



PGCBA NEWS JOURNAL

Newsletter of the Prince George's County Bar Association, Inc.

President's Message



As I am finishing my first year as acting President, and looking forward to next year as President of the Bar Association, I want to thank so many people for all their help and support.

Looking back at the year in recap:

- I want to give thanks again to the Criminal Law Committee, especially Dave Simpson, Judge Michael Pearson and Todd Steuart, whose Alan Goldstein's Seminar had record attendance and was highly entertaining and informative.
- I would also like to thank the Family Law Committee, especially Lindsey Erdmann, for their fine presentation, which had approximately 50 attorneys attend.
- The Brown Bag Lunch Seminars have been successful and each success of one brings rising attendance.
- The Bar has also started the free legal advice line one day a month. The first month there were eight calls and the second month there were 14 calls. I hope that this trend will continue and our attorneys who volunteer will be able to pick up some business.
- The Young Lawyers Section had their first meeting in a number of years. The new admittees were invited to the Lawyer's Lounge where they were greeted by me and other Board members. They were then taken on a tour of the courthouse followed by Happy Hour at the Old Towne Inn. We hope this will be the first of many meetings of the Young Lawyers Section.
- I also want to extend a special thank you to Judge Toni Clarke and the Golf Committee. This committee has worked hard for many months to make this event a success.
- The Board also proposed a new Amendment to the By-Laws, which by the time this Newsletter reaches you, will either have passed or not but no matter what happens it was a lot of work by a lot of people to get this Amendment to the vote of the members.

In the last year, the Bar Association has made a number of significant cuts to our budget to reflect the lean economic time and the cost of maintaining the Bar Association and expanding services. I am pleased to report that this year the Bar Association is doing better than we were at this stage last year. There is a long way to go but financially and fiscally, we are on the right track.

Last year in the bar dues, which will be coming out this summer, the Bar Association asked for a special contribution earmarked for computer and software improvements. Our members were very generous and we were able to launch a new website, which is 100 times better than the old website, and we were able to bring our computer software into the 21st

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Martin G. Oliverio 301-513-0613
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1

century. This year the Bar Association is asking again for another voluntary contribution. This year it will be set aside for capital improvements. The Bar Association has put off a number of improvements that are needed in an effort to keep the budget in line. With no capital improvement line item, the Bar has to draw from the Operating Account when something unexpected happens, such as replacing the electrical box. The windows in the office are very old and need to be replaced and one of the units is in need of a new heating and air conditioning unit which costs about \$6,000. In previous years, the Bar Association spent \$12,000 in updating two of the three heating and air conditioning units, but we still need the third one done. Any help or contributions in this area would be greatly appreciated. On a positive note, we were able to paint the office for the first time in over 10 years due to the financial success of the some of our events.

In concluding I would like to thank all the members who have donated their countless hours to help with Christmas in April, the Golf Tournament, and so many other activities that are too numerous to mention. I would like to thank all the members of the Board of Directors, the Officers and the members of the Executive Committee.

Lastly, I want to personally thank Georgia Perry, the Executive Director, Becky Tippet, and Ryan Thompson for their help in making the Bar Association successful. I am looking forward to a great 2010-2011 term.

Once again, if anyone needs any assistance, please feel free to tell either myself, members of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors Committee, or Section Chairs of any concerns, comments or ideas you may have regarding our Association.

Sincerely,

Nicholas E. Rattal

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CLS Plans To Reopen A Law Clinic In The Southern Region Of The County!!

We are pleased to announce that CLS has been selected to receive approximately \$62,000 from a Circuit Court award in Montgomery County. The award stemmed from a ten-year-old lawsuit regarding excessive late fees on cell phone bills by Cellular One. The original judgment was \$7.6 million; \$2.4 million was unclaimed and CLS was one of 13 legal services organizations selected to receive a portion of the award.

A May Washington Post article quoted our Executive Director Neal T. Conway's reaction to the good news: "This really helps us breathe easier." These funds will allow us to reopen a law clinic in the southern region of our county that we closed in 2009 due to funding cuts. The clinic was originally created in response to a report from the Prince George's Pro bono Committee identifying that region of our

county as lacking access to legal services for low income individuals. We are delighted that we can once again respond to this need. We plan to staff the clinic with a CLS attorney, legal assistant and other volunteer lawyers. While the specific location and start date of this clinic have not been decided upon yet, we are confident we will finalize these details promptly and will share it with you!

