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Forum Faces: The Honorable Clayton Greene, Jr.

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THE HONORABLE CLAYTON GREENE, JR.

On January 22, 2004, the Honorable Clayton Greene, Jr., was sworn in as an Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland. Judge Greene's impressive professional career has encompassed private practice, as well as many years of dedicated public service to the citizens of Maryland.

As the newest member of the court, he represents the Fifth Appellate Circuit – Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties – and has been a citizen of Anne Arundel County for his entire life. He was born in Glen Burnie, Maryland, and attended Northeast High School in Pasadena, Maryland. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1973, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1976. He has been a member of the Maryland Bar since 1977.

Judge Greene began his law career as an Assistant County Solicitor for Anne Arundel County. For ten years, he practiced law as a solo practitioner. He also served as an Assistant Public Defender for Anne Arundel County from December 1978 to August 1985, and Deputy Public Defender for Anne Arundel County from September 1985 to March 1988.

In 1988, he was appointed, by Governor William Donald Schaefer, to the District Court of Maryland for Anne Arundel County, and served as an Associate Judge from March 1988 to December 1990. In December 1990, he was appointed Administrative Judge of the District Court of Maryland for Anne Arundel County, and served in that capacity until he was appointed Associate Judge of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County in October 1995 by Governor Parris N. Glendening. On November 7, 1996, he was appointed Administrative Judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit and Administrative Judge for the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court.

On January 4, 2002, he was appointed by Governor Parris N. Glendening to the position of Associate Judge on the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, and served in that capacity until his

appointment to the Court of Appeals of Maryland by Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., on January 22, 2004.

Reflecting upon his role as the newest member of the court, Judge Greene states, "the biggest challenge is budgeting my time. I am committed to the work of the court, committee work, community and family. It is not unusual for me to spend 12, 16 or 18 hours a day reading. I devote a lot of my time on the weekends to reading and writing. This past weekend, my only time outdoors was to pick up the newspapers! My goal, however, is to establish greater balancing of my workload, and reduce the reading and writing to no more than 6-to-8 hours a day. My ultimate goal is to devote a greater portion of every day to thinking."

Judge Greene offers the following advice to attorneys appearing before the court: "Know your case better than any member of the court. Your brief and oral argument combined should in essence persuade the ultimate opinion of the court. In other words, what you are telling us should be how we should write the opinion. This is no easy task, but it is a most effective approach to appellate advocacy. Second, remember that oral argument is a colloquy. Please do not turn it into a lecture."

Despite the demands of his job, Judge Greene remains active in educating young people in the area of law. He has served as an adjunct professor at Anne Arundel Community College in the paralegal studies, program and has participated in the Judicial Outreach Program, which provides assistance to students and organizations in Maryland. He also lectures at the Judicial Institute of Maryland.

Judge Greene's achievements and activities provide insight to his dedication to the legal system as a whole, and in particular, to the Maryland judiciary. He has served as a co-chairperson of the *Ad Hoc* Committee for Implementation of Family Law Division, and was a member of the Conference of Circuit Court Judges, the Circuit Court Judges' Association, and the Administrative Judges' Committee. He has served on the Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Practice and Procedure, and was a Sub-Committee member and Chairman of the District Court Sub-Committee from 1991 to 1995.

He has also actively participated in his community for many years as an assistant coach of the St. Jane Frances Clinic Soccer

League, and as coach and assistant basketball coach for Arthur Slade Regional Catholic School and the Severna Park Green Hornets, respectively. He has been a guest speaker for youth and senior citizens on Careers Day and Law Day, and has spoken in elementary and secondary schools in Anne Arundel County, Prince George's County, and Baltimore City on a variety of topics. Additionally, he has served as a Mock Trial Judge in a citizenship law-related education program, and has taught MICPEL trial advocacy courses. He is also active on an annual basis with the Military Youth Corp. Academy of Aberdeen, where he mentors young people.

Judge Greene is a member of the Anne Arundel County Bar Association, the Maryland State Bar Association, the District of Columbia Bar Association, and a former Barrister, American Inns of Court (Annapolis Chapter). Throughout his career, he has been admitted to practice law before the Court of Appeals of Maryland, the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, the United States Bankruptcy Court, and the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Many organizations have honored and recognized him throughout his career. In 1987, he received the Public Service Award from the University of Maryland, and in 1988, he received a Governor's Citation. One year later, he received the Civic Betterment Award from Frontiersmen's International, and in 1995, he received the Morris H. Blum Humanitarian Award. In 2002, he received the Distinguished Citizenship Award from the Mayor and City of Annapolis.

Upon his appointment to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, Judge Greene received an award from the Maryland Senate, the House of Delegates, and the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County for his appointment to the Court of Special Appeals, and in 2002, he received an award from the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County in recognition of his service as a judge to the citizens of Maryland.

In his spare time, Judge Greene enjoys playing tennis, basketball, alto-saxophone, and the clarinet.