

Thomas M. DeGonia Named Bar Counsel for Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland

Annapolis, MD (September 25, 2023) — The Attorney Grievance Commission is pleased to announce that Thomas M. DeGonia, Esquire has been selected to serve as Bar Counsel for the Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland. Mr. DeGonia's appointment was approved by the Supreme Court of Maryland, effective October 23, 2023.



Since 2011, Mr. DeGonia was a partner at Ethridge, Quinn, Kemp, Rowan & Hartinger, where he practiced primarily in the areas of criminal defense, civil litigation and family law and litigated in both state and federal courts. From 2007 to 2011, Mr. DeGonia was a senior associate at Venable, LLP where he managed teams of attorneys and paralegals on multijurisdictional investigations and discovery involving misappropriation of trade information and deceptive practices and served as Special Prosecutor in Maryland and as a Federal Court appointed member of a civil rights monitoring team. Prior to entering private practice, Mr. DeGonia served as an Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County for eight years, the last four years of which he led a felony prosecution team. He also served in the Office of Counsel to the Inspector General for the U.S. Department of State where he advised on criminal investigations and foreign policy matters.

Mr. DeGonia is a magna cum laude graduate from the University of Missouri-Rolla where he also lettered in NCAA Division II football and studied abroad as a Jefferson-Smurfit Scholar. He graduated from the American University-Washington College of Law where he served as Student Bar President and received the Mooers Trophy in Trial Practice and an award for his Outstanding Contributions to the Law School. Mr. DeGonia served as President of the Bar Association of Montgomery County from 2020-2021 and President of the Family Justice Center Foundation from 2009-2021.

The Commission was established in 1975 and oversees the conduct of both Maryland attorneys and nonmembers of the Maryland Bar who engage in the practice of law in the State. Bar Counsel is authorized to investigate professional misconduct or incapacity on the part of an attorney and, where indicated, file and prosecute petitions and statements of charges for disciplinary and remedial actions, as well as investigate and prosecute actions to enjoin the unauthorized practice of law. Bar Counsel also reviews notifications of overdrafts on attorney escrow accounts.

The Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland is dedicated to protecting the public and maintaining the integrity of the legal profession. The Commission, through the Office of Bar Counsel, seeks to encourage and promote the ethical practice of law and the highest standards of professionalism by members of the Bar. In carrying out their functions of evaluating complaints and enforcing ethical standards for lawyers, the Commission and Bar Counsel strive for fairness and equity.