We are grateful to the following volunteers:

Attorneys Who Took Cases for Legal Representation via our Lawyer Referral Program (pro bono and reduced fee cases from mid-April to mid-May): Oladapo Jomoke, Christopher Daniels, Janell Bell, Laura Curry, Edith Lawson Jackson, Keith Asher, James Thomas, Rosa Sobhraj, Nataly C. Mendocilla, June White Dillard, Leslie A. Pladna, Rosaly W. Otieno, Okiemute C. Whiteru, Janelle Ryan Colbert, Samuel Curry, Patrice Klohver Tynes, Moges Abebe, and Zakia Yasmeen Chandler.

Attorneys Who Provided Free Legal Advice at Our Courthouse Clinic (Upper Marlboro, room 2435M; contact Michael

Udegiofor at 301-952.3010): Jeane Aelion, Ryan Thomas, James Thomas, Jomoke Oladapo, Diana Wyles, Gregory Milton, Judith Jullette, Cherrie King, Steve Stair

If we mistakenly failed to mention your name, please report it to us so that we may give you proper credit in our next column.

SPECIAL FUNDING TO PAY FOR ATTORNEYS FEES

CLS continues to refer cases under our Judicare funding project made available by Maryland Legal Services Corporation. Attorneys receive \$80.00 per hour up to \$1,600.00 per case. Cases referred involve family law matters including guardianship. We also refer domestic violence cases, except we will reimburse the attorney for a maximum of five (5) hours only. Attorneys accepting cases under this program are required to participate in our **Pro Bono Program** as well. For more information please contact Darielys Pinto at 301-864-4907, ext. 11.

Community Legal Services of Prince George's County, Inc. is a non-profit organization established to provide quality civil legal services to low-income persons in Prince George's County. It does this through the generous contribution of legal advice and legal representation by members of the private Bar. Additionally, CLS operates free legal clinics in the County. They are located in the Circuit Court House and Langley Park. For more information about our services, please contact Nora C. Eidelman, at 301-864-4907, ext. 12.

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RELOCATIONS

Houlon, Berman, Bergman, Finci, Levenstein & Skok, LLC is pleased to announce the relocation of our Rockville branch offices to 11 North Washington Street, Suite 230, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (301) 444-4432. The firm is also pleased to welcome the addition of **Jennifer Mayer**, former law clerk to the Honorable Louise Scrivener, who practices in the areas of criminal, traffic, personal injury and family law. Our Greenbelt offices remain at 7850 Walker Drive, Suite 160, Greenbelt, Maryland, (301) 459-8200. You can find us on the web at www.houlonberman.com and on our facebook fan page at www.facebook.com/houlonberman.

OFFICE NEWS

BALLOTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BAR OFFICE UNTIL JUNE 8TH AND THEN ONLY AVAILABLE AT THE JUNE 8 MEETING AT NEWTON WHITE.

WE HAVE COPIES OF THE FOLLIES TAPES FOR 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000 AND 2001. ANYONE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING ONE THE COST IS \$10.

THANK YOU TO SAMUEL CURRY, DAVID KINDERMANN, CHARLES ASHURST AND JOSEPH TREVINO FOR MANNING THE PHONES FOR OUR LEGAL ADVICE LINE. THE NUMBER OF CALLS CONTINUE TO GROW AND WE HOPE TO SEE THAT TREND CONTINUE AS WE REACH OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY. PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD, THE NEXT DATE IS JUNE 1, 2010 FROM 5PM. – 7PM.

JOINING

Creative Dispute Resolutions, LLC – a mediation and arbitration group based in Maryland and D.C. – is pleased to announce the addition of the Hon. James P. Salmon (Ret.) to its panel of mediators and arbitrators. Judge Salmon's addition follows his recent retirement from Maryland's Court of Special Appeals, 4th Appellate Circuit (Prince George's County).

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ashcraft & Gerel, with offices in the District of Columbia, Alexandria and Manassas, Virginia, and in Beltsville, Landover and Rockville, Maryland, has added an attorney in Baltimore and Alexandria.

