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Forum Faces: The Honorable Glenn T. Harrell, Jr.

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The Honorable Glenn T. Harrell, Jr., the newest member of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1970. Prior to his appointment to Maryland's highest court, Judge Harrell served on the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland for eight years, during which time he authored over 900 opinions. He also teaches legal writing as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Baltimore School of Law.

Judge Harrell began his legal career as an Associate County Attorney for Prince George's County, where he practiced for two years and his responsibilities included counsel to the Prince George's County Council, acting in its zoning capacity, and civil legal advisor to the Prince George's County Police Department and Health Department. Judge Harrell was the Deputy Managing Partner at O'Malley, Miles & Harrell (now O'Malley, Miles, Nylen & Gilmore) prior to his appointment to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland. Judge Harrell joined the Prince George's County based law firm in 1973 and focused his practice on administrative law, with an emphasis on matters relating to the development of real property, such as zoning, public utilities, permits, subdivisions, legislation, licenses, and regulation. Judge Harrell also served as a contractual hearing examiner for the Maryland State Board of Education, on the Board of Directors of the Prince George's County Bar Association, as the President of the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce, and as the Chair of the Prince George's County United Way Campaign.



Judge Harrell is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association, and is Co-Chair of the Appellate Practice Committee, Litigation Section. He also serves on the Adminstrative Law Sections Council. Judge Harrell is also a member of the Prince George's County Bar Association, and on the Advisory Board for the Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County, Inc.

Judge Harrell is regarded by Maryland's legal community as a hard-worker with a sharp legal mind, but with a well-developed sense of humor. Judge Harrell takes the law very seriously, but is said never to take himself too seriously. Judge Harrell's chamber's decorations include a judicial "wheel of fortune," which can spin to "Reverse," "Affirm," or "Dismiss," and a wall-mounted Monty Python's Gumby Man print announcing "My brain hurts." Judge Harrell regards humor as an essential part of everyday life and agrees with the words of Jimmy Buffett, "If we couldn't laugh, we'd all go insane."

Judge Harrell has lived in Prince George's County for over 30 years and currently resides in the déclassé suburbs of Upper Marlboro with his wife of 32 years, Pamela. Judge Harrell and his wife also have two chronologically adult sons.

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