

## PRETRIAL RELEASE SERVICES DIVISION

John R. Camou, *Director*

William H. Martin, Jr., *Deputy Director*

508 Mitchell Courthouse

100 N. Calvert St.

Baltimore, MD 21202

333-3833/4

Formerly under the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, the Pretrial Release Services Division became a unit of the Division of Parole and Probation in 1985 (Chapter 725, Acts of 1985). In 1988, the Pretrial Release Services Division was established as a separate division within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Chapter 474, Acts of 1988).

The Division screens all defendants awaiting adjudication in criminal proceedings before the Baltimore City Circuit Court and the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City. The Division then provides the courts with verified information regarding the defendant's ties to the community and special problems such as alcoholism, drug addiction, or residential placement needs. The Division also makes recommendations to the courts regarding pretrial release or detention of defendants awaiting adjudication.

Of some 46,000 defendants screened annually, the Division supervises and monitors approximately 20,000 defendants for whom the court orders pretrial release. At trial or in subsequent proceedings, the Division reports to the court on the defendant's compliance with the terms of pretrial release. These compliance reports are used for sentencing decisions and, in some instances, plea bargaining negotiations.

To minimize unnecessary incarceration, the Division develops alternative sanction plans, under court supervision, and arbitrates or mediates disputes when requested by the court. The Division, under scrutiny of the courts, the State's Attorney, and the Public Defender or private counsel, also presents and defends alternatives to prosecution.

In addition, the Division reviews the status of defendants in pretrial detention. These defendants are incarcerated in the Baltimore City Jail. To manage the Jail's inmate capacity, the Division recommends options to the court, such as scheduling early trials; monitors writs, detainers, and violations of court orders; and conducts further investigation to determine the feasibility of recognizance or reduced bail for some defendants.

The Division's Director and Deputy Director are appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with the Governor's approval and Senate advice and consent (Code 1957, Art. 41, sec. 4-1401).

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## ADDITIONAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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### ADVISORY BOARD FOR CORRECTION, PAROLE AND PROBATION

*Chairperson:* Dr. Charles F. Wellford

Appointed by Secretary of Public Safety & Correctional Services with Governor's approval: William Boucher, 1988; Marianne Burt, 1988; Eli M. Lippman, 1988; Roberta Roper, 1988; Owen Wilson, 1988; Jack R. M. Pierce, 1989; Robert M. Bell, 1990; Edna Goldberg, 1990; Yerby Holman; Ruth Ann Hughes; Arthur H. Katz; *one vacancy.*

*Ex officio:* John J. O'Neill, *Deputy Secretary of Public Safety & Correctional Services*; Fred E. Jordan, Jr., *Commissioner of Correction*; Paul J. Davis, *Chairperson, Maryland Parole Commission*; Donald Atkinson, Ed.D., *Acting Director, Division of Parole & Probation.*

6776 Reisterstown Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21215

764-4003

The Advisory Board for Correction, Parole and Probation was created in 1970 (Chapter 401, Acts of 1970). It succeeded the Advisory Board for Correction, formed in 1962, and the Advisory Board for Parole and Probation, established in 1968. The Advisory Board for Correction, Parole and Probation regularly reviews the operation of the correction, parole, and probation systems in the State, including current practices and procedures, agency plans, and budgets. The Board advises the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, the Commissioner of Correction, the Chairperson of the Maryland Parole Commission, and the Director of the Division of Parole and Probation on issues and problems pertaining to corrections, parole, and probation.

The Board consists of seventeen members. Thirteen are appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with the approval of the Governor for four-year terms. Four serve *ex officio*: the Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services; the Commissioner of Correction; the Chairperson of the Maryland Parole Commission; and the Director of the Division of Parole and Probation. The Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, with the approval of the Governor, designates the chairperson (Code 1957, Art. 41, sec. 4-107).