Alaina M. Dartt is in the Alexandria, Virginia office, engaged in litigating negligence and workers' compensation claims (claimants only). Ms. Dartt graduated magna cum laude, was a National Merit Scholar and on the Dean's list for 4 years at University of North Florida. She earned her Juris Doctor degree at Georgetown University Law Center. After obtaining her law degree, Ms. Dartt spent several years in the Public Defender's office in Virginia, where she was involved in all stages of litigation, including the appellate arena. Additional experience was grounded at the Georgetown Criminal Justice Clinic in Washington, D.C., and in summer employment involving labor law and disability cases with other law firms.

Another addition to Ashcraft & Gerel's legal staff is Michael C. Lind, a graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland and the University of Baltimore School of Law. Mr. Lind is admitted to practice in the Circuit and Appellate Courts in Maryland, and the U.S. District Court of Maryland. His practice at Ashcraft & Gerel will be principally in workers' compensation, and tort litigation (including asbestos). The experience he brings to Ashcraft & Gerel was honed in ten years at two prestigious Baltimore law firms and as a law clerk to Judges in the Circuit Court of Wicomico County, Maryland

A special thank you to Judge Morrissey, for hosting the Brown Bag Lunch in the Lawyer's lounge. We greatly appreciate his support of this program.

The next Brown Bag Lunch will be hosted by Judge Maureen Lamasney and Judge Hassan El-Amin on the 9th of June at noon in the Lawyer's Lounge. The topic is Drug Court. All members are welcome.



DON'T LET LATE NIGHT MEALS SPELL DISASTER FOR YOUR WAISTLINE

The idea that eating late at night leads to greater weight gain has long been a source of interest and debate. Most nutrition experts have felt that this is not necessarily true. The common belief has been that if you eat more than you expend, then you will gain weight – regardless of whether the calories come from breakfast, dinner, or a late night snack. However, there have been few reliable studies to confirm that calories eaten at night are metabolized the same as calories eaten during the day. In fact, in an experimental study conducted just last year, the results showed that mice who ate the majority of calories during their typical sleeping hours did gain more weight than mice that ate on a more regular schedule, despite consuming the same number of calories and engaging in equal amounts of physical activity. Keep in mind, however, that these were

results from a study involving mice and not humans, and therefore cannot conclusively establish that the results would hold true in humans.

Those who reject the notion that late night eating is more likely to result in weight gain have explained the excessive weight gain by reasoning that the late night eaters most likely are individuals who tend to eat more calorie-dense foods and thus eat more total calories which can cause weight gain. This school of thought proposes that it's probably not when you eat that's the problem, but rather what and how much. For example, they would suggest that late night eaters probably find themselves sitting on a couch late night for hours, watching movies, and mindlessly munching away at chips or a gallon of ice cream. Contrasted to this are the day-time eaters who probably eat meals during short, designated periods of time which don't allow prolonged, mindless eating.

Another reason why these late night calories may seem to stick to you more easily is that when you eat late at night, usually you simply go to sleep afterwards and don't get a chance to burn off any of the freshly consumed calories. Because your

body requires more calories simply to sit at your desk and type than it does to sleep, you get to burn off more of the calories that you've eaten when you continue to move about and engage in your normal daily activities. Again, you'd think it all balances out, as long as you consumed the same number of calories and engaged in the same level of activity, right? Maybe not....I know countless individuals who swear that cutting off their food consumption by 6 p.m. results in greater weight and fat loss. So the jury is still out on this one, but I say play it safe and end the epicurean delights by 7 p.m. if at all possible.

In the event that you simply can not end your intake of food by 7 p.m. here are some tips that may help minimize the effects of the late night munching:

- ***Avoid tempting situations.*** If you struggle to break the habit of nibbling on junk food late at night, make a plan to decrease availability of those foods. For example, keep the junk food out of the pantry and stock up on fruits and vegetables. Eat small, well-planned meals throughout the day to help avoid a starvation

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binge late at night and restrict eating to the kitchen or dining room table.

• **Set SMART goals.** *SMART* (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound) nutrition and physical activity goals help set the stage for weight loss success by replacing vague visions of thinness into a specific plan for a healthier lifestyle. Here's just one example of a SMART goal: "I would like to lose five pounds in the next two months. I will do this by eliminating post-dinner snacks, avoiding eating while watching TV, and exercising for 30 minutes five days per week." Post visible reminders of the weight, dietary, or fitness goal to help make achieving the goals a reality.

