

Hot Topics Newsletter



Health Benefits

Together, we are working toward a *healthier community*



STATE EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES

Open Enrollment

October 18, 2021
through

November 12, 2021

In early October, retirees were mailed an enrollment package. Don't miss the opportunity to enroll or make changes. Open enrollment will be via the SPS Workday online benefits system. All Open Enrollment materials are available on the Department of Budget and Management's website, www.dbm.maryland.gov/benefits.

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Thank You,
Senior Judges

JUDICIAL ETHICS COURSE

To ensure Maryland Judges and Magistrates are in good standing with the ethics rules, the Judicial College launched *Judicial Ethics for Judges & Magistrates* in July 2021. Spanning two years, this eight-module online course will be offered quarterly and was made mandatory by the Judicial Council.

Module Two: Court Through the Eyes of a Judge, opened on November 1, 2021. If you have not yet completed *Module One* and require assistance in doing so, please reach out to the Judicial College Registrar via email educationregistrar@mdcourts.gov or phone (410) 260-3573.

PUBLIC NOTICE

- For all COVID-19 updates, please visit mdcourts.gov and click on the red banner labeled COVID-19 UPDATE at the top of the page.
- For the latest news, updates, payroll info, Hot Topics and more, check out the Senior Judge webpage, <https://mdcourts.gov/hr/seniorjudges>. Don't forget to save the link so you can refer to it at any time.
- Have something about yourself that you want to share? Please contact Eliana Pangelinan at Eliana.pangelinan@mdcourts.gov to be featured in an issue of the Hot Topics Newsletter.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Please join us for this upcoming Judicial Education webinar opportunity!

If you wish to be enrolled in the Lunchtime Webinar Program to receive credit towards your annual educational requirement, please contact the Judicial College Registrar at EducationRegistrar@mdcourts.gov or (410) 260-3573 for more information.

13 Webinar Choices

January 24	B&T On the Bench
February 28	Daubert and Its Progeny
March 25	Elec. Stored Info & MD Courts
April 15	Guarding the Guardians
May 23	Social Media and the Courts
June 27	LGBTQ+ Issues and the Courts
July 11	Jurors with Disabilities
July 22	Fair & Just Criminal Sentencing
August 8	Simplicity of Complexity of Bias
August 26	Post COVID-19 – Take Three!
September 12	Language Access Best Practices
October 24	Marijuana and the Future
November 4	Independent Internet Research

Webinars will be held from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.

2022 Judicial Education Webinars

Lunchtime Webinars

R E G I S T E R N O W

Take advantage of this virtual training opportunity!
Earn 6 of the 12 credits towards your continuing Judicial Education hours by attending 6 webinars from the comfort of your chambers or home. To register, search for "Lunchtime Webinars" in the CONNECT Learning Dashboard or reach out to the Judicial College Registrar at education.registrar@mdcourts.gov



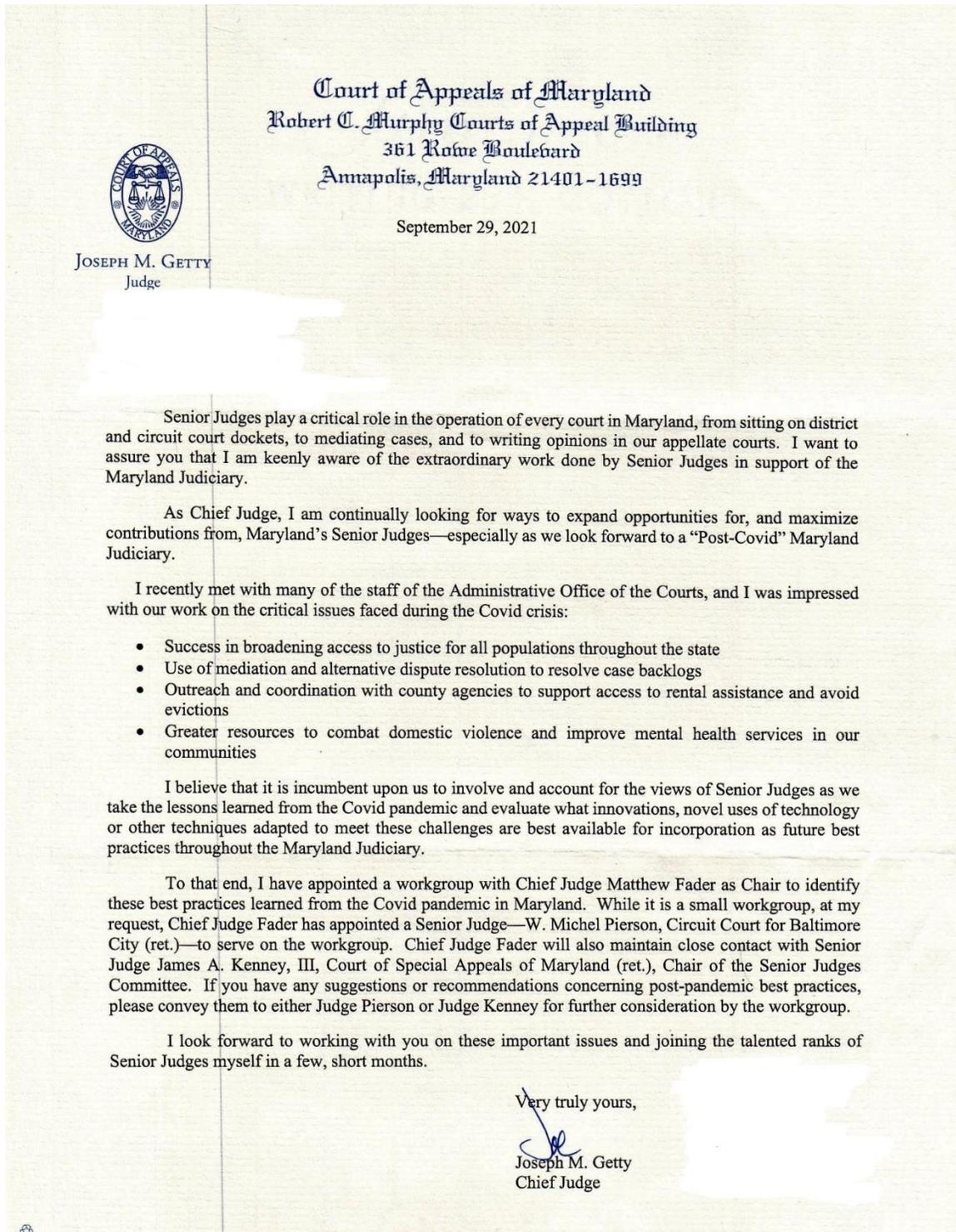
Brought to you by the Judicial College, Judicial Education

