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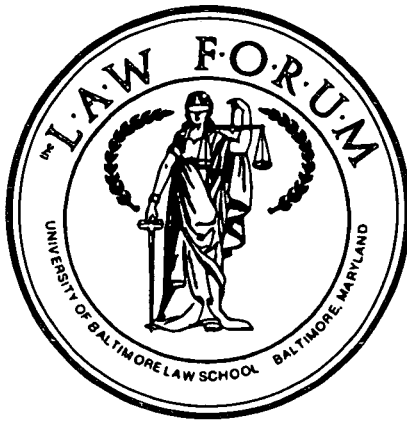
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University of Baltimore School of Law

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As the academic year 1993-94 comes to a close, I am pleased to report that this has been a year of impressive progress at the School of Law. We have strengthened the faculty by the appointment of two outstanding individuals to the tenure-track faculty -- Assistant Professor Jose Anderson (who has been a visiting faculty member this year), and Associate Professor Martin Geer, who will become Director of Clinical Programs and teach in the Civil Clinic. Our ability to serve our students has been greatly enhanced by the appointment in January of our first Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Tony Torain. In addition, in the Spring of 1995 the faculty will be enriched by the presence of our first Distinguished Visiting Professor, former Dean Betsy Levin. Dean Levin has served on the law faculties at Duke, North Carolina and American Universities, she has been Dean at the University of Colorado Law School and General Counsel of the Department of Education, and she served as Executive Director of the Association of American Law Schools from 1987 through 1992.



Our student body remains strong and active. This year the Student Bar Association, the Women's Bar Association, and the Black Law Students' Association have been very active in presenting a wide variety of programs and supporting a wide range of activities that benefit the entire Law School community. At the Law School Commencement exercises on May 23, we will celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 1994 that includes 297 J.D. recipients and 22 who will receive LL.M. degrees. Our featured commencement speakers will be Marian Wright Edelman, President of the Children's Defense Fund, and Peter D. Edelman, Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center and Counselor to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The School of Law has also benefitted greatly this year from the outstanding efforts of this year's Editorial Board of *The Law Forum*. Led by Karl Chen, the Board undertook the very substantial task of putting out five issues of *The Law Forum* in one year, and they accomplished their goal. Thanks to their long hours of hard work, *The Law Forum* is now essentially up to date on its publication schedule. On behalf of the entire Law School community, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Board and staff on its accomplishment.

John A. Sebert
Dean

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

This issue marks the end of my tenure as Editor-in-Chief. At the helm for our 25th Anniversary Volume will be Robert Schulte. We are excited about the ideas Mr. Schulte and his staff plan to implement in making *The Law Forum* an increasingly reliable legal journal. Best of luck to Mr. Schulte and staff.

The accolades we have received for the journal, is by no means solely on my efforts to bring *The Law Forum* to the recognition it truly deserves. Kudos to members of the Volume 24 staff, your acumen in writing, editing and researching legal issues have helped us create a publication that will be insightful to the legal practitioner. Special thanks to Maria Carey, Articles Editor, who solicited and promoted timely and thought-provoking articles which helped *The Law Forum* regain its prominence as a reputable legal journal. Thank you to John Oliveri, Managing Editor, who initiated the Maryland Legislation section, which will prove to be longstanding as we continue to serve the needs of the Maryland lawyer. Thank you to Julie Buchwald, Business Editor, in her efforts to regain the confidence of our advertisers.

By far, the most instrumental person responsible for the appearance, timeliness and accuracy of the journal is Bonnie Laakso, Manuscripts Editor. Ms. Laakso has committed to the attainment of our goals through her personal investment in becoming proficient in desktop publishing, while pursuing her interest as an equestrian and full-time law student. Thank you Ms. Laakso for your commitment and patience.

In this issue, The Honorable Marvin B. Steinberg with the assistance of Tracy K. Garapolo and Gloria A. Worch provide the guidelines under a "manifest necessity" standard for when a judge may act at his or her own discretion. *Sua Sponte* is an indepth article that aids the practitioner in determining when a trial judge may find the use of this discretionary tool appropriate. In *The Legal Response to Women "Survivors" of Child Sexual Abuse: Critical Considerations of Context*, graduating law student Alicia Pratz examines how repressed memories of child sexual abuse victims are viewed by the judicial system. Ms. Pratz further identifies how the National Organization for Women Legal Defense and Education Fund is at the forefront in bringing legal change to this disturbing phenomenon. The commentary, *Mazzone v. State: The Marital Privilege Unbound*, authored by Philip S. Jackson, Esquire reviews the 1993 case decided by the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland. *Mazzone* involved the use of wiretapped husband and wife communications subsequently admitted into evidence during a criminal trial.

Thank you for your continued support of *The Law Forum*.

Karl L. Chen
Editor-In-Chief