Ellen M. Heller is the retired Circuit Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. Prior to that appointment, she was the Judge in Charge of the Civil Docket and directed the reorganization of the Civil Docket as well as the creation and implementation of several Alternative Dispute Resolution programs including mandatory pre-trial settlement conferences, and mediation programs for professional liability and medical malpractice cases. She has been a member of the Maryland Court Administration Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and the Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. As an active member of the Maryland State Bar Association, she chaired the Committee on Continuing Legal Education and Special Committee on Law Practice quality. She was a co-chair of the Civility Committee and chaired the Judicial Administration Committee of the Bar Association for Baltimore City. For a decade Judge Heller was an Adjunct Professor at the U. of Md. School of Law. She is an honors graduate of the Johns Hopkins University; the U. of MD. School of Law; and a member of the American Law Institute.

Judge Heller is a Trustee of the Weinberg Foundation and Chair of the Board of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, an international relief organization working in 70 countries. She also serves on the Boards of the Baltimore Community Foundation, the JHU Bioethics Institute, the U. of Md. School of Law, and the East Baltimore Development Corp. In 2008 she was named to the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame and in 2009 to the Baltimore Jewish Hall of Fame. She has also received the U. of Md. School of Law's Distinguished Graduate Award; the Maryland State Bar's Civility Award; and the Bar Association of Baltimore City's Margaret Brent-Juanita Jackson Mitchell Award.