

# Commission on the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children

## Ex-Officio Members



*The Attorney General*

**Anthony G. Brown**  
Attorney General of Maryland, Chair



*The Attorney General's Designee*

**Zenita Wickham Hurley**  
Deputy Attorney General of Maryland, Chair's Designee



*One member appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland*

**Senator William C. Smith, Jr.**  
Commissioner



*One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates*

**Delegate Jeffrie E. Long, Jr.**  
Commissioner



*The Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, or the Director's designee*

**Elizabeth Hughes**  
Director, Commissioner



*The Secretary of Veterans and Military Families, or the Secretary's designee*

**Jimmy Anderson**  
Deputy Secretary, Commissioner

## Ex-Officio Members



*The Chair of the Prince George's County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, or the Chair's designee*

**Amelia Chisholm**

Archeology Planner II, Prince George's County Planning Department, Commissioner



*The Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee*

**Tiana Davis**

Executive Director of Office of Equity and Inclusion, Commissioner



*The Chief Archaeologist of the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration, or the Chief Archaeologist's designee*

**Steve Archer**

Division Chief - Program Manager, Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, Commissioner



*The State Archivist, or the State Archivist's designee*

**Elaine Rice Bachmann**

State Archivist, Commissioner



*The Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee*

**NaShona Kess**

Deputy Director of Government and Legislative Affairs, Commissioner



*The Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, or the Chair's designee*

**Dr. Kali-Ahset Amen**

Chair, Commissioner



*The Executive Director of the Gibson-Banks Center for Race and Law at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, or the Executive Director's designee*

**Prof. Michael Pinard**

Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law, The Honorable William H. Murphy Jr., Faculty Director, Gibson-Banks Center for Race & the Law, and Director, Clinical Law Program, Commissioner

## Ex-Officio Members

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <i>The Prince George's County Executive, or the County Executive's designee</i> | <b>The Honorable Aisha Braveboy</b><br>County Executive, Prince George's County, Commissioner                                               |
|  | <i>The Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee</i>             | <b>Gloria Brown Burnett</b><br>Deputy Secretary for Operations, Commissioner                                                                |
|  | <i>The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee</i>    | <b>Peter Ramsey</b><br>Director of Social Studies, Division of Instructional Programs, Maryland State Department of Education, Commissioner |

## Public Members

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <i>One descendant of a child buried at the site, a former resident of the House of Reformation, or a former justice-involved youth</i> | <b>Phyllis Hammond</b><br>Niece of Amos Hammond, Resident of the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children, Commissioner           |
|  | <i>One academic expert in forensic anthropology, archaeology, African American history, or other related disciplines</i>               | <b>Siobhan Summers, Ph.D.</b><br>Faculty Specialist, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park, Commissioner                |
|  | <i>One representative from a historically Black college or university in the State</i>                                                 | <b>David Taft Terry, Ph.D.</b><br>Associate Professor, Department of History, Geography, and Museum Studies, Morgan State University, Commissioner |

## Public Members

|                                                                                   |                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <i>One representative from a civil rights organization</i>                     | <b>Erica B. Fields</b><br>Data and Systems Manager, CDF Freedom Schools®, Children's Defense Fund, Commissioner                                         |
|  | <i>Two individuals with experience in civil rights advocacy and litigation</i> | <b>Mary Ann Scali</b><br>Executive Director, The Gault Center, Commissioner                                                                             |
|  | <i>Two individuals with experience in civil rights advocacy and litigation</i> | <b>Justin Hansford</b><br>Professor of Law and Executive Director, Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center, Howard University School of Law, Commissioner |

## Advisory Members

|                                                                                     |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <i>Advisory Member</i> | <b>Katherine Ahlrichs, Ph.D.</b><br>Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, Towson University                                                                                 |
|  | <i>Advisory Member</i> | <b>Michael L. Blakey, Ph.D.</b><br>National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of Anthropology, Africana Studies, and American Studies; Director of the Institute for Historical Biology, College of William & Mary |
|  | <i>Advisory Member</i> | <b>Halim Flowers</b><br>Founder of Artonomics                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Advisory Members



*Advisory Member*

**Erin Kimmerle, Ph.D.**

Founder and Executive Director, Florida Institute for Forensic Anthropology & Applied Sciences



*Advisory Member*

**Isaac Shearn, Ph.D.**

Senior Lecturer, Department of Applied Social and Political Science, Coppin State University



*Advisory Member*

**Heather Warnken**

Executive Director, Center for Criminal Justice Reform, University of Baltimore School of Law



*Advisory Member*

**Linda F. Gorham, Ph.D., MDiv**

Licensed Psychologist, Family member of a Resident of the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children



*Advisory Member*

**James L. Dold**

CEO & Founder, Human Rights for Kids



*Advisory Member*

**Dorothy Givens**

Family member of a Resident of the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children



*Advisory Member*

**Julie Schablitsky, Ph.D.**

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park

# Commission on the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children

## Commissioner and Advisory Member Biographies

### Ex Officio Members

#### **Anthony G. Brown**

*The Attorney General — Attorney General of Maryland, Chair*

Anthony G. Brown assumed office as Maryland's 47th Attorney General on January 3, 2023, the first African American to hold the position in Maryland's history. Previously, Attorney General Brown represented the 4th Congressional District from 2017 to 2023, served as Maryland Lieutenant Governor from 2007 to 2015, and served in the Maryland House of Delegates as Vice Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and Majority Whip from 1999 to 2007.

Since taking office, Attorney General Brown established the Office of Equity, Policy, and Engagement, a first for the Attorney General's office, to focus on strategies, initiatives, policies, and practices that will promote equity and fairness in Maryland's civil, criminal, and administrative systems of justice. In 2023, Attorney General Brown successfully advocated for the passage of legislation creating a Civil Rights Division, expanding the Independent Investigations Division's prosecutorial authority, and establishing a permanent Commission on Hate Crimes Response and Prevention. In October 2023, Attorney General Brown partnered with Maryland Public Defender Natasha Dartigue to create the Maryland Equitable Justice Collaborative (MEJC), a first-of-its-kind initiative dedicated to reducing mass incarceration and the disparate incarceration of African Americans and other marginalized groups in Maryland prisons and jails, with a goal of examining the scope and causes of this crisis and developing a data-driven approach to addressing it.

