

**Chief Judge DeLawrence Beard**

was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 1984 after serving two years on the District Court of Maryland. Previously, Judge Beard served as both a senior assistant state's attorney in Montgomery County and the county's Public Defender.

With his extensive experience and judicial demeanor, Judge Beard is widely recognized as a respected jurist. In addition to his judicial duties, Judge Beard is a lecturer and adjunct law professor at the University of Maryland University

College and The Washington College of Law of the American University. He also serves on the Morgan State University Board of Regents.

Judge Beard started working at the age of 14. After a stint in the United States Navy, Judge Beard worked his way through the University of Missouri and the University of Baltimore Law School. He earned his Masters of Law degree from Georgetown University.

Away from the courtroom, Judge Beard and his wife, Dr. Lillian Beard, are strong supporters of the arts across the region and in Montgomery County. Judge Beard has also served on the boards of numerous organizations and charities including the Children's Hospital Center and National Medical Center.



Judge John W. Debelius was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 2001. His distinguished legal career spans more than 20 years of handling cases in private practice including personal injury, real estate, domestic relations and criminal defense.

A noted lecturer and leader, Judge Debelius has taught numerous legal seminars and served as a leader in several legal organizations including the American Bar Association, Maryland State Bar Association,

the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association and the Montgomery County Bar Association.

A graduate of Richard Montgomery High School in Rockville, the California State University at Northridge and the University of Baltimore School of Law, Judge Debelius worked his way through college as school bus driver and a construction laborer. Judge Debelius is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys sailing, kayaking and running. His wife, Sarah, is a speech pathologist and teacher at Dr. Martin Luther King Middle School in Germantown. They have three children.

Judge Debelius is also an active volunteer and has served such worthy organizations as the Lord's Table Soup Kitchen, the Gaithersburg Community Advisory Board on Homelessness, the Wells-Robertson House, Boy Scouts of America and the Lions Club.

Independent, Tested and Proven.

**Judge Joseph A. Dugan, Jr.**

was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 2002. Working as a prosecutor, public defender and private practitioner for more than 26 years, Judge Dugan brings experience to the bench from every aspect of the legal profession. His areas of specialty include criminal, civil and family litigation.

Given the highest rating legally and ethically by his peers, Judge Dugan served on both the Judicial Nominating Commission and Character Committee of the Court of Appeals.

Judge Dugan has lectured Maryland Assistant State's Attorneys on criminal trial practice and has lectured at both local and national child support enforcement conferences on trial practice. The father of four children, Judge Dugan spent years coaching youth sports in Montgomery County including baseball, basketball and football.

Judge Dugan is married to Kay, who is a second grade teacher at Burnt Mills Elementary School. Judge Dugan's father and sister, Mary Margaret, had a pediatric practice in Rockville for more than 38 years.

Judge Dugan is a graduate of St. John's High School, the University of Notre Dame and Georgetown University Law School.

Possessing a strong work ethic, Judge Dugan worked his way through law school as a salesman, waiter and law clerk. Judge Dugan also served as a Captain in the United States Army.



Judge Eric Johnson was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 2000 after serving four years as a Maryland District Court Judge.

Judge Johnson's background includes tremendous experience with every facet of the criminal justice system as police officer, prosecutor and criminal defense attorney. While in private practice, Judge Johnson also practiced in family law, estate law, administrative law and corporate law. He has also taught criminal law courses at the University of Maryland University College.

A Washington, D.C. native, Judge Johnson worked as a Montgomery County police officer while studying at the University of Maryland for college and law school. Judge Johnson also served in the United States Navy and Navy Reserve.

An accomplished athlete, Judge Johnson excels at weightlifting and won the 1989 World Championship International Law Enforcement Olympics in Sidney, Australia.

Judge Johnson's wife, Alice, is a guidance counselor at Quince Orchard High School and they have one daughter.

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Judge William J. Rowan III was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 2000.

During his 36-year career as an attorney, Judge Rowan attained the highest industry ranking possible, was twice recognized as one of the best lawyers in Maryland, and was named a fellow of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers, composed of the top 1 percent of the nation's trial lawyers.

In private practice, Judge Rowan specialized in both civil and criminal litigation including personal injury cases, insurance defense and business litigation.

In addition to his law practice, Judge Rowan also served as counsel to the Montgomery County Legislative Delegation. He served on the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Bar Association and Maryland State Bar Association, as president of the Gonzaga High School Alumni Association and as president of the Metropolitan Catholic Youth Organization.

A Montgomery County native, Judge Rowan graduated from Gonzaga High School and attended the University of Detroit for his undergraduate degree on a football scholarship. He received his law degree from Georgetown University Law School.

Judge Rowan and his wife of 40 years, Ann Marie, have three sons. She is a math teacher at Georgetown Visitation High School.



Judge Ann N. Sundt was appointed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court in 2000 after serving for seven years as a Domestic Relations Master for the Court.

In private practice, Judge Sundt concentrated in family law and was recognized as one of the foremost experts on domestic relations and family law in the region. And she was named one of the best lawyers in America in 1993.

Judge Sundt was part of the committee that established the procedures that govern all current domestic cases in the Montgomery

County Circuit Court. This system has become a model for other counties around the state. A frequent lecturer and panelist, Judge Sundt teaches family law classes for other state judges at the Judicial Institute in Annapolis.

She is one of the founders of the Divorce Roundtable, a collaboration of lawyers, mental health providers and mediators, whose goal has been to lessen the destructive effect of separation and divorce on Maryland families.

Born to medical missionary parents in China, Judge Sundt grew up in Hunan Province and learned to speak Chinese. She has lived in the County for 35 years and was an English teacher for 20 years.

Judge Sundt is a graduate of Oberlin College and a cum laude graduate of the Georgetown University Law School. Judge Sundt and her husband of 44 years, Edwin, have three daughters and five grandchildren.

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Vote for All 6 Judges on Tuesday, September 10, 2002.**

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Democratic and Republican State Central Committees of Montgomery County and the **Maryland State**
Our **community** should be **united** behind these **Judges** and this important principle. In fact, the
They have served our community and our state extremely well since their appointment.
The **well-qualified** and **distinguished Judges** seeking retention this year need and deserve our support.
We expect and want no less from our judicial system.

that our **Judges** have the **highest quality of character, integrity, judicial temperament and education.**
The selection of **Judges** by **merit** instead of political popularity protects our community and **guarantees**
only after these men and women have subjected themselves to rigorous scrutiny and examination.
most qualified Judges on the bench. Under this principle, the governor appoints our Circuit Court Judges
For more than 40 years, the **“Sitting Judge Principle”** has ensured that Montgomery County has only the

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Committee to Retain the Sitting Judges
31 Wood Lane, Rockville, MD 20850

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*By Authority: William T. Wood, Treasurer
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Tuesday, September 10, 2002.**

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Beard ■ Debelius ■ Dugan ■ Johnson ■ Rowan ■ Sundt

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