- **Use behavioral substitutions.** Many people turn to food when bored or stressed. Before raiding the refrigerator or pantry, consider why you are eating. If it is for any reason other than hunger, aim to substitute alternative behaviors to eating. For example, if you eat when you're bored, take a 10 minute walk instead.
- **Retrain your brain – and taste buds.** Commit to eating a healthy, well-balanced diet which includes portion-controlled servings of a few of your favorite foods, together with less-processed, less fatty foods. This way the deprivation and cravings are minimized. After just a couple weeks, you'll be surprised to find that the fat- and sugar-filled foods which were once so desirable lose much of their allure.

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PROFESSIONALISM *By Michael Wein, Chairs the Appellate Practice Committee for the PGCBA.*

There has been a significant amount of discussion recently on the topic of “professionalism.” For example, as part of recent changes to the Maryland Rules, a carefully crafted “Ideals of Professionalism” is now ostensibly part of the Maryland Lawyers’ Rules of Professional Conduct (MLRPC). Additionally, Judge Lynne Battaglia of the Court of Appeals, chair of the Professionalism Committee, has proposed mandating 2 hours of professionalism be taught yearly as part of 10 hours mandatory CLE in Maryland. This article, however, is not focused on the wisdom of mandatory CLE or whether professionalism training should be mandated. Instead, it is focused on what appears to be some confusion on what exactly constitutes “professionalism,” and how it relates to the present state of “professional ethics.” I will explain.

The lack of mandatory requirements in the recent Professionalism Ideals adopted, is to a large degree, traceable and foreshadowed by Court of Appeals decisions in Attorney Grievance cases. It should not therefore be a surprise that a reading of the recently adopted “Ideals of Professionalism” finds few uses of the word ‘must,’ numerous uses of the word “should,” while noting that “failure to observe these Ideals *is not of itself* a basis for disciplinary sanctions, but the conduct that constitutes the failure may be a basis for disciplinary sanctions *if it violates* a provision of

the MLRPC or other relevant law.” [Emphasis Added] This is because professional ethics, for lack of a better description, revolves around *only* those standards and rules that are outlined and described in the “Maryland Rules for Professional Conduct.” See Editor’s Note to Maryland Lawyers’ Rules of Professional Conduct, that these Rules “shall govern the conduct of attorneys from and after said date [of enactment]”; *but see* Preamble to Code, noting that “[a] lawyer’s conduct should...demonstrate respect for the legal system and for those who serve it.”

Professionalism, however, concentrates on attorneys dealing with one another, judges, and third parties with a presumption of working together to achieve justice through fair play and mutual respect, and with a few exceptions of particularly egregious unprofessional behavior rising to the level of misconduct under the MLRPC, is not apparently circumscribed at all by the Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct, or the recently added “Ideals of Professionalism.” See *Attorney Grievance Commission (AGC) v. Rand*, 411 Md. 83, 103 (2009) (dismissing Grievance Petition while noting that “[r]espondent may be fortunate that we have not yet considered enactment of the recommendations of the Maryland Judicial Commission on Professionalism...that the Court [of Appeals] adopt Standards of Professionalism as an Appendix to

the Rules of Professional Conduct and impose sanctions...”)

That does not mean that Professionalism is not an ideal and practice that has many practical, logistical, and reputational aspects which would and should greatly improve the practice of law. Instead, the overlap between “Professionalism” and “Professional Ethics” is one to which very few situations, viewed by themselves and in isolation, are prohibited under both. One such example would be if an attorney in a professional capacity were to begin disparaging attorneys or any third parties with comments that are based upon racial, ethnic, or sexual slurs. See Rule 8.4 (e). Another example, would be the use of profanities in a courtroom (except perhaps those rare cases where the profanities themselves are evidence in the court case.) See *AGC v. Alison*, 317 Md. 523 (1989) (Rule 8.4 violation and 90 day suspension for repeated use of profanities to Court Clerks); *but see AGC v. Link*, 380 Md. 405 (2004) (dismissing Grievance petition for Attorney’s demeaning and unnecessary questions during deposition).