With a longstanding commitment to improving the lives of all Marylanders, Attorney General Brown's priority has always been justice and equity. As Lieutenant Governor, he advocated for the repeal of the death penalty, decriminalization of cannabis, expansion of record expungements, stringent background checks and training requirements for gun sales, and banning of large-capacity magazines and certain assault rifles. In Congress, Attorney General Brown again championed common-sense gun safety laws, measures to expand access to the ballot, the health of the Chesapeake Bay, and the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community, and was a lead sponsor on the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. He worked in the General Assembly and in Congress to expand protections for victims of domestic violence, abused and neglected children, and veterans with unmet mental and behavioral health needs.

Attorney General Brown received a bachelor's degree from Harvard College and a law degree from Harvard Law School. After clerking at the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, he was an associate attorney in the litigation, securities enforcement, and investment management groups at WilmerHale, litigating against big tobacco and representing small businesses whose innovative technology was stolen by large corporations. He also demonstrated a commitment to pro bono service, including representing victims of sexual harassment in the workplace, children in need of assistance, and indigent clients unable to afford a lawyer, and practiced land use and zoning law with the firm Gibbs and Haller while serving in the House of Delegates.

A retired Colonel in the Army Reserve, Attorney General Brown served three decades as an aviator and Judge Advocate General, graduating first in his flight class and earning both Airborne and Air Assault qualifications. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for his distinguished military service and earned the Bronze Star while deployed to Iraq from 2004 to 2005, completing his military service commanding the 153rd Legal Support Organization. He has served as Board Chair of Prince George's Community College and as a board member of the Community Legal Services of Prince George's County and the nonprofit Adoptions Together, and has been a member of the Maryland State Bar Association since 1994.

## **Zenita Wickham Hurley**

*The Attorney General's Designee — Deputy Attorney General of Maryland, Chair's Designee*

Zenita Wickham Hurley is a Deputy Attorney General in the Maryland Office of the Attorney General (OAG), where she leads the Office of Equity, Policy, and Engagement and oversees legal teams advancing the State's economic mobility and civic engagement work. Since joining the OAG in 2015, she has led multidisciplinary teams across criminal justice reform, social justice, and economic parity, including the Maryland Equitable Justice Collaborative, the Commission on Hate Crime Response and Prevention, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) Audit, and the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Committee. She also staffed the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission and currently represents the Attorney General on the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission and the Maryland Procurement Improvement Council.

Before joining the OAG, Ms. Hurley served as Special Secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (2012-2015) and as Director of the Office of Minority Business Enterprise at the Maryland Department of Transportation (2007-2012), overseeing the State's MBE and federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise programs. She began her state service in 2005 as an Assistant Attorney General at MDOT and previously practiced at Baltimore's Legal Aid Bureau and Steptoe & Johnson LLP. A magna cum laude graduate of the University of Maryland, she earned her J.D. from New York University School of Law as a Root-Tilden-Kern Public Interest Scholar and lives in Baltimore County with her husband and three children.

## **Senator William C. Smith, Jr.**

*One member appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland — Commissioner*

William C. Smith Jr. was born and raised in Silver Spring, Maryland. His parents were young adults during the height of the civil rights movement. It was their struggle and sacrifice that opened doors of opportunity for Will. His parents taught him the importance of a good education and showed him the benefit of living in a caring, engaged community. With the support of his family, Will became a first-generation college student when he attended and graduated from the College of William and Mary. He would go on to earn a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University and a law degree from William and Mary.

After college, Will enrolled in AmeriCorps where he worked as a community engagement leader for IMPACT Silver Spring and worked at the ACLU as a Legislative Assistant. During law school Will worked at a law firm handling employment discrimination cases and sought a commission as an officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve, a position in which Will continues to serve today.

In 2010, Will received a White House appointment to serve as a Director at the Department of Homeland Security under President Barack Obama.

In 2014, Will was elected to represent District 20 in the Maryland House of Delegates. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, Will served on the criminal justice and family law subcommittee. Along with these roles, Will was a member of several key workgroups including Justice Reinvestment, Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights and Death with Dignity.

In 2016, Will was appointed to represent District 20 in the Maryland State Senate, making him the first African American Senator from Montgomery County. In the Senate, Will has worked to forge relationships with his colleagues from across the state and political spectrum, which has allowed him to become an effective legislator in Annapolis.

In 2019, Will became the 50th Chairman of the Judicial Proceedings Committee. He is the first African American to hold that post. As Chairman, Will has championed robust criminal justice reform measures and has led efforts to provide economic and educational opportunities for all Marylanders.

Today, Will continues to practice law. His practice focuses on national security and employment discrimination. Will lives in Silver Spring with his wife, Camille, and daughters, Jacqueline and Isabelle.

## **Delegate Jeffrie E. Long, Jr.**

*One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates — Commissioner*

Delegate Jeffrie Eugene Long Jr. represents District 27B in the Maryland House of Delegates, serving communities across Prince George's and Calvert Counties. A proud native of Southern Maryland, Delegate Long was raised in a spiritually grounded household that believed in service, dignity, and the power of community. From an early age, he developed a deep commitment to advocacy and public service, principles that continue to shape his leadership today.

In the General Assembly, Delegate Long serves on the House Environment and Transportation Committee, where he actively contributes to the Public Utilities, Natural Resources and Open Space, and Transportation subcommittees. He also serves as Chaplain of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland and as the newly elected Vice Chair of the Southern Maryland Delegation. Known for his strong community presence and collaborative leadership style, Delegate Long has built a reputation as an accessible and passionate advocate for the residents of Southern Maryland.

Delegate Long is a vocal advocate for voting rights, housing justice, criminal justice reform, and equitable economic investment throughout the region. Since taking office, he has sponsored more than 10 bills now signed into law, led the effort to restore the abandoned Cheltenham burial ground honoring more than 230 Black boys buried while incarcerated, and helped secure millions of dollars in capital funding for projects benefiting Southern Maryland communities. Through his work in Annapolis and throughout the district, Delegate Long continues focusing on creating opportunities, preserving history, and ensuring every resident has a voice in shaping Maryland's future.

## **Elizabeth Hughes**

*The Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, or the Director's designee — Director, Commissioner*

Elizabeth Hughes serves as the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer and Director of the Maryland Historical Trust. In this capacity, she oversees development of program policy and legislation and oversight of all Trust programs, including the work of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.

Ms. Hughes earned her master's degree in Architectural History from the University of Virginia in 1992 and her bachelor's degree in American Studies from Georgetown University in 1988.

