

WBA  **MD**

THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.

Proudly Presents

**The 2025
Rita C. Davidson Award**

Margaret (Meg) H. Oliver

November 6, 2025



**Welcome to the 2025 Rita C. Davidson Award
Dinner and Meeting of the
Women's Bar Association of Maryland, Inc.**

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INTRODUCTION OF HONOREE

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RITA C. DAVIDSON AWARD PRESENTATION

Jane Canter - President

REMARKS

Margaret “Meg” H. Oliver - Honoree

CLOSING REMARKS

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The Rita C. Davidson Award

The Women's Bar Association of Maryland created the Rita C. Davidson Award in 1985 to honor the first woman appointed to serve on the Maryland Court of Appeals: Rita Charmatz Davidson. Judge Davidson was a distinguished public servant and is known for championing the interests of the poor, minority populations, and those whose civil liberties seemed threatened. Judge Davidson was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame in 1985.

Judge Davidson began her career in private law practice in the District of Columbia and in Montgomery County, Maryland. At the same time, she was also becoming involved in Montgomery County politics and government. In 1970, Rita Charmatz Davidson was named Secretary of the State Department of Employment and Social Services, the highest position in Maryland government occupied by a woman at that time. She focused public attention on the needs of the poor and the inadequacies of the government services designed to assist those who need them.

In 1973, Rita Charmatz Davidson was appointed to serve as a judge on Maryland's Court of Special Appeals. Six years later, she was the first woman appointed to the Court of Appeals, Maryland's highest court. Judge Davidson distinguished herself as a brilliant, strong, and compassionate jurist. In Judge Davidson's memory, the Women's Bar Association of Maryland created the Rita C. Davidson Award to honor those who, through their intellect, commitment, and compassion, advance the interests of women in society and who promise equality and justice for all.



Margaret H. Oliver

HONOREE

Recipient of the 2025 Rita C. Davidson Award

MARGARET H. (“Meg”) OLIVER is a graduate of the University of Baltimore School of Law and a member of the Heusler Honor Society. She is a past president of the Maryland Women’s Bar Association where she focused on gender equality, mentored women seeking to become lawyers, and mentored young attorneys. Ms. Oliver is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association, has been admitted to the United States Supreme Court, is a member of the International Academy for Collaborative Professionals, is a past president of the Howard County Women’s Bar Association, and a founding member and former president of the Howard County Collaborative Professionals, Inc. Ms. Oliver has been named a Maryland Super Lawyer for over 10 years and one of the Top Family Lawyers in Maryland. She is a recipient of the Conwell R. Sapp Award for her mentorship of women attorneys and received the WBA President’s Award for her work as Co-Chair of the WBA Judicial Selections Committee. Following a judicial clerkship with the Honorable Carol E. Smith in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, Maryland, Ms. Oliver joined the office of the State’s Attorney in Baltimore County, Maryland. Feeling called to work with families, Ms. Oliver joined the law firm of Hodes, Ulman, Pessin & Katz (now Pessin Katz Law), where she represented litigants in domestic law. In 2005, she opened her own firm, Oliver Family Law (now Leffler, Bayoumi, Oliver), to assist families through the crisis of separation and divorce. Over the course of her career, Ms. Oliver assisted parents and children in families of all configurations, through the courts, mediation and Collaborative Law as an advocate and a best interest attorney.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Ms. Oliver earned a Bachelors in Music from the College of Wooster, Wooster, OH, a Master of Music degree in vocal performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY and performed professionally for several years. Music remains a large part of

Ms. Oliver's life serving as Minister of Music at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Woodlawn, MD for over 30 years. Ms. Oliver taught classes on divorce at the local community college, volunteered regularly at the family law legal clinic, served as a presenter/panelist at continuing education seminars, served on the board of Blue Water Baltimore working for environmental justice, and currently works with Democracy 12 to restore voting and civil rights. Recently retired from litigation, Ms. Oliver continues to assist families through Mediation at meditationwithmeg.com. The proud mother of two adult sons and daughter-in-law, she can often be found playing with her two precious granddaughters, or traveling the world.





Jane Canter

PRESIDENT

Jane A. Canter, President of the WBA, has operated her namesake practice, The Law Offices of Jane A. Canter, LLC, since January of 2009. Prior to that time, she practiced as an associate then as a partner with Charles E. Chlan & Associates, LLC, from June of 1987 until December of 2008. She has also served as a panel attorney for the MD Office of the Public Defender for criminal and parental defenses cases since 1999. Jane was admitted to the Maryland Court of Appeals in June of 1987 and to the US District Court (Baltimore) in 1989. She has been a member of the Queen Anne's County Bar Association (2024 to the present), the Talbot County Bar Association (1990 to present) of which she served as President from 2019 to 2020, and the Second Circuit Bar Association (1990 to present), as well as a member of the Baltimore County Bar Association (1987 to present).

