

*185B. Powers and Duties. The County Solicitor shall be the legal advisor of the County and of its several departments and agencies, including the Board of License Commissioners, the office of the County Treasurer, the County Board of Education, the Board of Zoning Appeals, the County Welfare Board, and all other departments, commissions, boards and agencies, having general supervision and direction of the legal business thereof. No such department, commission, board or other agency created or existing for the public duties of the County shall have any authority or power to employ or retain any legal counsel other than the County Solicitor. He shall upon request give advice and opinions upon any legal questions affecting the interests of the County, when the same are submitted to him by any County officer or the head of any County department, office, commission, board or agency. All deeds, bonds, contracts, releases and other legal papers and instruments involving the interests of the County or to be executed and approved by any officer of the County, shall be submitted to the County Solicitor before they are approved or executed, and approved by him as to their sufficiency and compliance with the laws and conditions under which executed.*

*185C. Suits. The County Solicitor shall have sole charge and direction of the preparation and trial of all suits, actions and legal proceedings of every kind to which the County or any department, officer, commission, board or agency thereof as such shall be a party. He shall have authority to institute, defend or discontinue on behalf of the County, any suit, action or legal proceedings in any local, State or Federal court or before any administrative agency thereof. Provided, however, that no appeals on behalf of the County shall be taken to the Court of Appeals of Maryland, to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, or to the Supreme Court of the United States except upon the written order of the County Solicitor, approved by the County Commissioners.*

*185D. Assistants. The County Solicitor, with the approval of the County Commissioners, may appoint such number of assistants to the County Solicitor as in their judgment shall be necessary for the proper conduct of the public business, and at such compensation as may be set by the County Commissioners from time to time. The said assistant or assistants shall be under the supervision and direction of the County Solicitor, in the conduct and performance of the legal business of the County.*

*185E. Miscellaneous. Neither the County Solicitor nor any assistant in his office may at any time practice as an attorney before any such department, commission, board or agency*