Ms. Hughes served for sixteen years on the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) Board, acting as president for two terms. During her term as president, she represented NCSHPO on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. She is currently a member of the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, the Maryland Public Art Commission, and the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She also serves on the Board of Visitors for the University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

## **Jimmy Anderson**

*The Secretary of Veterans and Military Families, or the Secretary's designee — Deputy Secretary, Commissioner*

James "Jimmy" Anderson brings a career shaped by military service, national security, veterans advocacy, and public service to his role as Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families. His commitment to service began in childhood, shaped by stories of his grandfather's service in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the Pacific during World War II, and by parents who taught him resilience, responsibility, and the importance of helping others.

Anderson began his Air Force career as an enlisted Airman in aircraft maintenance before commissioning as an Intelligence Officer. Over more than 15 years in uniform on active duty and in the reserve, he has served in tactical, operational, and staff roles across the Air Force Intelligence enterprise, including a deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He continues to serve in the Air Force Reserve at Headquarters Air Force, where his assignments have included Strategic Analyst for Joint Cyber Effects and Branch Chief for Intelligence collections.

Anderson served as the Senior Advisor for Veterans and Military Family Engagement at the White House under President Biden, where he led national outreach and engagement to veterans and military-connected organizations and played an integral role in the Administration's efforts surrounding the passage of the PACT Act. He previously served as Deputy White House Liaison and Special Advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, advancing interagency coordination, enterprise modernization, and policy and political appointment personnel efforts.

In the private sector, Anderson was an Associate Partner at IBM Consulting, where he led client growth and enterprise strategy for a \$370 million portfolio advancing digital modernization, healthcare transformation, and workforce innovation, and launched a national partnership series connecting IBM with nonprofit organizations supporting military families and the broader veteran community.

Anderson's academic background includes selection as a Fulbright Scholar to Canada and service as a Visiting Fellow with the Centre for International and Defence Policy. He is a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has held fellowships with the Center for a New American Security and the Truman National Security Project. He holds degrees from Queen's University, American University, and the University of South Carolina, and is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

As Deputy Secretary, Anderson oversees Maryland's statewide veterans service and benefits program, cemeteries, memorial affairs, intergovernmental relations, and legislative affairs, focused on advancing a coordinated, modern, and compassionate system of support for every veteran, service member, and military family in Maryland. He lives in Montgomery County with his wife and children.

## **Amelia Chisholm**

*The Chair of the Prince George's County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, or the Chair's designee — Archeology Planner II, Prince George's County Planning Department, Commissioner*

Amelia Chisholm is an archeologist with over 20 years of experience working across the Mid-Atlantic with a specific focus on African Diasporic research and plantation studies. She is currently an Archeology Planner II with The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County Planning Department. Since graduating from Mercyhurst College and the University of Maryland, College Park, Ms. Chisholm has worked in many aspects of the archeological profession and has experience in higher education, museum, nonprofit, governmental, and cultural resource management roles.

## **Tiana Davis**

*The Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee — Executive Director of Office of Equity and Inclusion, Commissioner*

Tiana Davis serves as Executive Director of the Office of Equity and Inclusion for the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (DJS). Her role is to operationalize principles of institutional fairness and equity in agency decision making, and to provide state-level oversight of equity initiatives statewide. The office includes family engagement, community and youth engagement, and victim services.

Tiana is a proud native of Baltimore and comes to DJS after serving as Policy Director of Equity and Diversion at the Center for Children's Law and Policy (CCLP). In this capacity, Tiana worked with national, state, and local leaders to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in the youth justice system. Prior to joining CCLP, Tiana served as the Director of Community Programming for the Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice in Baltimore City, Maryland. Prior to her time with the Mayor's Office, Tiana served as the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Coordinator for Baltimore County, where she worked intensively with a group of local stakeholders to address racial disparities in the juvenile justice system. Tiana earned a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Maryland and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

## **Steve Archer**

*The Chief Archaeologist of the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration, or the Chief Archaeologist's designee — Division Chief - Program Manager, MDOT SHA, Commissioner*

Steve Archer is the Chief for the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration's Historic Preservation Division, supporting SHA and other MDOT modes. The Historic Preservation Division ensures that transportation project planning takes Maryland's historic resources into account, working to avoid impacts and achieve positive preservation outcomes.

Steve has over thirty years of experience as an archaeologist, with degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of California at Berkeley. Prior to working in Maryland, Steve worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation. Outside of his MDOT responsibilities, Steve has worked since 2008 with survivor and descendant communities at the Amache National Historic Site in Colorado, documenting the archaeology of Japanese-American confinement during World War II.

## **Elaine Rice Bachmann**

*The State Archivist, or the State Archivist's designee — State Archivist, Commissioner*

Elaine Rice Bachmann was appointed Maryland State Archivist and Commissioner of Land Patents in July 2021. She is the first woman to serve in this role leading the State Archives, which is the historical agency of Maryland government and the central depository for records of permanent value from the founding of the colony in 1634 to the present day. Ms. Bachmann first joined the Archives staff in 1994 as curator of the Commission on Artistic Property, which manages the state-owned art collection. She served as Director of Artistic Property, as well as Deputy State Archivist, prior to her current appointment.

Ms. Bachmann graduated from Indiana University with a B.A. in Art History and received her M.A. from the University of Delaware Winterthur Program in Early American Culture. Her graduate thesis on Henry du Pont's role as Chair of Jacqueline Kennedy's Fine Arts Committee led to the publication of *Designing Camelot: The Kennedy White House Restoration*, published in 1997 and co-authored with James A. Abbott. In 2021, the White House Historical Association published a new edition of *Designing Camelot: The Kennedy White House Restoration and Its Legacy*. Ms. Bachmann is also the co-author, with Mimi Calver, of 'A Dwelling-House and Other Conveniences: The History of Maryland's Government House, published in 2018, as well as numerous articles about the history of Maryland's State House and the state-owned art collection.

## **NaShona Kess**

*The Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee — Deputy Director of Government and Legislative Affairs, Commissioner*

NaShona Kess, Esq. serves as the Deputy Director of Government and Legislative Affairs for the Maryland Department of General Services. A licensed attorney in Maryland and the District of Columbia, she holds a Master of Science in Legal Studies with a concentration in Government Policy. Ms. Kess has extensive experience in government relations, legislative advocacy, public policy, and civil rights, having testified on and managed legislation affecting a wide range of state and community interests. She is recognized for her leadership, coalition building, and commitment to advancing effective public service and equitable policy outcomes.