However, Professionalism has traditionally been given a pass from being a ‘prohibition’ under the Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct, largely for two reasons. The first is that the First Amendment of the Constitution allows great freedom for every citizen to express a diversity of point of views, be it for speech, religion,

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or seeking governmental redress, even for reasons that are in a distinct minority of the population at large. In other words, most people can make a myriad of arguments in court (particularly on criminal matters) and similarly, attorneys can then ethically advance those arguments in court and out of court, barring some exceptions such as making knowing false statements to the Court, or assisting with a fraud on the Court.

The second main reason is the apparent requirement that an attorney “zealously” represent the interests of his/her client, particularly in conjunction with the right to criminal legal counsel afforded by the Sixth Amendment. See Preamble to Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct (Adopted in Md. Rule 16-812(2)) (“As advocate, a lawyer zealously asserts the client’s position under the rules of the adversary system.”) Zealously, at least amongst many attorneys, is not a word that connotes a general advocacy of the client, but to do everything conceivable within very wide ethical limitations, to ‘win’ the client’s case, if that’s what the client demands that their attorney do.

This long-simmering and apparent contradiction on the exact meaning of the word ‘zeal,’ (the word ‘zealously’ was removed from the MLRPC in the 1980’s, but is still found in the Preamble), is in fact rightly addressed in the “Ideals of Professionalism” by noting that “zeal requires only that the

client’s interests are paramount” and discouraging underhanded tactics by lawyers in the name of ‘zealously.’ This ‘tension’ on the use of the word zealously will probably not be resolved itself by the Professionalism Ideal guidelines that have just been made part of the Rules of Professional Conduct, though it is probably fair to say that these new Ideals, at least give license for some attorneys who may feel pressure to engage in an underhanded legal manner or maneuver, to know at the outset *that it is not unethical* to give proper credence to these Professionalism goals in choosing a different route. This is an important improvement to the practice of law, particularly for recent Bar Admittees.

Should Professionalism be more easily embraced by the legal profession (or at least better understood), this could lead to a greater number of (1) settlement of cases through agreements, mediation and arbitration, (2) reduction in discovery disputes, (3) better overall litigation experience amongst parties, attorneys, and judge, (4) more efficient cases with reduced litigation costs, (5) more enjoyment among attorneys in the practice of law and (6) a better overall view by the public of the legal profession. Still, while Professionalism has many worthwhile and wide-ranging objectives that would benefit most of the legal profession, except for perhaps extreme misconduct rising to the level of an *existing* violation of

the Rules of Professional Conduct, the recently enacted ‘Professionalism Ideals’ do not apparently effect change to the actual Rules of Professional Conduct by making Professionalism violations, to also be Rule Violations. Thus, an accurate and a fair reading of the Rules, at least at the present and until the ‘Ideals’ are more fully incorporated and of a more mandatory nature, should not have as an objective of ‘Professionalism’ to also prevent breaches of “Professional ethics” that were not previously breaches of the MLRPC.

That may actually be the point, however, of the Professionalism Committees and Court of Appeals’ determination to start with the ‘Ideals’ being enacted first. The ‘social mores’ of professionalism are still a work in progress. And until lawyers have become comfortable practicing, knowing, and given sufficient time to understand and acclimate to what these ‘social mores’ are in litigation practice, then they should not necessarily be penalized for the violations. Only time will tell, however, if the “Professionalism ideals” is a first step towards an ethical system where violations of Professionalism will now usually be characterized and considered to also be a violation of “Professional ethics.”

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On May 3, 2010, the Circuit Court for Prince George’s County held a special session on Law Day for the purpose of naturalizing 39 new United States citizens. Judges C. Philip Nichols, Jr. and Leo E. Green, Jr. presided. The Joint Armed Forces Color Guard presented the colors and “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band Brass Quintet performed.

A wrap-up of the 2010 General Assembly.

By Bryon S. Bereano

Much of the news out of Annapolis this year focused on changes to the Maryland Sex-offender laws and tougher gang laws. However, there were several bills that were passed this year which greatly affect the everyday law practice for attorneys. With many thanks to the Legislative District 27A team of Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., Delegate James E. Proctor, Jr. and Delegate Joseph F. Vallario, Jr., we have provided below a list of passed legislation from the 2010 Maryland Legislative Session of the General Assembly which touches on the day to day practice of law. A chapter number ("Ch.") indicates that the bill has been enacted. A bill passed, but not yet enacted, is still subject to a veto by the Governor. Please note that most of the legislation will not become effective until later this year.

