

other State services, to resources available for productivity and training needs assessments, and to training curricula and resources for curriculum development.

OFFICE OF REGULATORY & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE

The Office of Regulatory and Environmental Assistance was created in 1993 to facilitate communication between the business community and government. The Office has two branches: Business Relations Coordination, and Policy Coordination.

BUSINESS RELATIONS COORDINATION

William D. Castleberry, *Business Relations Coordinator*

(410) 767-6492

Business Relations Coordination acts as a general ombudsman for business. This branch works on a transactional basis, facilitating communications between government and individual businesses. It also expedites the permit process when possible and responds to policy concerns of the business community.

POLICY COORDINATION

Ernie A. Kent, *Policy Coordinator*

(410) 767-6488

Policy Coordination reviews all proposed legislation and analyzes its impact on economic development and policies which benefit economic growth. The branch works closely with the General Assembly. It also is responsible for working with State regulatory agencies to evaluate and report on duplicative permits and policies, as well as any State regulations which exceed current federal standards.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

A. Thomas McLamore, *Director*

(410) 767-6557

Small Business Development Centers is a cooperative venture of the Department of Business and Economic Development and the U.S. Small Business Administration. The office started as the Small Business Development Center Program formed within the Department in 1989 (Chapter 497, Acts of 1989). The Program became the Office of Small Business Development in 1992 and was reformed as the Small Business Development Center Network later that year. It was renamed Small Business Development Centers in 1995.

Through five regional offices, the office coordinates extension services for small businesses throughout the State. The office fosters the economic growth and revitalization of small Maryland businesses owned by socially and economically disadvantaged persons (Code 1957, Art. 83A, secs. 3-501, 3-502).

ADVISORY BOARD

Arthur D. Ebersberger, *Chair*

The Small Business Development Center Network Advisory Board was created in 1989 (Chapter 497, Acts of 1989). Serving as a general advocate for small businesses, the Board advises the Secretary of Business and Economic Development on the Program.

The Secretary of Business and Economic Development appoints the Board's seventeen members.

DIVISION OF TOURISM, FILM, & THE ARTS

R. Dean Kenderdine, *Assistant Secretary
for Tourism, Film, & the Arts*

217 East Redwood St.

Baltimore, MD 21202—3316 (410) 767-6266

The Division of Tourism, Film, and the Arts began in 1948 as the Department of Information under the Hall of Records Commission. The Department became an independent agency in 1949. In 1959, it was reorganized as the Tourist Development and Publicity Division within the Department of Economic Development. When the Department of Economic and Community Development formed, the Division was renamed the Tourism Division in 1970, the Division of Tourist Development by 1973, and the Tourist Development Office by 1981. By 1989, the Office reorganized as part of the Division of Tourism and Promotion. It received its present name in 1996 (Chapter 321, Acts of 1996).

The Division promotes Maryland as a travel destination to domestic and international markets. The Division also supports the performing, visual and creative arts and promotes Maryland as a location for film and television production. Under the Division are the Maryland State Arts Council, the Motion Picture and Television Development Office, and the Office of Tourism Development.

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL

Arthur L. S. Waxter, *Chair*, 1998

James J. Backas, *Executive Director*

J. Charles Camp, *State Folklorist*

601 North Howard St.

Baltimore, MD 21201

(410) 333-8232

The Maryland State Arts Council originated as the Governor's Council on the Arts in Maryland, established by Executive Order in 1966. It became the Maryland State Arts Council in 1967 (Chapter 644, Acts of 1967). Formerly under the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Council joined the Department of Economic and Employment Development in 1987 (Chapter 311, Acts of