## **Dr. Kali-Ahset Amen**

*The Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, or the Chair's designee — Chair, Commissioner*

Kali-Ahset Amen, PhD serves as Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, where she provides governance oversight for statewide heritage programs, including a \$5 million annual grant initiative supporting the preservation and interpretation of African American historical sites. An independent state agency, the Commission's mandate also includes operation of the Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum, the official state museum of Maryland Black history and culture. Outside of her public service role, Dr. Amen has extensive experience building and leading civic, cultural, and educational

enterprises, including past executive roles at the Center for Journalism & Democracy at Howard University, the Billie Holiday Center for Liberation Arts at Johns Hopkins University, and the James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race at Emory University. A former sociology professor, Dr. Amen has lived and worked in Southern Africa and Central America, and has held fellowships and visiting research appointments at Yale, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University College London, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

## **Michael Pinard**

*The Executive Director of the Gibson-Banks Center for Race and Law at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, or the Executive Director's designee — Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law, The Honorable William H. Murphy Jr. Faculty Director, Gibson-Banks Center for Race & the Law, and Director, Clinical Law Program, Commissioner*

Michael Pinard is the Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law; the Honorable William H. Murphy Jr. Faculty Director of the Gibson-Banks Center for Race and the Law, which launched in October 2023; and director of the Clinical Law Program. Professor Pinard writes and teaches broadly about race, intersectionality, and the criminal legal system, including the criminalization of race, policing, incarceration, criminal records, exclusionary school discipline of K-12 students, and the intersectional harms of the criminal and civil legal systems. At the law school, he has taught courses including the Youth, Education, and Justice Clinic; Race and Decarceration in Maryland; the Reentry Clinic; Policing, Communities, and the Law; the Permanence of Criminal Records; Criminal Procedure; the Criminal Defense Clinic; and Comparative Criminal Process in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Professor Pinard has worked to improve the criminal legal system nationally and locally through legislative and policy advocacy, scholarship, opinion pieces, and participation in various working and advisory groups. He serves on the Maryland Equitable Justice Collaborative, a partnership led by the Office of the Attorney General and Office of the Public Defender focused on reducing incarceration in Maryland, and recently served on the transition team for Maryland Attorney General Anthony Brown as co-lead of the Public Safety Team.

Professor Pinard has been active nationally in efforts to improve legal education. He is co-editor-in-chief of the Clinical Law Review, has chaired the AALS Section on Civil Rights and co-chaired the AALS Section on Litigation, and was president of the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA). He currently serves as board chair of the Gault Center, as a commissioner with the Maryland Access to Justice Commission, and on the leadership council of the Public Justice Center, and has previously served the Maryland Reentry Partnership, the Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and the Maryland State Bar Association's Legal Education and Bar Admissions Committee, which he chaired.

Professor Pinard was elected to the American Law Institute in 2013. In 2024, he was co-recipient of the Michael A. Olivas Award for Outstanding Leadership in Diversity and Mentoring in the Legal Academy from the Association of American Law Schools; in 2011, he was honored as a Champion of Change by the White House for his work on behalf of individuals with a criminal record; and in 2008, he received the Shanara Gilbert Award from the Clinical Section of the Association of American Law Schools as an emerging clinical law professor committed to teaching and achieving social justice.

Professor Pinard received his juris doctor from New York University School of Law. He was a staff attorney with the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem and the Office of the Appellate Defender in New York City, and from 1998 to 2000 was a Robert M. Cover Clinical Teaching Fellow at Yale Law School. Prior to coming to Maryland in 2002, he was an assistant professor at St. John's University Law School and a visiting associate professor at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. He was a visiting professor at New York University School of Law from 2008 to 2009, and a scholar-in-residence at Columbia Law School in spring 2015.

## **The Honorable Aisha Braveboy**

*The Prince George's County Executive, or the County Executive's designee — County Executive, Prince George's County, Commissioner*

Aisha N. Braveboy was elected County Executive of Prince George's County on June 3, 2025, during a special election, and was sworn in as County Executive on June 19, 2025, after serving six years as Prince George's County State's Attorney.

In her last two days as State's Attorney, Ms. Braveboy remained focused on delivering justice for the people of Prince George's County. She was engaged in a two-week jury trial that resulted in a first-degree murder conviction. She also took immediate action on two of her key priorities as County Executive: Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) and public safety. Anticipating the removal of the PGCPS Superintendent, she acted quickly to unite stakeholders behind her choice of an Interim Superintendent. She also identified and rallied support for a new Police Chief, an internal candidate from the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) who is community-focused and deeply familiar with the County.

County Executive Braveboy is a lifelong public servant, uniquely distinguished in County history for having served in all three branches of government: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. She was twice elected State's Attorney for Prince George's County, first in 2018 and again in 2022, representing over one million residents. In that role, she managed a \$24 million budget and a staff of over 200. As the County's top law enforcement officer, she secured over a 90% conviction rate in homicide cases and implemented programs to reduce recidivism, support survivors of domestic violence, address hate crimes, and combat gun violence.

Ms. Braveboy began her public service career in the Executive Branch of County government, where she gained expertise in the County's budget process and worked on major projects such as the development of National Harbor and Woodmore Towne Center. She learned the importance of cross-branch collaboration to achieve results. Later, she was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates to represent the 25th Legislative District. As the youngest chair, at the time, of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland, she led the passage of key legislation including raising the school dropout age from 16 to 18 to help young people avoid life-altering decisions that would hinder future success.

While serving in the legislature, Ms. Braveboy also started her own law practice. When the mortgage crisis struck, she took on many clients pro bono and held foreclosure mitigation workshops across the County, connecting attorneys, lenders, and distressed homeowners. After eight years in the legislature, she became Manager of Government Affairs at Children's National, where she led the effort to bring a Children's National outpatient clinic to Woodmore Towne Center. There, she also championed the educational rights of hospitalized children with disabilities and developed trauma-informed training for resource officers and judges.

Born in Washington, D.C., Ms. Braveboy is a proud product of Prince George's County Public Schools and a graduate of Largo High School. She earned a B.A. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a J.D. from Howard University School of Law in 2000. She was admitted to the Maryland Bar the same year.

## **Gloria Brown Burnett**

*The Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee — Deputy Secretary for Operations, Commissioner*

Gloria Brown Burnett previously served as Interim Secretary and returns to her role as Deputy Secretary of Operations, where she oversees Administrative Operations, the Procurement Division, and the Office of Technology for Human Services (OTHS). A collaborative innovator, Gloria excels at removing barriers and leveraging resources and non-traditional partnerships to expand services. During her tenure in Prince George's County, Gloria secured \$2.3 million annually for intensive case management programs serving middle school students and achieved improved outcomes for youth exiting out-of-home care. She also collaborated with community partners to implement the Affordable Care Act, serving over 200,000 residents through the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange, reducing the county's uninsured population to historic lows.

