

**SB0962 Real Property - Contracts of Sale - Title Report Requirement**  
**Judicial Proceedings – March 7, 2024**  
**Sponsor: Senator Justin Ready**  
**Position: Favorable with Amendments**

**Testimony of Scott Poyer, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Anne Arundel County**

Thank you, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the committee, for this opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 962. For the record, my name is Scott Poyer, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. I am also testifying on behalf of the Circuit Court Clerks' Association, representing the 24 elected Clerks throughout the State of Maryland.

The Clerks of the Circuit Court have reviewed the bill and met with the sponsor to recommend amendments for consideration. The Clerks believe it is important to do more to prevent property fraud, which is becoming a growing problem in Maryland and nationally. To this end we have recommended amendments to form a property fraud prevention task force to coordinate efforts among the many parties involved in this issue.

With the recommended amendments the clerks ask for a favorable report on SB 962. Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and I am available if you have any questions.