

Civics and Law Academy

Launched in the 2011 – 2012 school year, the Academy is a statewide program created to teach middle school and high school age students about the Rule of Law and civil society. Judges volunteer their time, expertise and experience, along with local attorneys and other legal professionals, to offer interactive lessons on topics such as Law and Justice; Rights and Responsibilities; Free Speech, School Speech and Protected Speech; and Power and Empowerment.



In its first year, approximately 300 students and their teachers participated in Academies held at local schools and education centers in Baltimore, Prince

George's and Frederick counties. The Civics and Law Academy is a partnership of the Maryland Judiciary, Maryland State Bar Association, the Citizenship Law Related Education Program, and the Maryland Public School System.

For more information or to volunteer for the 2012–2013 school year, please contact Judge Pamila J. Brown, 410-480-7715 or pamila.brown@mdcourts.gov.

Speakers Bureau

The goal of the Speaker's Bureau is to increase the public's understanding of the Judiciary through community outreach. Judges visit community groups and schools to discuss topics of interest, which include alternative dispute resolution, domestic violence, traffic court, jury trials, judicial independence, juveniles in court, sentencing in Maryland, and more.



To serve as a Speakers Bureau volunteer, please contact the Office of Communications and Public Affairs (OCA) at 410-260-1488.

Virtual Courtroom

Judges can now take a 3-D animated “virtual courtroom” to school and community groups for presentation. With the click of a DVD remote or a computer mouse, viewers of The Virtual Courtroom can learn about court personnel typically found in a District Court or Circuit Court courtroom and their job duties. The 3-D animation allows the viewer to “move around the courtroom” from a TV or computer monitor.



The Virtual Courtroom DVD is available from OCPA to be used by judges or court personnel in local jurisdictions. Once completed, it will also be posted on the Judiciary's website, www.mdcourts.gov, as an interactive Flash presentation.

To obtain a copy of the DVD, please contact OCPA at 410-260-1488.

Maryland Court System Video

A 10-minute video describing Maryland's four levels of court is now available for judges and court staff on DVD or download via the Judiciary's website. The video was produced by the Access to Justice Commission in partnership with OCPA.

Contact OCPA for a copy, 410-260-1488.



Public Awareness Committee

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