With over 30 years of experience in human services and child welfare leadership, Gloria joined the Department after a 14-year tenure as Director of the Prince George's County Department of Social Services, where she managed 600 employees across 15 sites, serving 900,000 Prince Georgians.

Born in Mount Clemens, Michigan, Gloria holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Fisk University, a Master of Science in Organizational Management from the University of Maryland University College, and an Executive Education Certificate from Harvard's Kennedy School. She is a 2011 graduate of Leadership Greater Washington.

### **Peter Ramsey**

*The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee — Director of Social Studies, Division of Instructional Programs, Maryland State Department of Education, Commissioner*

Peter Phineas Ramsey is an education leader and curriculum strategist with more than 20 years of experience advancing student-centered instruction and large-scale educational initiatives. Originally from California, he currently serves as the Director of Social Studies for the Maryland State Department of Education, where he leads statewide vision, standards development, cross-agency partnerships, and professional learning to strengthen preK-12 teaching and learning and promote civic excellence among students.

Prior to his state leadership roles, Mr. Ramsey served as an assistant principal, instructional coach, department chair, and classroom teacher in Washington, D.C., and was also a director at Rocking the Boat, a youth development organization in the South Bronx focused on empowering young people through education and community engagement. Across these roles, he earned recognition for highly effective teaching and districtwide professional development leadership.

He holds a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Johns Hopkins University, a bachelor's degree in Human Ecology from the College of the Atlantic, and a Leadership & Innovation certificate from Georgetown University. His work centers on inquiry-driven curriculum design, educator capacity building, and fostering informed, engaged participation in civic life.

## **Public Members**

### **Phyllis Hammond**

*One descendant of a child buried at the site, a former resident of the House of Reformation, or a former justice-involved youth — Niece of Amos Hammond, Resident of the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children, Commissioner*

Phyllis Hammond was born in 1956 to Thelma B. (Millberry) Hammond and Murton P. Hammond, Sr. She has resided in Carroll County for most of her life, where she currently lives with her husband, and is the mother of three children and grandmother of six. Her father initiated the first NAACP branch in Carroll County in September 1955, installed with the help of Ms. Lilly Jackson, then president of the national organization, and he was fortunate to be in rooms with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Clarence Mitchell, and George Murphy's mother, Lillie Carroll Jackson.

Early in her career, Ms. Hammond worked in various secretarial positions, including as Executive Assistant to the Dean of Gettysburg College for four years. Through this work, she became aware of problematic hiring and retention practices in private and government workplaces, low testing scores and educational achievement gaps for minority students, and a lack of staff of color in public schools, and she witnessed firsthand unfair practices in law enforcement and the judicial system. These experiences led her to found MPI (Minority Program Implementation) Consultants, Inc. (1988-2008), where she served as President and secured grants to serve clients including Carroll County Public Schools and the Carroll County Health Department on teacher recruitment and retention, health disparities education, and smoking cessation resources.

Ms. Hammond spent several years at Union Street United Methodist Church, where under Pastor Howard Hinson, Ph.D., she served as Youth Director for middle and high school students. Her outreach to organizations such as the YMCA, McDaniel College, Carroll Arts Center, and the Baltimore Ravens

organization helped lead to the opening of the first Boys and Girls Club in Carroll County in 2003, in partnership with Harford County, where she served as Executive Branch Director for five years.

In 2008, Ms. Hammond changed careers and became a licensed and certified real estate agent serving Maryland and Pennsylvania with Long and Foster, Inc., retiring in 2023. She earned recognition for her sales achievements and served as a member of the Carroll County Association for Realtors (2010-2014) and as Chairperson and Co-Chair of its Equal Opportunity Committee (2011-2014).

Ms. Hammond served on the committee that reconstituted the Carroll County NAACP in 1999 and served as its President from 2001 to 2003, hosting the branch's first Annual Freedom Fund Banquet in 2001 with guest speakers including U.S. Congressman Kweisi Mfume and the late Congressman Elijah Cummings. She has also served with the League of Women Voters, the Carroll County Democratic Club, the Interfaith Housing Alliance, Community of Shalom, and Carroll Citizens for Racial Equality, and currently volunteers with the Carroll County Veterans Independence Project and her local Humane Society.

### **Siobhan Summers, Ph.D.**

*One academic expert in forensic anthropology, archaeology, African American history, or other related disciplines — Faculty Specialist, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park, Commissioner*

Dr. Siobhan Summers is a biological anthropologist, forensic anthropologist, and forensic archaeologist. Her research addresses skeletal morphology, health, culture, and environment, as well as ethical issues in biological anthropology. Dr. Summers is Faculty Specialist at the University of Maryland, where she co-directs the work of the Bowie Ancestors Project (BAP). The goal of the BAP is to repatriate seven African American burials accidentally disinterred from a cemetery for enslaved people in Bowie, MD. As part of her work with the BAP, Dr. Summers is undertaking genealogical research to identify descendants. Her genealogical and historical research for the BAP has resulted in the identification of living descendants, and a descendant religious community of care. Representatives of both communities now serve on the BAP Advisory Board guiding repatriation and memorialization. Dr. Summers is committed to applying her training and passion to the identification and preservation of African American burial grounds and cemeteries, and the identification and repatriation of African American graves.

At the University of Florida, Dr. Summers worked at the C.A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory, aiding law enforcement in the identification of decedents and cause of death. Dr. Summers has worked on several other humanitarian projects, including as an intern with the Pima County (AZ) Office of the Medical Examiner assisting in the identification and repatriation of migrant decedents. In 2017, Dr. Summers assisted in the successful recovery of a downed WWII pilot in Austria through UMD's Forensic Aviation field school, work that was sponsored by the United States Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. Dr. Summers also assisted with the City of Tulsa 1921 Graves Investigation during the 2020 field season. Dr. Summers is a mentor to community scholars and students working in The 1856 Project's Mellon-funded Reparative Histories and Social Justice Incubator (UMD). Dr. Summers is a former volunteer with Smiles on Wings, a humanitarian organization providing dental care for underserved international communities, and with the National Museum of Health and Medicine. Dr. Summers received her AA from Montgomery College (2013), her BA in Anthropology from Dickinson College (2015), her Master's of Applied Anthropology at the University of Maryland (2018), and her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Florida in 2025. Dr. Summers is a proud Montgomery County native and graduate of Watkins Mill High School.

