MARYLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 2004

COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges sit en banc

CSP case types:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, capital criminal, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases

Court of last resort

COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS

13 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP case types:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits in 24 counties) A

146 judges

CSP case types:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($2,500/no maximum), estate, miscellaneous civil. Mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Domestic relations.
- Felony, misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (12 districts in 24 counties)

106 judges (plus 1 chief judge with administrative duties)

CSP case types:
- Tort, contract ($2,500/$25,000), real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($2,500).
- Felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, domestic violence.
- Exclusive moving traffic, ordinance violation, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Preliminary hearings.

No jury trials.

ORPHAN'S COURT (22 counties)

66 judges

CSP case types:
- Estate, except where such cases are handled by circuit court in Montgomery and Harford counties.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction