

# Alumni Honors Banquet 2014

## A celebration of leadership:

In addition to recognizing the achievements of law school alumni, the Awards Ceremony marked the debut of a new award for judicial excellence to honor an alumnus and member of the judiciary who embodies the qualities of integrity, impartiality, and civility in the orderly administration of justice, and advances the legal profession through volunteer work and professional development. Congratulations to The Honorable Mary Ellen Barbera '84, the first female chief of the Court of Appeals, Maryland's highest court.



(from left to right) Nicole McConlogue '10, Jennifer Larrabee '03, Alumni Board President Jonathan Kucskar '08, Alumni Board Immediate Past President Kathryn Mills '02, and Indira Sharma '06.

## A message from the Alumni Board President (2014-2015):



Kathryn Christensen Mills '02  
*Principal, Monument Policy Group,  
and Alumni Board  
Immediate Past President*

### DEAR FELLOW GRADUATES:

As an Alumni Board, we are working to enhance and advance the reputation of Maryland Carey Law for you and the future graduates who will join the ranks as alumni. We need and welcome alumni engagement, volunteerism, and insight now more than ever.

In this difficult job market, our students and graduates seeking employment will benefit from your advice and counsel. Our Alumni Board wants your ideas for self-sustaining and relevant alumni programming. If you can spare the time to get involved in these or other ways, please let us know. This is your community, and we need your energy to keep it strong.

We continue to provide programs and services that enhance your life and to create opportunities for you to partner with us to advance Maryland Carey Law together. We plan to use the 2015 Alumni

Survey results to develop a five-year plan to serve as the blueprint for strategic direction and a launch pad for sustained success. We continue to evaluate and update our events and programs for all our alumni.

I have been fortunate to observe firsthand through my involvement with our Alumni Board, the benefits stemming from the generosity of our alumni, be it through their time, talents, and/or treasure. It is now my pleasure to hand the reins over to Jon Kucskar '08, the 2015-2016 Alumni President. I hope that you all will remain as active alumni for Jon as you have for me. Your generosity and continued loyalty to our law school does make a difference!

Sincerely,  
Kathryn Christensen Mills '02



# ELIZABETH M. Kameen '83

Assistant Attorney General and Principal Counsel, Maryland State Department of Education

## Distinguished Graduate Award

**LIZ KAMEEN** grew up in Forest City, Pa., where her mother and father operated the family hardware store for over 50 years. She received her bachelor's in English from Marywood University, and her master's in Education and Counseling from Duquesne University.

After graduating from the School of Law, Kameen clerked for the Honorable James R. Miller Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, and worked as an Associate in the offices of Brown, Goldstein & Levy.

In 1989, she joined the Maryland Office of the Attorney General, serving as Assistant Attorney General for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and Senior Counsel for the state Medicaid program. She joined the Maryland State Department of Education as Assistant Attorney General in 2004, and became its Principal Counsel in 2005.

Kameen is a member of the Legal Editorial Advisory Board for the *Daily Record*, and was Chair of the Editorial Advisory Board for the *Maryland Bar*



*Journal* for 13 years. She is a past member and past president of the Alumni Board of the School of Law, and is an Alumni Board Member of the Maryland Public Interest Law Project, Inc.





# WARD B. COE III '73

Partner,  
Gallagher Evelius & Jones, LLP

## Benjamin L. Cardin Public Service Award

**WARD COE** began his legal career at Anderson, Coe & King in 1973 and served as an Assistant Attorney General in Maryland from 1974 to 1977. He then joined Whiteford Taylor & Preston, serving as the firm's Ethics Committee Chair from 1986 to 1994, its Managing Partner from 1994 to 2000, and as the Chair of its litigation practice from 2002 to 2006.

Coe served as Counsel to the Special Legislative Committee investigating personnel practices of a former governor of the State of Maryland. He has conducted numerous internal investigations of publicly and privately held companies involving potential financial fraud restatements and personnel matters.

In 1985 and 1986, Coe and Wilbur D. Preston, Jr. were appointed by Maryland Gov. Harry Hughes to investigate the savings and loan crisis. After an extensive investigation, Coe was the primary author and editor of a 457-page report to the Governor and General Assembly that formed a basis for numerous successful criminal prosecutions and civil lawsuits that resulted in substantial recoveries for the State.

As chair of the Maryland Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service from 2002 to 2012, Coe was instrumental in expanding pro bono efforts throughout the region. He has been active in pro bono work throughout his career, and is the recipient of numerous honors and awards for his pro bono efforts,



including the American Bar Association's Pro Bono Publico Award and the Maryland Legal Services Corporation Arthur W. Machen, Jr. Award.

Coe is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation, and a permanent member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference. He has consistently appeared in The Best Lawyers of America for over a decade.



**MARY ELLEN BARBERA** is the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland. Following her graduation in 1984 from the School of Law, she clerked for the Honorable Robert L. Karwacki, then an Associate Judge of the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland. She joined the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland in 1985 as an Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Appeals Division

and became Deputy Chief of the Division in 1989.

In January 1998, she joined Maryland Gov. Parris N. Glendening's Office of Legal Counsel and Regulatory Affairs, serving as Deputy Legal Counsel until promoted to Chief Legal Counsel in June 1999. In January 2002, she was appointed an Associate Judge of the Court of

Special Appeals, a position she held until September 2008, when she was appointed to the Court of Appeals by Maryland Gov. Martin O' Malley '88. In July 2013, she was appointed Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. She is the first woman in the history of the Court to hold the position of Chief Judge.

Chief Judge Barbera is a member of the Maryland Carey Law Board of Visitors and an Adjunct Professor at the American University Washington College of Law, where she has taught Criminal Procedure since 1993 and Advanced Criminal

# CONSTANCE K. putzel '45

Attorney and Author

## Star Award

CONSTANCE K. PUTZEL received her BS degree from Goucher College at the age of 19 and her JD from the law school in 1945. She was the first woman to complete her course of study in two years.

She was in private practice with her husband, William Putzel, Class of 1951, for nearly 40 years, concentrating her practice on family law and elder law in Maryland.

During a time when there were few women lawyers, Putzel was President of the Women's Bar Association of Maryland in 1952 and was one of the first women on the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA)'s Board of Governors.

She served as President of the School of Law's Alumni Association in 1978, and has served as Chair of the Family Law Section and the Senior Law Section of the MSBA.

Putzel has been recognized as a Woman Trailblazer by the American Bar Association (ABA), and is currently participating in an oral history project with the ABA.

She was the 2010 Maryland Pro Bono Distinguished Service Award winner and

the 2011 MSBA Senior Lawyer of the Year Award recipient. Putzel remains fully engaged with the law school and its efforts to support its female students.



# THE HONORABLE MARY ELLEN barbera '84

Chief Judge,  
Maryland Court of Appeals

## Judicial Excellence Award

educational programs sponsored by various bar associations and law schools.

Chief Judge Barbera is a member of the American Law Institute, the National Center for State Courts' Conference of Chief Justices, and the National Association of Women Judges. She is a Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation and the Bar Foundations of Montgomery County and Howard County.

Procedure since 2006. She taught both Legal Writing and Appellate Advocacy as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where in 1998 she received the award for Outstanding Teaching by an Adjunct Faculty Member.

Chief Judge Barbera served for four years as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Judicial Institute, which provides continuing education for Maryland judges. She is on the faculty of Judicial Institute programs and is a frequent lecturer at