### **David Taft Terry, Ph.D.**

*One representative from a historically Black college or university in the State — Associate Professor, Department of History, Geography, and Museum Studies, Morgan State University, Commissioner*

David Taft Terry serves on the House of Reformation Commission as the representative of a Maryland State Historically Black College and University (HBCU). He is an Associate Professor of History and Geography at Morgan State University in Baltimore. Dr. Terry previously served as the Executive Director of the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture and worked as a research specialist in African American history for the Maryland State Archives.

He holds a doctorate in History from Howard University, a Master of Arts in African American history from Morgan State University, and a Bachelor of Arts in American studies from the University of Maryland, College Park.

## **Erica B. Fields**

*One representative from a civil rights organization — Data and Systems Manager, CDF Freedom Schools®, Children's Defense Fund, Commissioner*

Erica B. Fields is a part of the CDF Freedom Schools team at the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, DC. A graduate of Spelman College, the University of Georgia, and the Pennsylvania State University, she received degrees in Mathematics and Industrial Engineering/Operations Research.

Prior to joining CDF in 2017, Erica spent 8 years in government consulting, data analysis, and visualization, working with agencies in the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. She holds the Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.

A joyful lifelong learner, Erica champions personal development for collective transformation. She is a child advocate skilled in evaluation and assessment, training and development, and coaching and mentoring. She is a proud Auntie to twin girls and two boys. In her community, she has served as a scholarship committee chair and academic competition judge. She currently serves as a children's church leader at Kingdom Fellowship AME Church in Calverton, MD. Erica enjoys games (trivia, board, card, etc.) and is a food enthusiast.

## **Mary Ann Scali**

*Two individuals with experience in civil rights advocacy and litigation — Executive Director, The Gault Center, Commissioner*

Mary Ann Scali serves as the Executive Director of The Gault Center, where she works with youth defenders and advocates dedicated to promoting justice for all children by ensuring excellence in youth defense. After working as a summer law clerk for the National Juvenile Defender Center in 1996, Mary Ann became the deputy director in 2000 and the executive director in 2017.

In partnership with The Gault Center team and youth defense leaders, Mary Ann delivers youth defense training and technical assistance, conducts state-level youth defense assessments, and facilitates cross-disciplinary reform efforts aimed at developing resources and policies to strengthen youth defense and access to justice for all youth.

Prior to joining The Gault Center, Mary Ann defended youth in the juvenile division of the Office of the Public Defender in Baltimore City, MD; spent two years teaching high school in Pohnpei, Micronesia; served in the Jesuit Refugee Service in Rome, Italy; and taught Baltimore City boys at the Baraka School in Nanyuki, Kenya. Mary Ann holds a JD and MSW from Loyola University Chicago, where she was a CIVITAS Childlaw Fellow. Mary Ann lives in Baltimore with her husband, their children, and their rescue puppy, Cosmo.

## **Justin Hansford**

*Two individuals with experience in civil rights advocacy and litigation — Professor of Law and Executive Director, Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center, Howard University School of Law, Commissioner*

Justin Hansford is a Howard University School of Law Professor of Law and Executive Director of the Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center. Professor Hansford was previously a Democracy Project Fellow at Harvard University, a Visiting Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, and an Associate Professor of Law at Saint Louis University. He has a B.A. from Howard University and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center, where he was a founder of the Georgetown Journal of Law and Modern Critical Race Perspectives. Professor Hansford also earned a Fulbright Scholar award to study the legal career of Nelson Mandela, and served as a clerk for Judge Damon J. Keith on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Professor Hansford is a leading scholar and activist in the areas of critical race theory, human rights, and law and social movements. He is a co-author of the forthcoming Seventh Edition of *Race, Racism and American Law*, the celebrated legal textbook that was the first casebook published specifically for teaching race-related law courses. His interdisciplinary scholarship has appeared in academic journals at various universities, including Harvard, Georgetown, Fordham, and the University of California at Hastings. He also is a member of the Stanford Medicine Commission on Justice and Equity.

In the wake of the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, Hansford worked to empower the Ferguson community through community-based legal advocacy. He co-authored the Ferguson to Geneva human rights shadow report and accompanied the Ferguson protesters and Mike Brown's family to Geneva, Switzerland, to testify at the United Nations. He has served as a policy advisor for proposed post-Ferguson reforms at the local, state, and federal level, testifying before the Ferguson Commission, the Missouri Advisory Committee to the United States Civil Rights Commission, the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. At Howard, he leads the Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center's community-driven legal work advancing criminal justice reform, educational access, and immigrant, human, and economic rights for marginalized communities.

## Advisory Members

### **Katherine Ahlrichs, Ph.D.**

*Advisory Member — Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, Towson University*

Dr. Ahlrichs is an anthropological archaeologist studying community organization and stone tool manufacture and use among pre-contact Native American groups in the Eastern Woodlands of North America. She is a proponent of public archaeology, collaborative interpretation with descendant communities, and engagement with avocational archaeologists. Dr. Ahlrichs is the director of the Baltimore Community Archaeology Lab. She regularly conducts field work in Baltimore City and County parks.

Dr. Ahlrichs received her B.A. in Anthropology at Penn State University in 2009. She completed her M.S. in 2012 and her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2018. Before becoming a professor at Towson University, she was a principal investigator for Cultural Resource Management Services at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

### **Michael L. Blakey, Ph.D.**

*Advisory Member — National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of Anthropology, Africana Studies, and American Studies; Director of the Institute for Historical Biology, College of William & Mary*

Michael L. Blakey is National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of Anthropology, Africana Studies, and American Studies, and was Founding Director (2001-2026) of the Institute for Historical Biology at William & Mary. He received his B.A. (1978) at Howard University, his M.A. (1981) and Ph.D. (1985) in Anthropology at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and completed specialized studies at Oxford and London Universities. He has held an honorary Doctor of Science from York College, CUNY since 1995.

Blakey held professorships at Spelman College, Columbia, Brown, La Sapienza, and Howard University, where he founded the W. Montague Cobb Biological Anthropology Laboratory. He has served as president of the Association of Black Anthropologists (1987-1989), and as a member of the editorial boards of *American Anthropologist* (2012-2016) and *American Antiquity* (2021-). Blakey represented the United States on the Council of the 4th World Archaeological Congress in Cape Town, South Africa (1999). He is a member of the Scholarly Advisory Committee of the National Museum of African American History and Culture of the Smithsonian Institution (2006-), where he previously held the position of Research Associate in Physical Anthropology at the National Museum of Natural History (1985-1994). He was a Key Advisor to the *Race: Are We So Different* exhibition and website ([understandingrace.org](http://understandingrace.org)) of the American Anthropological Association (from 2008).

