

CJM Safety 2023 Legislative Presentation SB 221.pd

Uploaded by: Chief Judge John Morrissey

Position: FAV

Senate Bill 221

2023

Maryland Judiciary Testimony





Senate Bill 221

Chief Judge John P. Morrissey
District Court of Maryland

District Court of Maryland – Annual Statistics

Screened Visitors Statewide:

- Over 3.5 million each year
2017, 2018, 2019 (pre-pandemic)
- Over 1.7 million each year
2020, 2021, 2022 (pandemic)

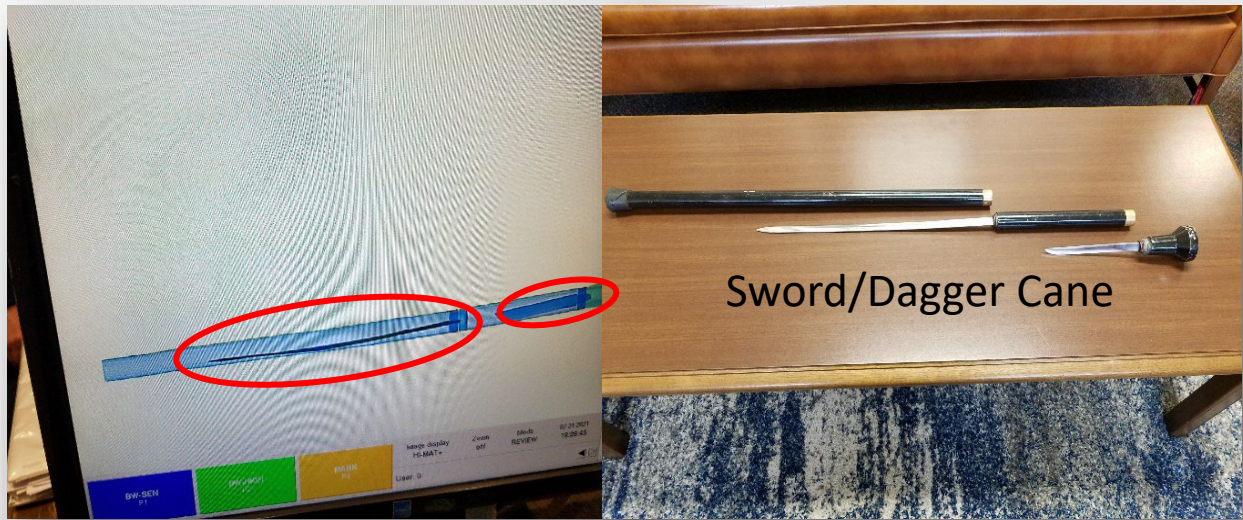
Threat on Judges:

- In 2022, District Court Security assisted local law enforcement with 7 credible threats on District Court judges.

Contraband Seizures:

- 2017 – 2019 (pre-pandemic)
 - Knives: 7,364
 - OC Spray: 1,595
 - Firearms: 333
 - Other Contraband: 5,366
- 2020 - 2022 (pandemic)
 - Knives: 5,036
 - OC Spray: 2,475
 - Firearms: 116
 - Other Contraband: 2,682

