



## University of Baltimore Law Forum

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# UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE LAW FORUM

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**VOLUME 53**

**FALL 2022**

**NUMBER 1**

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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To the Maryland Legal Community:

Since its founding in 1970, the *University of Baltimore Law Forum* has devoted itself to providing the Maryland Legal Community with a resource for evolving legal issues in Maryland. This issue represents *Law Forum's* commitment to preserving this fifty-year legacy of providing readers with thought-provoking and informative pieces.

Volume 53.1 opens with an article written by Justice John G. Browning. In this article, he discusses the decades-long battle to integrate the Maryland bar—highlighting the historic achievements of prominent Black lawyers from Maryland and those who were denied admission to the bar based solely on racial grounds. The article further calls for the posthumous admission to the Maryland Bar of Edward Garrison Draper to duly recognize him as Maryland's first Black lawyer. The second article is written by R. Stark Merrifield IV, and explores the constitutionality of Baltimore City's local hiring ordinance. In analyzing seminal case law and local hiring laws throughout the United States, this article considers whether the ordinance would withstand a challenge under either the Privileges and Immunities Clause or Commerce Clause.

Also included are two student comments selected for publication by the *Law Forum* Volume 52 Executive Board. The first student comment, written by Olga Petrovskikh, analyzes how Maryland child abuse and neglect laws can address the parental denial of and interference with treatment for a child's gender dysphoria. The second comment, written by Chelsea Roberts, discusses the Maryland Use of Force Statute enacted in 2022. This comment examines case law surrounding police excessive force and the statute's legislative history to determine the intended meaning behind vague terms contained in the statute. Finally, included are six recent development pieces which interpret recent decisions made by Maryland's highest appellate court.

This publication reflects the hard work and commitment of our Editorial Board, Associate Editors, and Staff Editors. I want to thank the entire *Law Forum* Staff for their diligence, versatility, and creativity throughout the production process. I also want to recognize our Faculty Advisor, Professor Sheldon Lyke, and the Assistant Dean of Academic and Writing Support, Dean Claudia Diamond, for their guidance and support. On behalf of *Law Forum*, we thank you, our readers, for your continued interest in our publication.

Sincerely,  
Chelsea Roberts  
Editor-in-Chief  
University of Baltimore Law Forum - Vol. 53, No. 1

Member, National Conference of Law Reviews

**UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE LAW FORUM**

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