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GOVERNOR O'MALLEY ESTABLISHES JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSIONS

Executive Order for Commissions to Nominate Appellate and Trial Court Judges

ANNAPOLIS (April 27, 2007) – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced the creation of an Appellate Courts Judicial Nominating Commission and sixteen regional Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commissions. Each commission will be responsible for recommending to the Governor the names of persons for appointment to the appellate and trial courts of Maryland.

O'Malley issued Executive Order 01.01.2007.08 – Judicial Nominating Commissions – earlier today and announced the appointment of twelve individuals to serve on the Appellate Courts Judicial Nominating Commission. Under this executive order, the Maryland State Bar Association will select five additional members for the Commission.

“I am proud to issue this executive order to bring together this diverse and competent commission to aid in the appointment of highly qualified persons to serve on Maryland's appellate and trial courts,” said Governor Martin O'Malley. “The Appellate Courts Judicial Nominating Commission, under the leadership of Shelia K. Sachs, represents the best legal minds in our State, and I look forward to appointing members to the Trial Courts Commissions in the weeks ahead.”

Below please find the names of the 12 gubernatorial appointments to the Appellate Courts Judicial Nominating Commission:

Douglas M. Bregman – Partner, Bregman, Berbert, Schwartz & Gilday, LLC, and Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University Law Center. Georgetown University Law School. Bar admissions: Maryland, District of Columbia, U.S. District Court District of Maryland, U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia, U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals District of Columbia Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals 4th Circuit. *Resident of Montgomery County.*

Gabriel J. Christian – Lead Counsel, Gabriel J. Christian & Associates, L.L.C. Georgetown University. Member, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Prince George’s County Bar Association, Maryland Bar Association, American Trial Lawyers Association, National Bar Association, American Bar Association. *Resident of Prince George’s County.*

J. Joseph Curran, Jr. – Formerly Attorney General of Maryland, Lt. Governor of Maryland, State Senator (Baltimore City), Member of the House of Delegates (Baltimore City). University of Baltimore School of Law. Member, Maryland State Bar Association. *Resident of Baltimore City.*

Herbert D. Frerichs, Jr. – Partner, Saul Ewing LLP. Previously a partner at DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary. University of Maryland, School of Law. Member, Maryland State Bar Association, Board of Directors of the Hippodrome Foundation, Board of Directors of the Business Volunteers Unlimited of Maryland, Inc., Board of Trustees of the Living Classrooms Foundation. Trustee, Athletic & Scholarship Programs, United States Naval Academy; Chair, Board of Directors, USS Constellation Museum; Founding Partner and General Counsel, Baltimore Venture Mentors. *Resident of Baltimore County.*

Ellen Barry Grunden – Deputy State’s Attorney, Talbot County State’s Attorney’s Office. Previously, an Associate at Wheeler, Thompson, Parker & Counts, and volunteer legal assistance at the Office of the Public Defender. Georgetown University Law Center. Member, Rules Committee of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference, Commission to Revise Criminal Code, Maryland State Bar Association, Montgomery County Bar Association, Prince George’s County Bar Association, District of Columbia Bar Association. *Resident of Talbot County.*

F. Michael Higginbotham – Professor, University of Baltimore School of Law. Currently serves as Chairman of the Board of the Public Justice Center, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and the former Chair of the Association of American Law Schools Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Minority Faculty. Yale Law School. Member of the District of Columbia Bar. *Resident of Baltimore City.*

Elizabeth Hurwitz Schwab – Former Vice President of Human Resources for S. Schwab Company/LM Services LLC in Cumberland, Maryland. Current member of the Western Maryland Health System Board of Directors, Allegany Arts Council, and Cumberland Historic Preservation Institute Steering Committee. Received her A.B. from Washington and Jefferson College, and Masters in Social Work from the University of Maryland. *Resident of Allegany County.*

Ava E. Lias-Booker – Partner at McGuireWoods, named one of the “Best Lawyers in America” by *Woodward/White*, named one of Maryland’s “Top 100 Women” by *The Daily Record*, honored by the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys, received an Asper Fellowship under Judge Frank Kaufman of Maryland. University of Maryland, School of Law. Member, National Bar Association, American Bar Association, Maryland State Bar Association, Monumental Bar Association. *Resident of Howard County.*

Timothy F. Maloney – Attorney, Joseph, Greenwald & Laake. Former member, Maryland House of Delegates. University of Baltimore, School of Law. Member, Rules Committee of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference, Commission to Revise Criminal Code, Maryland State Bar Association, Montgomery County Bar Association, Prince George's County Bar Association, District of Columbia Bar Association. *Resident of Montgomery County.*

Dana Petersen Moore – Partner, Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP. Named one of Maryland's "Top 100 Women" by *The Daily Record*, and an Honoree of the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys. Washington and Lee School of Law. Member, Board of Directors of the National Bar Association, as well as the Bar Association of Baltimore City, the District of Columbia Bar, the Maryland State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Monumental City Bar Association. *Resident of Baltimore City.*

Jennifer Lynn Morton – Assistant State's Attorney, Calvert County State's Attorney's Office. Previously, a law clerk to Judge Warren J. Krug of the Circuit Court of Calvert County. Widener University School of Law. Admitted to the Bar in Maryland. *Resident of Calvert County.*

Shelia K. Sachs – Member, Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC, focusing on family law. Formerly, President of the Bar Association of Baltimore City and the Judicial Nominating Commission for Baltimore City. Named one of Maryland's "Top 100 Women" by *The Daily Record*. Fellow, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Maryland Bar Foundation, American Bar Foundation. University of Maryland School of Law. Member, Maryland Bar. *Resident of Baltimore City.*

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