

ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION

Chairperson: M. Peter Moser, 1986

Edwin A. Lechowicz, 1985; Florence Udel, 1985; William Walsh, 1985; Bertha W. Emory, 1986; David A. McNamee, 1986; Barbara Kerr Howe, 1987; I. John Ritterpusch, 1987; Kenneth L. Thompson, 1987; Ernest M. Thompson, 1988.

Melvin Hirshman, *Bar Counsel*

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Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 269-2791

By Rule of the Court of Appeals the Attorney Grievance Commission was created in 1975 to supervise and administer the discipline and inactive status of lawyers. The Commission consists of eight lawyers and two lay persons appointed by the Court of Appeals for four-year terms. No member is eligible for reappointment for a term immediately following the expiration of the member's service for one full term of four years. The chairperson of the Commission is designated by the Court. The Commission appoints, subject to approval of the Court of Appeals, a lawyer to serve as bar counsel and principal executive officer of the disciplinary system. Duties of the bar counsel and his staff include investigation of all matters involving possible misconduct, prosecution of disciplinary proceedings, and investigation of petitions for reinstatement.

By the same Rule of Court, the Court of Appeals also established a disciplinary fund to cover expenses of the Commission and provided for an Inquiry Committee and a Review Board to act upon disciplinary cases. The Fund is composed of annual assessments upon members of the bar as a condition precedent to the practice of law. The Review Board consists of eighteen persons. There are fifteen attorney members and three lay members from the State at large. Members serve three-year terms. Judges are not permitted as members of the board. The Inquiry Committee consists of both attorney and lay members (Rule 1100, Chap. BV).

STATE LAW LIBRARY

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Robert C. Murphy, *Chief Judge, Court of Appeals*

Marvin H. Smith, *Associate Judge, Court of Appeals*; John C. Eldridge, *Associate Judge, Court of Appeals*; Richard P. Gilbert, *Chief*

Judge, Court of Special Appeals; James H. Norris, *State Court Administrator.*

Michael S. Miller, *Director, State Law Library*

Courts of Appeal Building
361 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 269-3395

Hours: Mon.-Wed., Fri., 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.;
Thurs., 8:30 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.; Sat., 9:00
A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

The State Library was originally established by Chapter 53, Acts of 1827, and at that time was an agency of the executive branch. Its primary purpose was to serve the legal and general reference needs of the legislative and judicial branches of State government. The Library operated under this organizational structure until 1978, when it was placed under the Judicial Department and renamed the State Law Library (Chapter 128, Laws of 1978).

The Library Committee, which acts as the governing board of the Library, is composed of at least three members who are appointed by the Court of Appeals. This Committee's powers include appointment of a director of the Library, appropriate rule making, and purchase authorization for new titles (Code Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, secs. 13-502, 13-503).

Besides the primary purpose of serving the legal information needs of the State's appellate courts and other branches of State government, and also acting as a resource center for circuit court libraries throughout the State, the Library is open to the public and encourages the use of a number of extremely valuable reference resources, including law, general reference materials, State and federal government documents, and State and local history and genealogy. With a total collection well in excess of 160,000 volumes, this Library facility offers the researcher access to a unique information resource. The collection, which is basically composed of reference material, does not circulate except to State agency personnel. Much of the collection, however, is available on interlibrary loan and photocopy facilities are available to patrons.

Law-related materials constitute the major portion of the total collection, including reported court decisions from all appellate jurisdictions across the country in addition to some English speaking foreign countries. Legislative enactments, both in session law form and as statutory compilations, are also filed in the Library from almost every state, as are all federal and some foreign