A PURSUIT OF JUSTICE BLOG

A common theme that has emerged since the last Hot Topics issue is the ADR Committee's gratitude for the help of Senior Judges with mediation. The Senior Judges have continued to assist the Court of Special Appeals ADR Division in mediation during the pandemic in 2020 and on. One of our own, the Honorable Steven I. Platt, has written an article on this topic as posted on his *A Pursuit of Justice* blog, titled, "[Confronting Complexity: The Role of Judges and Mediators in an Increasingly Complicated World - 'Separate but Equal - Different but Complimentary'.](#)"

THANK YOU, SENIOR JUDGES

Chief Judge Getty celebrated the work of the Senior Judges in the following letter in which he directly solicits the views of the Senior Judges on matters of vital importance to the Judiciary and appoints a Senior Judge to a workgroup investigating best practices learned from the Covid pandemic in Maryland. The letter states:



Thanks should go to Chief Judge Getty for acknowledging the contributions Senior Judges have and will continue to make!

IN MEMORIAM

Hon. Richard O. Motsay
 Hon. Jonathan G. Newell
 Hon. Thomas J. Bollinger, Sr.
 Hon. Graydon S. McKee, III

The Judicial Council's Senior Judges Committee

Hon. James A. Kenney III, Chair
 Hon. Jean Baron, Senior Judge
 Hon. Lynne A. Battaglia, Senior Judge
 Carole Burkhart, District Court Headquarters
 Hon. Deborah Sweet Eyler, Vice Chair, Senior Judge
 Hon. Barbara Kerr Howe, Senior Judge
 Hon. Steven I. Platt, Senior Judge
 Hon. Irma S. Raker, Senior Judge
 Hon. Gale E. Rasin, Senior Judge
 Hon. Thurman H. Rhodes, Senior Judge
 Hon. Nancy B. Shuger, Senior Judge

Eliana Pangelinan, Staff

UPCOMING ADVANCED PAYROLLS FOR SENIOR JUDGES

10/27/21–11/09/21. Timesheets will be due for approval by noon on Monday, November 8th and managers must have the approvals completed by 6:00 p.m.

11/10/21–11/23/21. Timesheets will be due for approval by noon on Monday, November 21st and managers must have the approvals completed by 6:00 p.m.

12/08/21–12/21/21. Timesheets will be due for approval by noon on Monday, December 20th and managers must have the approvals completed by 6:00 p.m. This will be the last pay period paid in 2021. **The 2022 Earnings Limitation will begin on December 22, 2021.**

02/22/22 – 02/15/22. Timesheets will be due for approval by noon on Monday, February 14th and managers must have the approvals completed by 6:00 p.m.

05/11/22 – 05/24/22. Timesheets will be due for approval by noon on Monday, May 23rd and managers must have the approvals completed by 6:00 p.m.

Retirement Services Contact List**Maryland State Retirement and Pension System**

1-800-492-5909

Gwendolyn Mulcahy
gmulcahy@sra.state.md.us
 410-625-5516

Social Security Administration (SSA)

1-800-772-1213
www.socialsecurity.gov

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

1-800-633-4227
www.medicare.gov

Maryland Supplement Retirement Plan (MSRP)

1-800-545-4730
 Angela Anderson
angela.anderson@maryland.gov
 443-305-9055

Department of Budget & Management, Employee Benefits Division

410-767-4775

Cheryl Hill
cheryl.hill@maryland.gov
 410-767-4798

Maryland Judiciary: Office of Employment Services

Ebonye Caldwell, Manager
ebonye.caldwell@mdcourts.gov
 410-260-1289

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 410-260-1285

Any questions regarding this issue, please contact Eliana Pangelinan at eliana.pangelinan@mdcourts.gov