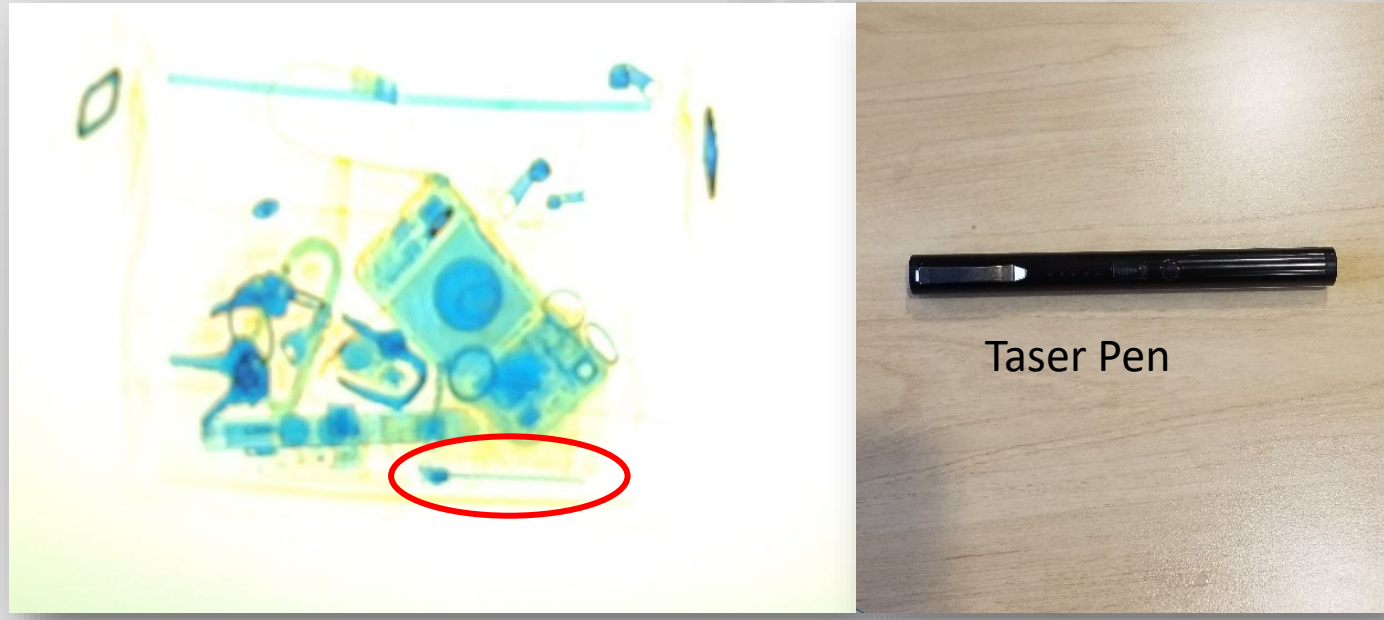
Weapons Confiscated By District Court Bailiffs