During her career, Jane has received a number of awards and recognitions, to include a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding and Dedicated Service from the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence (April 2001), has been named in Who's Who in Business Professionals in 1996, 1997 and 2013, was inducted as Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation on June 13, 2019, and was the winner of Metropolitan Magazine's "Best of" Ballot in 2019 as "Best Lawyer from Cambridge to Easton" and featured in the June, 2019 edition Winners Circle (with circulation in the greater Salisbury/Mid-Shore areas).

Jane has been a longstanding member of the Women's Bar Association of Maryland and has previously served the Statewide Board as a Member at Large continuously under the Presidencies of Diane Bristow, Zoa Barnes, The Honorable Margaret Schweitzer, The Honorable Hope Tipton, Meg Oliver, The Honorable Tracey Parker-Warren, and Eden Terenzini. After eight consecutive years as an At Large Board Member, Jane took on a more active role at the urging of Past President Eden Terenzini and the 2024 Rita C. Davidson Award

Recipient, Donna VanScoy, and served initially as the Executive Board Secretary. After terms as the Vice President then as President-Elect, she is now serving as the first ever President of the WBA from an Eastern Shore county and chapter.





Kristina Badalian

PRESIDENT ELECT

Kristina represents clients in divorce and custody cases throughout Maryland. As an experienced trial attorney, Kristina has litigated complex cases involving the validity and enforceability of prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, alimony, division of property, monetary awards, and attorney's fees.

Having represented a range of diverse clients, Kristina is sensitive to the intersection of culture and the law; and the impact that culture has on marriage, divorce, and family dynamics. In 2022, Kristina and her partner Anne opened their own women run law firm.

Kristina is a former past president of the Montgomery County chapter of the Women's Bar Association having served in a variety of positions, prior to serving in that capacity. Kristina currently serves as the President Elect of the Maryland State Women's Bar Association, also having previously served as an at-large member, Treasurer and Vice-President. A Bar Foundation Fellow for the Maryland State Bar association, Kristina currently serves as the co-chair of the Judicial Selections Committee of the Maryland State Bar Association. Other awards and recognitions include Superlawyer (or Rising star) consistently since 2012, Best Lawyers® in America consistently since 2018, and since founding her law firm the firm was also listed in Best Law Firms® for 2023, 2024 (Tier 1), and 2025 (Tier 1).



Tracy Miller

VICE-PRESIDENT

Initially desiring to practice health law, Tracy applied to law school where she developed varied legal experience through diverse internships with Johns Hopkins Hospital Legal Department, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, the Attorney General's Office, and the Public Defender's Office. Tracy

developed a strong passion for family law while serving on the Family Law Moot Court team, and for family law clients while serving as a student attorney for the University's Family Law Clinic. As a student attorney, Tracy provided pro bono representation for victims of domestic violence and persons of limited economic means.

Upon graduation, Tracy continued her legal development by working at a private family law practice in Anne Arundel County. While at the firm, Tracy was able to deepen her knowledge and experience in the vast family law arena and was promoted to an Associate Attorney and given the opportunity to litigate varied family law cases. With the knowledge and experience gained from her family law opportunities, Tracy opened her own family law office. Her office is located in Columbia, Maryland near The Mall in Town Center. Tracy provides representation for divorce, child custody, child support, adoption, protective orders, and many other areas of family law. She also provides assistance with estate planning which includes wills and powers of attorney, recognizing that when parties divorce, one's estate plan typically changes.



Erica I. LeMon

TREASURER

Erica I. LeMon serves as the Advocacy Director for Children’s Rights at Maryland Legal Aid, where she is dedicated to advancing and protecting the rights of children across the state. A graduate of West Virginia University College of Law, she also holds a degree in Political Science from West Virginia

University.

Her legal career spans civil practice and litigation in family law, personal injury, and contract law and appellate work. She has worked extensively with Maryland’s juvenile, family recovery, drug, mental health, veterans, and truancy courts. Ms. LeMon has testified before the Maryland Senate and House Committees and played a key role in shaping amendments to Maryland statutes and court rules.

Ms. LeMon is an active member of the Maryland State Bar Association, serving as a member of both the Judicial Nominating Committee and the Family Law Section Council.

Currently, she serves as Treasurer of the Women’s Bar Association, Chair of the Coalition to Protect Maryland’s Children, and Vice-Chair of the Executive Board for the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect. She is also a member of the Workforce Development Board for Prince George’s County.

Ms. LeMon’s work is inspired by the children she serves—children who are too often unheard in decisions that shape their lives. Outside of her professional commitments, she enjoys traveling and cherishes spending time with family and friends.



Kerri Cohen

SECRETARY

Kerri has over 24 years of legal experience. In 2014, she founded The Law Offices of Kerri Cohen, LLC, following her previous 11 years of service with the State of Maryland in Baltimore City at the Office of the Public Defender, where she worked as a criminal defense trial attorney.

As an experienced trial lawyer, Kerri has litigated complex cases involving both family and criminal law. Currently, her primary focus is on family law matters, including divorce, separation, child custody, alimony, child support, and collaborative divorce in Baltimore County, Maryland.

Kerri currently serves as the Secretary of the State Women's Bar Association of Maryland. She is a member of the Executive Board for the Baltimore/Carroll County chapter of the Women's Bar Association. Additionally, Kerri serves on the Judicial Selections Committee of the Maryland State Bar Association and is the Chairperson of The Advocate Committee of the Baltimore County Bar Association. Her professional recognitions include being named a SuperLawyer since 2019, appearing on the Power List for Family Law by The Daily Record in 2025, and being voted among the Best Solo Law Firm Lawyers in Reader Ranking in 2025.

Kerri earned her Bachelor's Degree in Journalism and English, graduating Magna Cum Laude from the University of Arizona in 1998. After graduation, she moved back to the Baltimore area to attend the University of Baltimore School of Law, where she earned her Juris Doctorate in 2001. During law school, she gained practical experience through the Family Law Clinic and received a Certificate in

Mediation. While awaiting bar exam results, Kerri worked as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Judge John Philip Miller in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. During her clerkship, Judge Miller presided over one term of Family Law and one term in the Misdemeanor Jury Trial Courts. This experience sparked her interest in both family law and criminal defense.





Samantha P. Rodier

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Samantha Rodier is the managing attorney at Rodier Family Law, where she practices mainly in Harford and Baltimore Counties. A founding member of the Harford County Chapter of the WBA, Sam currently serves as Immediate Past President to the statewide organization. In addition to her involvement with the Women's Bar

Association of Maryland at both the chapter and state levels, Sam is an active member of the Maryland State Bar Association where she currently serves as an At-Large Member of the Board of Governors - Executive Committee, is a current Co-Chair of the Family Law Section CLE Committee, is a past Chair of Family Law Section Council; she is also a 2015-2016 graduate of the MSBA Leadership Academy. A Fellow in the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Sam also serves as the Maryland Chapter Representative to the National AAML House of Governors and is an active member of the National AAML CLE Committee. In addition to her work for various legal organizations, Sam sits on Harford Community College Foundation Board and in 2024 was appointed by Governor Wes Moore to the District 4 (Harford) Judicial Nominating Committee. Outside of the law work, Sam enjoys spending time with her two middle and high school aged children, often on the sidelines of a lacrosse field, going to concerts, and playing golf.



AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Kristen Barrett

HARFORD COUNTY

Kristen Barrett graduated from The Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and after graduation from law school, she spent ten years living and working in the Metro D.C. area. Kristen and her family relocated out of the Metro D.C. area and in 2013, she started working as an associate at Stark and Keenan, P.A. in Bel Air, Maryland. In 2022, Kristen joined Rodier Family Law as a partner.

Kristen devotes the majority of her legal practice to family law, including divorce, custody, support, property allocation, adoption and guardianship cases. Kristen is a Fellow in the American Academy of Family Law and is also trained as a civil mediator and in collaborative law. Kristen has been a volunteer lawyer for the Harford County Bar Foundation for more than 12 years and since 2020 has been serving as a member of the Harford County Bar Foundation Board of Directors.





AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Hall

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Jessica Hall became Deputy Bar Counsel in the Office of Bar Counsel on December 1, 2023. Jessica is a member of the Executive Committee of the Bar Association of Montgomery County and Chair of the ad hoc Membership Committee as well as Co-Chair of the

Strategic Planning Committee of the BAMC. Jessica was President of the Montgomery County Chapter of the WBA for the 2022-2023 bar year. As President, she was a co-founder of the chapter's Mentorship Program and continues to co-chair that program. Jessica is an active member of the MSBA and the ABA. Prior to her current position with the Office of Bar Counsel, she was a prosecutor in the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office for 20 years.





AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Kate McDonough

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Kate McDonough's practice focuses primarily on family law matters, including divorce, separation, child custody, guardianship, adoption, alimony, child support, family law appeals, collaborative divorce, and Special Immigrant Juvenile

proceedings. Ms. McDonough is a court-certified Best Interest Attorney and is regularly appointed by Judges to represent minor children in contested custody cases. Ms. McDonough serves as a guardian for vulnerable or disabled adults and children. Ms. McDonough is also frequently appointed by Judges to serve as Trustee or Successor Personal Representative in estate matters. Ms. McDonough has a robust mediation practice, both as a private mediator for Maryland and DC cases, as well as serving as a court appointed mediator in both the Montgomery County Circuit Court Child Custody/Access Mediation Program and the Termination of Parental Rights/Child in Need of Assistance Mediation programs, and as an Attorney-Facilitator through Montgomery County Circuit Court, Family Division Services. Ms. McDonough has been approved by the Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts as a Circuit Court ADR Practitioner mediator and serves on the roster of court-approved divorce/property mediators in Montgomery County.



AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Kiernan Waters

BALTIMORE COUNTY

Kiernan Waters, Esq. is the Maryland Director for Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, where she partners with attorneys, judges, mediators, and bar associations across the state to provide trusted professional liability coverage and meaningful risk management resources. A proud Maryland native, Kiernan launched her legal career in Annapolis as an estate planning attorney after earning her JD and MPA from the University of Baltimore School of Law and College of Public Affairs.

Deeply committed to the legal community, Kiernan serves as a Member-at-Large for the Women's Bar Association of Maryland and was recently the Co-Chair of the CLE Committee for the Young Lawyers Division of the Bar Association of Baltimore City. In 2024, Kiernan was named a Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation in recognition of her dedication to the advancement of the legal profession.





AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Marot Williamson

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Marot Williamson is an Assistant State's Attorney for the Office of the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County and is assigned to the Felony Narcotics Unit. She serves on the board of the Anne Arundel Bar Association and is the president James C. Cawood, Jr.

American Inn of Court. She serves as a Member at Large for the Women's Bar Association and is the Immediate Past President of the Anne Arundel County Chapter.



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RITA C. DAVIDSON AWARD DINNER/MID-YEAR MEETING

Tracy Miller

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Black History Month - Erica LeMon | Women's History Month - Sharon Johnson

Past Presidents

THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND PAST PRESIDENTS

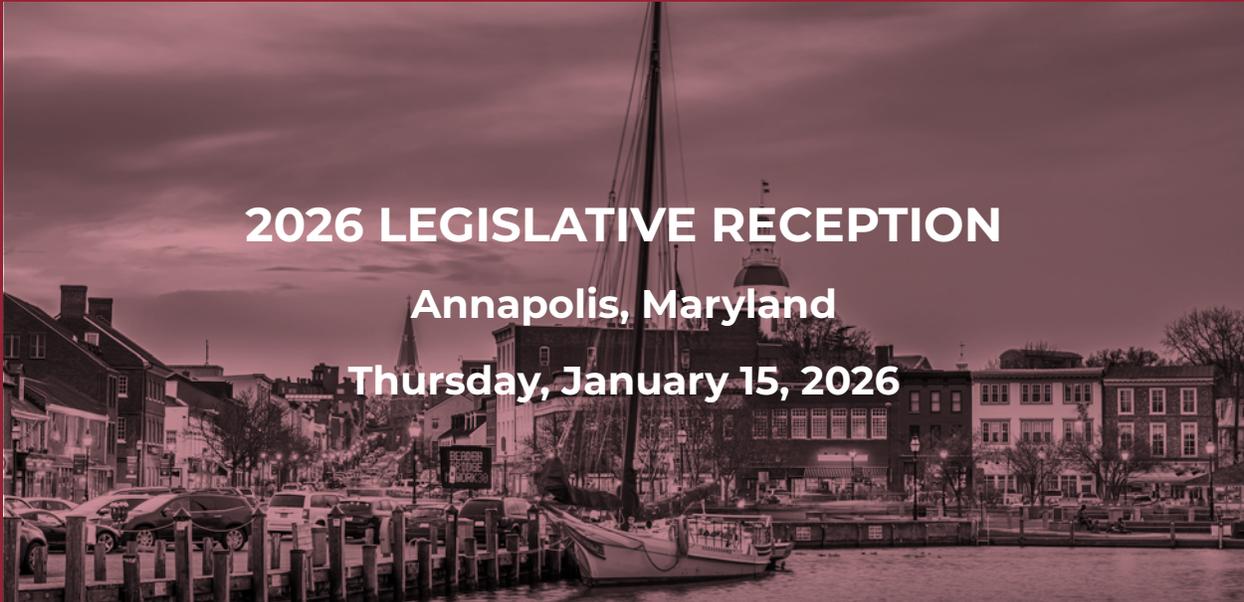
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2022-2023	Carol Ann Smith
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2020 - 2021	The Honorable Tracey Parker-Warren
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2017 - 2018	The Honorable Margaret M. Schweitzer
2016 - 2017	Zoa D. Barnes
2015 - 2016	Diane C. Bristow
2014 - 2015	Donna E. Van Scoy
2013 - 2014	Nancy A. Sachitano
2012 - 2013	Magistrate Elaine Patrick
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1952 - 1953	The Honorable Shirley Jones
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1939 - 1941	Rose Zetzer
1937 - 1939	Anna Carton
1934 - 1935	Sophie Nordenholtz
1931 - 1933	Florence Laynor
1929 - 1931	Helen Brown

Save The Date



2026 LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

Annapolis, Maryland

Thursday, January 15, 2026



2026 ANNUAL MEETING

St. Michaels Harbour Inn, Marina & Spa

Friday, April 10, 2026 and Saturday, April 11, 2026

ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO FOLLOW



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Congratulations!

The Howard County Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of Maryland
proudly honors and congratulates
our very own...

Meg Oliver

2025 Recipient of the Rita C. Davidson Award

You are a one-of-a-kind leader, mentor, attorney, and friend.
This award is well deserved. We are so proud of you!

*Congratulations to Meg Oliver
November 6, 2025
upon being awarded the 2025
Rita C. Davidson Award
from the
Women's Bar Association of Maryland, Inc.*

*You Deserve It!!
Thank You for Being a Great Friend and Mentor*

*Jane A. Canter
The Law Offices of Jane A. Canter, LLC
109 Federal Street, Easton, Maryland 21601*



Meg,

Congratulations on receiving the Rita C. Davidson award! Your wisdom, warmth, empathy, and unwavering integrity have shaped us as lawyers and as people. You built a firm grounded in compassion and excellence, and your legacy lives in every client we serve and every woman you've lifted along the way.

Love,
Your Leffler, Bayoumi & Oliver Family



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 of the
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*The Harford County Chapter of the Women's Bar
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 Meg Oliver, Esq.*

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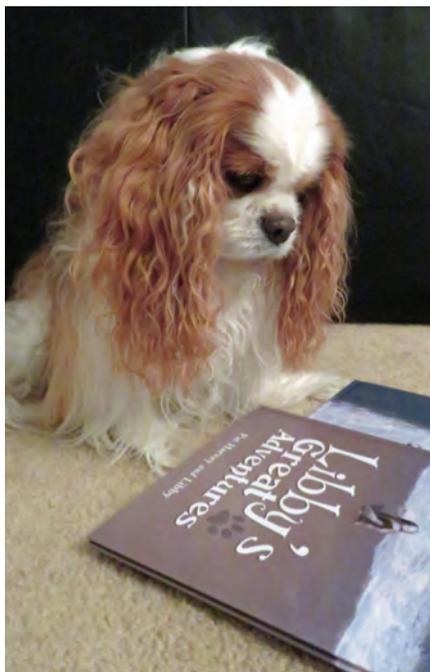
Margaret "Meg" Oliver

2025 Rita C. Davidson
 Award Recipient

*Terenzini & Lucero LLC thanks Meg
 for her tireless dedication to
 supporting, mentoring, and elevating
 women in the legal profession.*



Rodier Family Law would like to congratulate Meg Oliver on this great distinction!



Libby, a Cavalier King Charles spaniel, loves to travel with her best human buddy, Pat. Inspiring and informative, in this book Pat helps Libby tell the story of **Libby's Great Adventures** as they visit national monuments in Washington, DC; historic towns in Maryland and national parks. Libby presents her point of view and shares historical facts about each place. There are photos of Libby as she visits each site.

xoxo,
Pat Harvey & Libby

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CONGRATULATIONS MEG

Dear Friend. Admired Colleague.
Champion of Women's Rights.
Defender of Justice. World Traveler.

The world is a better place because of you.
Congratulations on this most deserved honor.



Sharon Johnson

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. ~ Helen Keller





WBA  MD

THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.