Civil Jury Trials - Amount in Controversy: SB119 proposes a constitutional amendment increasing to over \$15,000 the amount in controversy in which the right to a jury trial may be limited by statute. SB118 implements the proposed constitutional amendment if the amendment is ratified by the voters. SB118 applies prospectively to

civil actions filed on or after the date of the proclamation by the Governor that the constitutional amendment has been ratified.

Defense of Dwelling or Place of Business – Civil Immunity: SB411 specifies that a person is not liable for damages for a personal injury or the death of an individual who enters the person's dwelling or place of business if the person reasonably believes that force or deadly force is necessary to repel an attack by the individual and the amount and nature of the force used is reasonable under the circumstances. A court may award attorney's fees and costs to the person who prevails in a defense under the bill. Immunity does not attach, however, if the person is convicted of a crime of violence, second degree assault, or reckless endangerment as a result of the incident. "Person" does not include a government entity. The bill applies prospectively to a cause of action arising on or after October 1, 2010.

Vehicle Laws - Required Security - Minimum Amounts: HB825 increases the minimum security required on a motor vehicle liability insurance policy for bodily injury or death of a single individual from \$20,000 to \$30,000, and for more than one individual from \$40,000 to \$60,000. The bill takes effect January 1, 2011, and applies to

all vehicle liability insurance policies issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after that date.

Protective Order – Extension: HB534/SB867 authorize a judge to extend the terms of a final protective order for up to two years if, during the term of a protective order, a judge finds by clear and convincing evidence that the respondent named in the protective order has committed a subsequent act of abuse against a person eligible for relief named in the protective order. Prior to extending a final protective order, the court must give notice to the respondent and all affected persons eligible for relief and hold a hearing.

Denial or Dismissal of Peace Order or Protective Order Petition - Shielding of Records: HB1149/SB935 authorize a respondent in a domestic violence proceeding to file a written request to "shield" (i.e. remove from public inspection) all court records relating to a domestic violence or peace order proceeding if the domestic

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violence or peace order petition was denied or dismissed at any stage of the proceedings. "Shielding" means: (1) with respect to a record kept in a course house, removing to a separate secure area to which persons who do not have a legitimate reason for access are denied access; and (2) with respect to electronic information about a proceeding on a website maintained by the Maryland Judiciary (i.e. "Case Search"), removing the information from the public website.

Civil Cases – Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund: SB248 increases the surcharge in a civil case filed in circuit court from a maximum of \$25 to a maximum of \$55. In the District Court, the maximum authorized surcharge in a summary ejectment case increases from \$5 to \$8; and, in any other case, from \$10 to \$18. Surcharges collected are required to be deposited into the Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) Fund. The bill also requires the executive director of MLSC to prepare an informational budget and to submit the budget to the General Assembly each year. The bill terminates after June 30, 2013.

District Court – Mailings – Notice of Dismissal, Nolle Prosequi, or Stet: Ch. 160 requires a clerk of the District Court to mail notice of a dismissal, nolle prosequi, or stet to a defendant and the defendant's attorney of record if

both the defendant and the defendant's attorney of record are not present in court when the dismissal or nolle prosequi is entered or the charge is setted. The clerk is prohibited from mailing notice if the defendant's whereabouts are unknown or if either the defendant or the defendant's attorney of record is present in court when the dismissal or nolle prosequi is entered or the charge is setted.

Maryland General and Limited Power of Attorney Act (Loretta's Law): HB659/SB309 establishes the Maryland General and Limited Power of Attorney Act, incorporating existing statutory provisions governing powers of attorney into the Act. The bills provide two statutory form powers of attorney and an optional form for use by an agent to certify facts concerning a power of attorney. One of the statutory forms provides an agent with broad authority as specified on the form, while the other statutory form allows a principal to specifically indicate which of the various powers are given to an agent. A principal may delegate to one or more agents the authority to do any act specified in the statutory forms, though the acts specified in the statutory forms may not be deemed to invalidate or limit the validity of other authorized acts that a principal may delegate to an agent. The bills do not supersede other laws applicable to financial institutions or other entities.

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