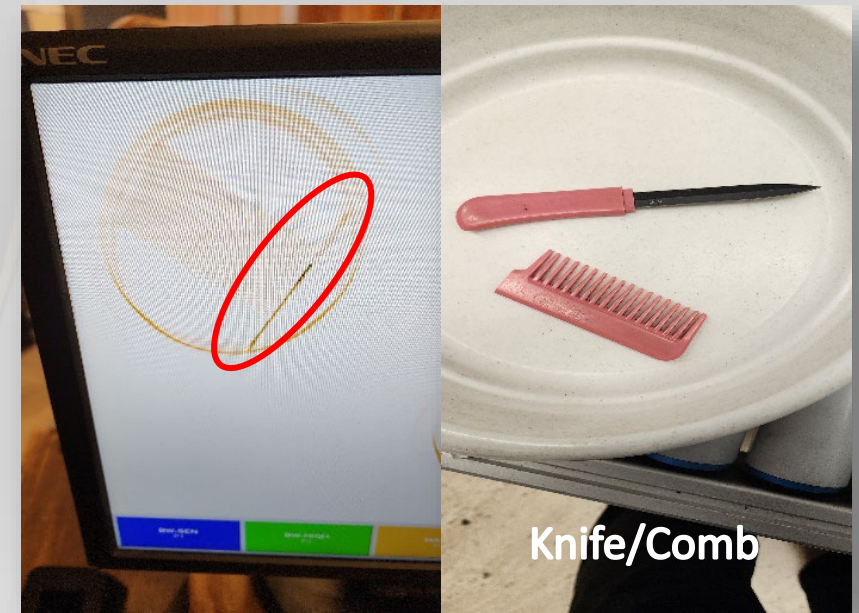
ESSEX DISTRICT COURT – Baltimore County



CIVIL DISTRICT COURT – Baltimore City



SILVER SPRING DISTRICT COURT – Montgomery County



CIVIL DISTRICT COURT – Baltimore City

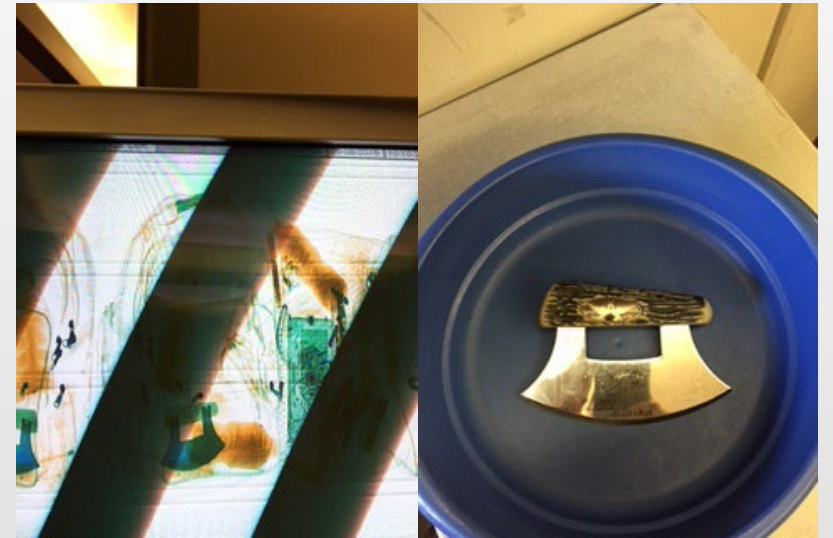
Weapons Confiscated By District Court Bailiffs



