

The Honorable Louis A. Becker (Ret.) was appointed to the Circuit Court for Howard County in 2005 and the District Court of Maryland in 1989. Since retiring in 2014, Judge Becker has been presiding over cases on recall in Maryland Circuit and District courts and conducting settlement conferences, as well co-mediating with the Court of Special Appeals. He is certified as an Advanced Mediator by the Straus Institute for Alternative Dispute Resolution through the Universities of Maryland and Pepperdine Law Schools. Before practicing law, he was trained as a Trust Officer and worked as an account representative for a large pharmaceutical company. Judge Becker practiced law from 1970 until 1989 including personal injury, contracts, real property, corporate, criminal & family law, estates, computer, and professional malpractice. He served on the MSBA's Board of Governors as well as its Ethics, Judicial Selection Committees and Solo/Small Firm Sections. He received an American Bar Association Bar Leader of the Year Award in 2000 and served as President of the Howard County Bar Association and twice for local Inns of Court. Judge Becker also served on the Maryland Attorney Grievance Commission and is still serving on Judiciary Committees on Mental Health & Addictions & Family Law/Guardianship Workgroup.

Judge Becker has written and lectured on civil & criminal law, and ethics for the bench and bar and taught Professional Responsibility and Trial Advocacy at the University of Baltimore (UB) Law School where he was awarded Adjunct Professor of the Year in 2003 and has served on its Dean's Advisory Council since 1994.

He planned Howard County's Drug Treatment Court, adjudicating cases there beginning in June 2004. Community activities have included Howard County Library Board of Trustees, Mental Health Services Restructuring Task Force and Youth sports Programs. Judge Becker holds a B.S. in Political Science from Loyola University earned in 1965 and earned his J.D. in 1970 from UB Law School. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1994 with U.S. Army Intelligence, active and Reserves duty. He is an honor graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College.