Commissioner of Correction is appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with the approval of the Governor and the advice and consent of the Senate. The Commissioner is in sole and active charge of the Division of Correction and of its several institutions and agencies, subject only to his responsibility to the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services and to the Governor (Code 1957, Art. 27, secs. 673-674).