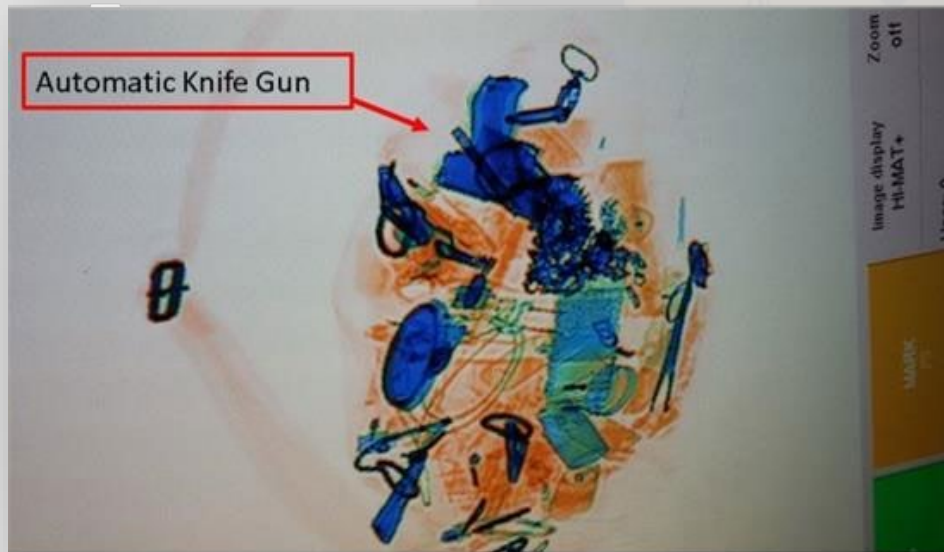
ELKTON DISTRICT COURT – Cecil County



EASTSIDE DISTRICT COURT – Baltimore City

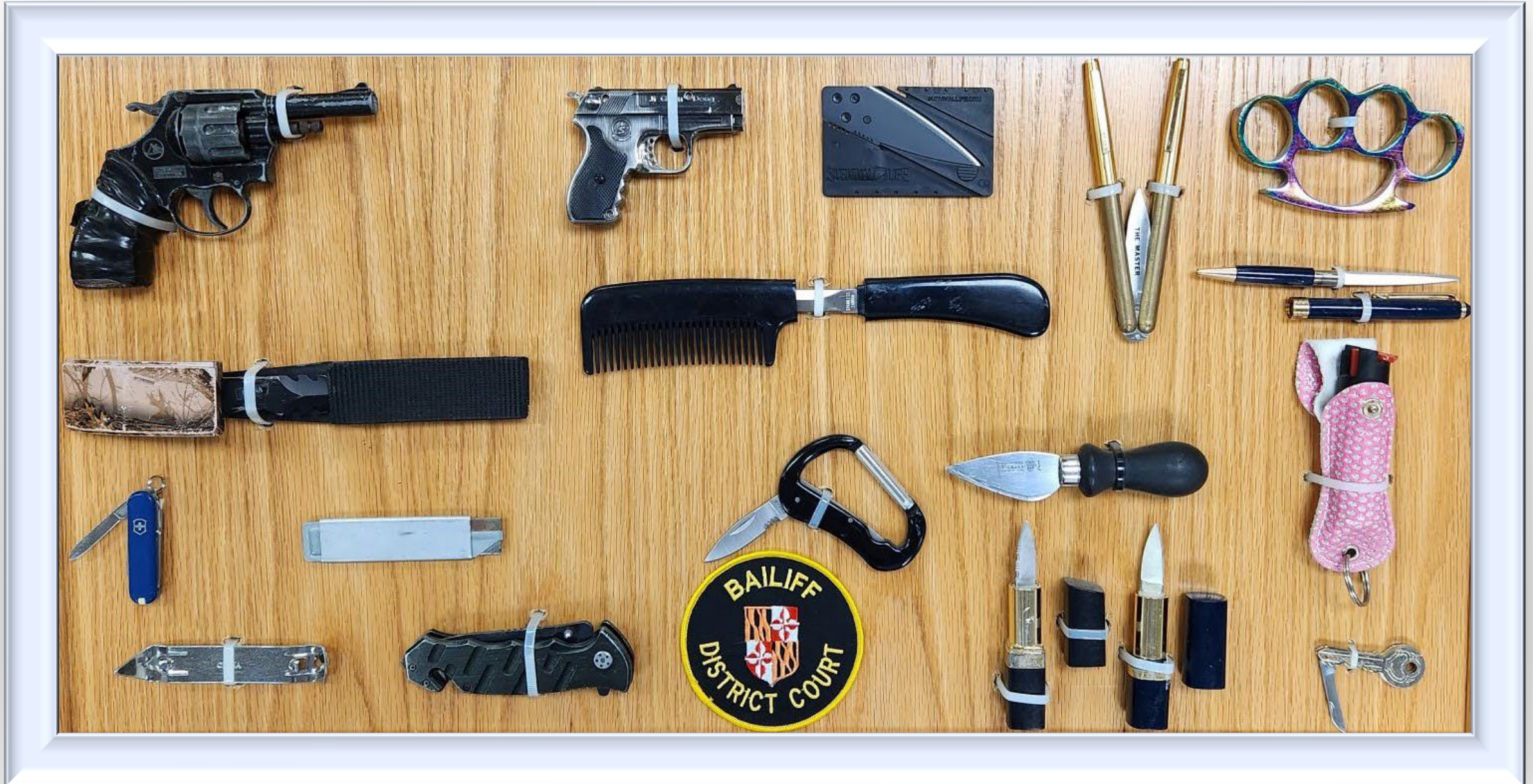


HARGROVE DISTRICT COURT – Baltimore City



BEL AIR DISTRICT COURT – Harford County

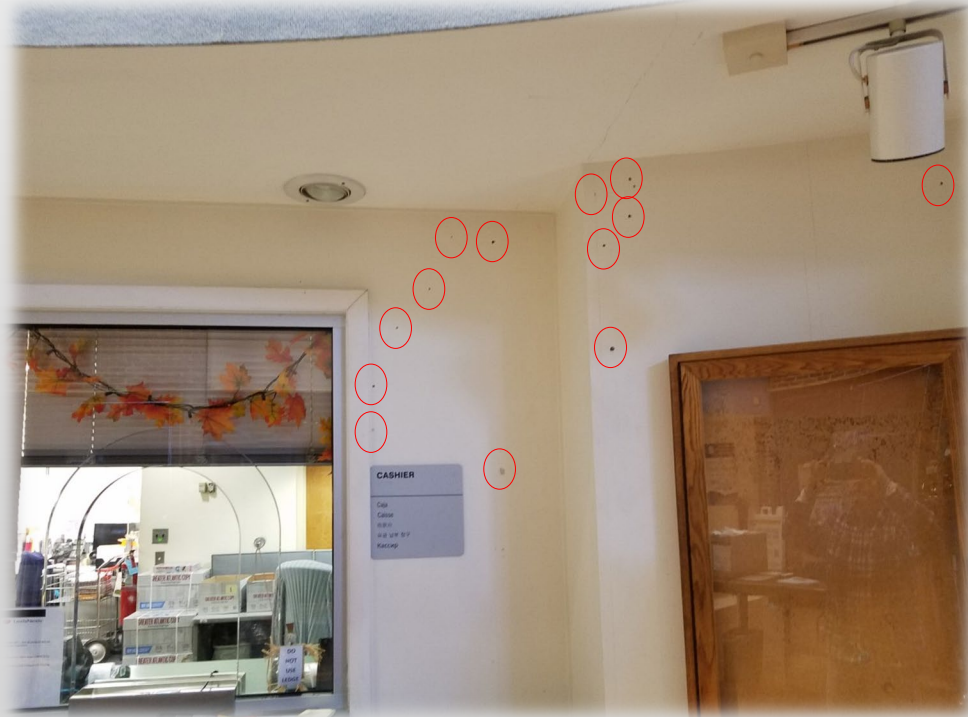
Weapons Confiscated By District Court Bailiffs



Essex District Court Shooting

Baltimore County

November 20, 2021



**Catonsville District Court
Baltimore County
Molotov Cocktail Attack
April 5, 2022**



SB0221 - MSBA Support Letter (2023.02.08).docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Shaoli Katana

Position: FAV



MSBA Main Office
520 West Fayette Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-685-7878 | msba.org

Annapolis Office
200 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-269-6464 | msba.org

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

From: Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA)
Shaoli Katana, Esq., Advocacy Director

Subject: Senate Bill 221 - Court Officials - Public Disclosure of Personal Information

Date: February 8, 2023

Position: Support

The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) supports **Senate Bill 221 - Court Officials - Public Disclosure of Personal Information**. SB 211 authorizes certain judges and prosecutors and certain immediate family members to make a written request that certain personal information be removed from the Internet or from certain other publications; requires a person who receives a request under the Act to remove the information within 72 hours; and prohibits the inspection without permission of public records containing the home address or telephone number of certain current and former judges and prosecutors.