Blakey was Scientific Director of the New York African Burial Ground Project (1992-2009), the most sophisticated bioarchaeological project in the United States. His team began an ethical bioarchaeology of informed consent. He coined the term 'descendant community' for use in community-empowered public engagement intended for the democratization of knowledge. The Manhattan site became a U.S. National Monument in 2007. He continues to help facilitate descendant communities' empowerment to tell their own stories and memorialize their dead. The African Burial Ground's clientage model of public engagement contributed to the new best practices of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 2018. Blakey was Co-Chair (with Deborah Thomas, UPenn) of the American Anthropological Association's Commission for the Ethical Treatment of Human Remains. The Commission held global listening sessions to identify and advance the highest ethical standards for the treatment of all human skeletons and tissue samples at archaeological sites, museums, and laboratories in the United States (2022-2024).

Blakey was twice presented the President's Award of the American Anthropological Association (2021, 2024), the Legacy Award of the Association of Black Anthropologists (2021), and, in 2022, the Plumeri Award for Faculty Excellence at William & Mary. His three-volume monograph, *The Blinding Light of Race: Race and Racism in Western Science and Society*, was published by Routledge Taylor Francis Press in 2026, adding to his approximately 90 reports, refereed articles, and edited volumes. He raised approximately \$6.7 million in research funding over the course of his career.

## **Halim Flowers**

*Advisory Member — Founder of Artonomics*

Halim A. Flowers is a multidisciplinary artist, author, and entrepreneur whose journey reflects resilience and transformation. At 16, he was sentenced to two life terms, an experience documented in the Emmy Award-winning film *Thug Life in D.C.* During his 22 years of incarceration, he founded a publishing company and authored 11 books.

Since his release in 2019, Halim has become a prominent cultural voice. He received fellowships from the Halcyon Arts Lab and Echoing Green, and in 2020 signed with DTR Modern Galleries. His artwork has been commissioned for the Queen of England's Platinum Jubilee, Warner Brothers' centennial, and featured in a live performance at the Royal Wedding of Norway. He has exhibited internationally, including at the Venice Biennale with the European Cultural Center.

Halim has spoken on panels with the Milken Institute, Silicon Valley Bank, and Blackstone, and is currently a USA Leader with the Obama Foundation.

## **Erin Kimmerle, Ph.D.**

*Advisory Member — Founder and Executive Director, Florida Institute for Forensic Anthropology & Applied Sciences*

Erin Kimmerle is a Forensic Anthropologist and associate professor of Anthropology at the University of South Florida. She is also the Executive Director and founder of the Florida Institute for Forensic Anthropology and Applied Science. Over the years she has had the privilege of working on many notable projects, including with National Geographic Explorers in the search for Amelia Earhart, and with the International Committee for the Red Cross, helping create facial reconstructions and test new facial recognition programs for identifying the victims of immigrants shipwrecked off the coast of Italy on their way from Africa. She believes using anthropology and science to help victims of violent crimes is the perfect blend of science, human rights work, and advocacy.

In 2011, Dr. Kimmerle started a research project investigating the notorious Dozier Boys School, the true story behind the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Nickel Boys*. In the wake of the school's shutdown, her team worked to locate the school's graveyard to determine the number of graves, thus beginning the process of reuniting the boys with their families through forensic and DNA testing. The school's poorly kept accounting suggested some thirty-one boys were buried in unmarked graves in a remote field on the school's property. Her book, *We Carry Their Bones: The Search for Justice at the Dozier School for Boys*, is a detailed account of Jim Crow America and an indictment of the reform school system as we know it. For this work she received the

Hillsborough County Bar Association's Liberty Bell Award, given to an outstanding non-lawyer citizen whose community service strengthens the effectiveness of the American system under the law, and, more recently, the AAAS Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Award in 2020, given to scientists whose exemplary actions have demonstrated scientific freedom and responsibility in challenging circumstances.

Dr. Kimmerle is currently working on a project locating unmarked burial grounds and cemeteries throughout Hillsborough County, Florida that have been lost, abandoned, or erased through predatory land practices. Her team has found and documented over 45 cemeteries, and a new exhibit featuring this work and the families affected is currently underway.

### **Isaac Shearn, Ph.D.**

*Advisory Member — Senior Lecturer, Department of Applied Social and Political Science, Coppin State University*

Isaac Shearn earned his Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Florida in 2014 with a specialization in Archaeology. He then served as an adjunct professor at CCBC, UB, Morgan State, and Coppin State, teaching courses in Anthropology, Archaeology, Sociology, Forensic Anthropology, and Human-Environment Adaptations, among others, until joining the Department of Applied Social and Political Science as a Senior Lecturer in 2026. His early research investigated the archaeology and ethnohistory of the Caribbean and South America, with a focus on spatial methods, including the integration of three-dimensional photogrammetric mapping techniques. In 2017, he began to collaborate with fellow Coppin professor Dr. Elgin Klugh on the Laurel Cemetery Memorial Project.

Incorporated in 1852 as Baltimore's first nondenominational cemetery for African Americans, Laurel Cemetery was a premiere burying ground until it was surreptitiously demolished in 1958, despite legal challenges from descendant communities. Shearn currently oversees the compilation of a digital database containing over 30,000 names of individuals interred at Laurel, transcribed from death certificates by student interns and volunteers from the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society. The database will provide unique insights into Black history in Baltimore and will be an invaluable resource for descendants to locate ancestors and reconnect with their family histories. The work interrogates the structural inequalities that led to the demolition and raises important questions about the politics of memory. In 2023, he and Klugh co-edited a volume on their findings and the racial and political inequality manifest in the erasure of this historically significant site, entitled *A Place for Memory: Baltimore's Historic Laurel Cemetery*.

### **Heather Warnken**

*Advisory Member — Executive Director, Center for Criminal Justice Reform, University of Baltimore School of Law*

Heather Warnken was named executive director of the Center for Criminal Justice Reform in January 2022. Prior to coming to the University of Baltimore, her work at both the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and Berkeley Law's Warren Institute was focused on addressing the harm caused by the criminal legal system and promoting healing in marginalized communities. This work has included efforts to end the criminalization of trauma, and to increase resources for community-based strategies and services that more effectively enhance public safety and prevent harm.

