

Explanation of the Maryland Access to Justice Commission's organizational chart

The Maryland Access to Justice Commission is comprised of five committees and nine subcommittees. The Honorable Irma Raker, retired judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, is the Chair of the Maryland Access to Justice Commission. The Honorable Ben C. Clyburn, Chief Judge of the District Court of Maryland, is the Vice Chair of the Commission.

The Access and Delivery of Legal Services Committee identifies and implements changes to support and expand legal services in Maryland. Susan Erlichman, Esq., Executive Director of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, chairs the Committee. The Access and Delivery of Legal Services has three subcommittees: the Civil Gideon Subcommittee; the Fee-Shifting Subcommittee; and the Funding Subcommittee.

The Critical Barriers Committee identifies and implements changes to address the specific needs of court users who face specific barriers to accessing the justice system. The Honorable Cathy Hollenberg Serrette, of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, chairs the Committee. The Critical Barriers Committee has one subcommittee, the Language Access Subcommittee.

The Definitions and Standards Committee articulates what "access to justice for all" should mean in Maryland and identifies ways to measure the impact of the Commission's work. Kathy K. Howard, Esq., past President of the Maryland State Bar Association, chairs the Committee.

The Public Education Committee identifies and implements changes to promote and enhance public awareness about the civil justice system, and the critical role that access to the civil justice system plays in preserving a just and civil society. Herbert S. Garten, Esq., of the law firm of Fedder & Garten, chairs the Committee.

The Self-Represented Litigant Committee identifies and implements changes to ensure that Maryland Courts are accessible to self-represented litigants. Professor Michael Millemann, of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, chairs the Committee. The Self-Represented Litigant Committee has five subcommittees: the Forms Management Subcommittee; the Discrete Task Representation Subcommittee; the Media Development Subcommittee; the Public Input Subcommittee; and the Self-Help Centers Subcommittee.

The Safety, Accessibility, and Convenience Committee was retired in March of 2011. The Committee identified and implemented changes to ensure that Maryland Courts are safe, accessible, and convenient for all court users. Joseph Rosenthal, Executive Director of the Alternative Dispute Resolution office of the District Court of Maryland, chaired the Committee.

[Organizational Chart](#)

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