The MSBA represents more attorneys and judges than any other organization across the State in all practice areas. MSBA serves as the voice of Maryland's legal profession. Through its Laws Committee and various practice-specific sections, MSBA monitors and takes positions on legislation of importance to the legal profession.

The MSBA strongly supports the updated version of the bill provided by the Judiciary. Enhancing judicial security is critical to the MSBA and the entire legal profession. SB 221 would not only protect the safety of judges and their families, but also preserve judicial integrity and independence, allowing judges to make decisions without fear of

harmful recourse. The bill provides a practical, straightforward approach to enhance judicial safety, without being overly burdensome to implement, as the bill limits “personal information” to home addresses and unpublished telephone numbers posted on the Internet by state or local governments or by private parties. The bill provides a reasonable process to permit judges who qualify as “protected individuals” to request the sensitive information be taken down.

SB 211 will improve the safety and security of current and retired judges, as ongoing violent and tragic threats and attacks affect judges around the country. This would follow recently-enacted federal legislation and similar bills in other states to protect this population. The bill is also critically important for future recruitment and retention of judges in Maryland, so they can safely seek judgeships and fulfill their obligations without fear of retribution.

For the reasons stated above, MSBA supports SB 221 and respectfully requests a favorable report. For additional information, please feel free to contact Shaoli Katana at MSBA at shaoli@msba.org.