Warnken leads the center's legislative and policy advocacy efforts at the state and national levels, including working to advance bills spanning decarceration, reentry, expungement, drug policy, policing, victim services, and violence reduction in the Maryland General Assembly's 2024 and 2025 sessions. In October 2023, she was named to the Executive Committee of the Maryland Equitable Justice Collaborative (MEJC), an historic initiative launched by the Maryland Attorney General and Public Defender to shape a comprehensive plan for addressing mass incarceration, particularly impacting Black men and other marginalized groups within Maryland's prisons and jails. She also serves on several MEJC work groups, including co-chairing the Law Enforcement Policy and Practices reform working group.

As a visiting fellow at DOJ, Office of Justice Programs, co-affiliated with the Bureau of Justice Statistics and Office for Victims of Crime, Warnken served in the first-ever position dedicated to bridging the gap between research, policy, and practice to improve the response to individuals and communities impacted by crime victimization. Through this role she facilitated collaboration across federal, state, and local government

partners, practitioners, researchers, and directly impacted communities in the implementation of equitable, data-driven policies and programs nationwide.

Prior to DOJ, Warnken spent five years as a legal policy associate at the Warren Institute on Law & Social Policy at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. While there, she worked on multidisciplinary initiatives in criminal and youth justice reform, including leading two statewide assessments on how to improve access to services and compensation for underserved survivors of crime.

Warnken serves on the Maryland Attorney General's Civil Rights Advisory Council, and the Task Force to Study Transparency Standards for State's Attorneys, appointed by Governor Wes Moore. She was recently recognized by The Daily Record as one of Maryland's Leaders in Law, named a 'Gamechanger' by Baltimore magazine, and, in partnership with CCJR Faculty Director Prof. David Jaros, received the law school faculty scholarship award for Excellence in Public Discourse. Warnken clerked for the Hon. Joseph F. Murphy on the Maryland Supreme Court, and has provided pro bono legal assistance in a range of civil, criminal, and administrative matters. She has authored numerous publications, testified before the House Gun Violence Task Force and in numerous state legislatures, and presented her work at dozens of conferences and other venues throughout the country. She holds an LL.M. from UC Berkeley School of Law, where she received the Fahey Award for deep commitment to ending violence against women; a J.D., cum laude with pro bono distinction, from Suffolk University Law School; and a B.A., with honors, from Johns Hopkins University.

### **Linda F. Gorham, Ph.D., MDiv**

*Advisory Member — Licensed Psychologist, Family member of a Resident of the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children*

Dr. Linda Frances Gorham is a licensed psychologist in private practice in the State of Maryland. She is a graduate of Morgan State University and earned a Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). Dr. Gorham has an extensive background in research, teaching, and program evaluation in the fields of psychology and education. She also holds a Master of Divinity degree from the former Biblical Theological Seminary (now Missio Seminary) in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Gorham is the Founder and Principal Consultant of Paraklete Consulting, LLC, a certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise that provides expert program evaluation services to school districts and mental health services to children, adolescents, and their families. She is also the Founding Pastor of Spring in the Desert Ministries, Inc., located in Baltimore County, Maryland. In 2017, Spring in the Desert Ministries launched a Dinner Church, a multigenerational, multicultural faith community committed to loving Jesus, proclaiming His message, living His mission, and transforming the world for the glory of God.

Drawing on decades of experience as a pastor, psychologist, researcher, educator, and business owner, Dr. Gorham is a sought-after keynote speaker who inspires spiritual and business leaders, parents, educators, and community organizations. Her work is grounded in a holistic vision that integrates faith, mental wellness, education, leadership development, and community transformation.

Dr. Gorham and her husband, James Gorham, have been married for 52 years. Together, they are the co-founders of Dayspring, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides educational enrichment programs for school-age children in Baltimore City. They are the proud parents of three adult children, grandparents of five grandchildren, and great-grandparents of one great-grandchild. In her leisure time, Dr. Gorham enjoys making music and collecting a variety of musical instruments. She is also an elite competitive powerlifter whose accomplishments include state, national, and world records.

### **James L. Dold**

*Advisory Member — CEO & Founder, Human Rights for Kids*

James Dold is the Founder & CEO of Human Rights for Kids (HRFK), a D.C.-based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the human rights of children in the United States. As one of the foremost child rights experts in the country, HRFK has been recognized for its groundbreaking research on abused and neglected children in the criminal justice system. HRFK was the first organization to identify

everyone currently incarcerated in U.S. prisons for crimes committed as children and subsequently link trauma exposure to their justice system involvement.

The publication of several HRFK reports, including Disposable Children: The Prevalence of Child Abuse and Trauma Among Children Prosecuted and Incarcerated As Adults in Maryland, and the 2020 National State Ratings Report, helped to shed light on Maryland's outlier status and has been cited as a driving impetus for the need to overhaul the state's youth justice system.

Since its inception, HRFK has successfully advocated for the introduction of more than 100 child rights bills across the U.S., including 30 new laws that reformed the way the justice system treats children. The organization has also filed numerous Amicus Briefs in state and federal courts, and has been cited in both majority and dissenting opinions in the U.S. Supreme Court in cases involving the extreme sentencing of youth. Notably, HRFK's Amicus Brief defending the constitutionality of the Child Victims Act on behalf of children who were sexually abused in youth prisons was also cited by the majority in the Maryland Supreme Court when it upheld the new law.

James received dual baccalaureates in Criminal Justice and Psychology from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and graduated Cum Laude from the University of Maryland School of Law. He is licensed to practice law in the state of Maryland and is a member of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. He was a 2023 Roddenberry Fellow, a 2023 ECPAT-USA Freedom Award winner, a 2021 Paul H. Chapman Award Winner, and a 2021 Echoing Green finalist.

### **Dorothy Givens**

*Advisory Member — Niece of Fred Ames, Jr., Resident of the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children*

Dorothy Givens is a retired educator with 38 years of experience. As a descendant of one of the children who died at the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children, she is committed to honoring those children, supporting healing for their families, and advancing systemic reform.

### **Julie Schablitsky, Ph.D.**

*Advisory Member — Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park*

Julie Schablitsky is an archaeologist specializing in Maryland history, the African American diaspora, and historic cemeteries. Her recent work includes research on Harriet Tubman's birthplace and escape sites along the Underground Railroad. She is an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maryland, College Park, and a past president of the Society for Historical Archaeology. Dr. Schablitsky has published widely on the archaeology of the War of 1812, the Donner Party, DNA analysis of artifacts, and African American spiritual practices. Her most recent book, *Belvoir: An Archaeology of Maryland Slavery*, was published in 2025 by the University of Alabama Press.