(XII) ESTABLISH POLICIES FOR THE EFFECTIVE TRAINING OF STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICIALS TO ENSURE THAT THE STATE'S PROCUREMENT SYSTEM IS UTILIZING THE MOST ADVANCED PROCUREMENT METHODS AND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES;

(XIII) COORDINATE ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER ENTITIES PERFORMING SIMILAR FUNCTIONS;

(XIV) REVIEW INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS AND COMMENT AS APPROPRIATE; AND

(XV) BE THE PRINCIPAL STAFF TO THE PROCUREMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL; AND

(XVI) NOTIFY THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR WHEN HE UNDERTAKES AN INVESTIGATION UNDER ITEM (VI) OR (VII) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

(3)   THE PROCUREMENT ADVISOR SHALL:

(I)   HAVE ACCESS TO ALL BOOKS, ACCOUNTS, RECORDS, REPORTS, ANY MATERIAL RELATED TO CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT, AND ALL OTHER PAPERS AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES; AND

(II)   HAVE DIRECT AND PROMPT ACCESS TO ALL HEADS OF AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

(B) (1) (I)   THE BOARD SHALL APPOINT A GENERAL COUNSEL, WHO SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE BOARD.

(II)   THE GENERAL COUNSEL SHALL BE AN ATTORNEY IN THIS STATE.

(2)   THE GENERAL COUNSEL SHALL:

(I)   PROVIDE INDEPENDENT LEGAL ADVICE TO THE BOARD;

(II)   EXAMINE ALL PROCUREMENTS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE BOARD AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD AS TO THE LEGAL SUFFICIENCY OF THE PROCUREMENTS, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON WHETHER THE PROPOSED PROCUREMENT HAS BEEN COMPETITIVELY CONDUCTED;

(III)   ASSIST THE PROCUREMENT ADVISOR IN INVESTIGATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE PROCUREMENT ADVISOR;

(IV)   ASSIST THE PROCUREMENT ADVISOR IN RESPONDING TO COMPLAINTS MADE BY STATE EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES CONCERNING FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE IN THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS OR ANY ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THE PROCUREMENT LAW AND REGULATIONS; AND

(V)   COMPILE INFORMATION FOR DISTRIBUTION TO STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICIALS RELATING TO RECENT DECISIONS OF THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF CONTRACT APPEALS AND STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS CONCERNING PROCUREMENT, INCLUDING ANY POLICY OR LEGAL GUIDANCE TO THE PROCUREMENT OFFICIALS BASED ON THESE DECISIONS.