



Dana B. Stebbins, MSW, Esq.

President & CEO
The Cornelius Group, Inc.

MEDC Chair

Dana B. Stebbins, MSW, Esq., is an attorney with an advanced degree in human behavior and more than 25 years of experience in the fields of law and social policy, the private practice of real estate/land-use law; and professional consulting services in community and economic development, business development and emergency management. She has served in all three branches of government as a judicial clerk, legislative counsel and a presidential appointee to the Small Business Administration and to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Stebbins has received several awards, honors, and appointments. She currently serves on the Luminis Hospital foundation board and the Maryland Economic Council.

Meet the Commissioners



Paxton K. Baker
Owner/President
PKB Enterprises

Paxton K. Baker is an American businessman, entrepreneur, and philanthropist with over 30 years of experience. Baker is a minority owner of the Washington Nationals Baseball club and serves as chairman of the Washington Nationals Founding Partners Group. Baker launched the Washington, D.C. office for the marketing agency, Liquid Soul. He served as the Executive Vice President and General Manager of CENTRIC and was President of BET Event Productions. Baker serves on many boards including the Congressional Award Foundation National Board of Directors, Global Sports Summit, Washington Nationals Philanthropies, WAMU, and the Trucking Cares Foundation.



Kenneth R. Banks
President, CEO, Partner
Banks Contracting
Company, Inc.

Kenneth R. Banks is a businessman, developer, project manager, and general contractor. Banks is the founder and president of Banks Contracting and Development Company, now Banks Global Group. He completed projects in Maryland and internationally. Banks has helped with many organizations. He serves on the University of Maryland, School of Medicine Board of Visitors and R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Board of Visitors and was Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Baltimore Branch. Banks works to secure financial capital for infrastructure needs in Africa, South America, and Asia.

Meet the Commissioners



Nia Banks MD, Ph.D, FACS

Owner

Beaux Arts Plastic Surgery,
Art of Balance Spa

Dr. Nia Banks is a board-certified plastic surgeon serving the Annapolis, Washington, DC, and Baltimore areas. She graduated from North Carolina A&T State University, received her M.D. and Ph.D degrees and surgical training from Johns Hopkins University, and completed her craniofacial fellowship in Paris, France. She returned to the U.S. to start her private practice in the field of cosmetic surgery at the Beaux Arts Institute of Plastic Surgery. In 2020, she opened the Art of Balance Wellness Spa with a business partner to provide wellness therapies, spa experiences, and aesthetic treatments.



Sherri Blount

Partner

Fitch Even Tabin &
Flannery

Sherri Blount is an Intellectual Property (IP) attorney who practices at the intersection of IP, advertising, and promotions law. She is a transactional attorney who has negotiated hundreds of agreements involving the intellectual property rights of Fortune 100 companies. Blount is currently a partner in Fitch Even Tabin & Flannery, routinely advising clients on advertising and marketing strategies in traditional, digital, and social media. Previously, she was a partner at Morrison & Foerster, serving as Vice President Deputy General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). Blount has received numerous awards throughout her career.



August "Augie" Chiasera

Regional President

M&T Bank

Augie Chiasera is currently the President of the Maryland Region for M&T Bank. He joined M&T Bank as an Executive Associate in 1993. Since then, he has performed a number of senior line and staff roles throughout the organization. Chiasera helped lead the integration of M&T's acquisition of Allfirst Financial in Baltimore. He is Board Chair for the Baltimore Development Corporation and serves on the boards of Garrison Forest School, Neighborhood Impact Investment Fund, Greater Baltimore Committee, Baltimore Center Stage, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and Roca, Inc.

Meet the Commissioners



Nakeia Drummond
CEO

The Women Entrepreneur
Leadership Lab
(theWELL)/NLD Strategic

Nakeia L. Drummond is an award-winning leader, entrepreneur, and educator with over 15 years of diversity equity and inclusion (DEI), organizational and project-based strategy and change management expertise. She views her career as a tapestry of experiences that have unlocked her purpose. In 2015, Drummond founded NLD Strategic, an equity-centered management consulting firm that supports strategy development, implementation, and measurement in social impact organizations and businesses. She is also Founder of The Women Entrepreneur Leadership Lab, (The WELL), a membership network that drives community, collaboration, and economic parity for black women-owned businesses.



J. Russell Fugett, PMP
**Client Relations
Consultant**

Equity Through Action

Russell Fugett is founder and chief encouragement officer at Jumla Network: a strategic consultancy and knowledge network focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion. He is also the Founding Executive Director of Jumla Network's non-profit project, Equity Endowment. Fugett previously worked as Senior Program Coordinator at The George Washington University Multicultural Student Services Center, became co-founder of Fugett Baseball Group, founded a software start up and a certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) consulting firm, and later became a project manager at Cook Ross. Fugett has also won multiple awards for leadership and service.



M. Elizabeth Georg
Managing Attorney

Deep Creek Title Group

Elizabeth Georg is the managing attorney at Deep Creek Title Group in Oakland, Maryland. Georg is actively involved in the Garrett County community and is board director of the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce and First United Wealth Management Advisory Council. She is a member of the I68 Regional Alliance and an Appalachian Leadership Institute Fellow. Georg serves as chair of the Garrett County Economic Development Corporation and was appointed as a member of the Garrett County Planning Commission. She earned her Juris Doctorate from Vermont Law School and is licensed to practice in Maryland and West Virginia.

Meet the Commissioners



Seth Goldman
Co-Founder & CEO
Eat the Change

Seth Goldman is Co-Founder and Chief Change Agent of Eat the Change®, a planet-friendly snack brand that helps people ‘Snack to the Future™’. Goldman is also the Co-Founder of PLNT Burger, Honest Tea and Chair of the board of Beyond Meat. He has been widely recognized for his entrepreneurial success and impact, including Washington DC Business Hall of Fame, Partnership for Healthier America’s CEO of the Year, Organic Trade Association’s Organic Social Impact recipient, and EARTHDAY.ORG’s Climate Visionary of the year.



Dr. Sandeep Gopalan
Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Dr. Sandeep Gopalan is the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Holding leadership roles at universities in the U.S., Australia, and Ireland, Dr. Gopalan was instrumental in adapting degrees for the future of work, preparing graduates for success, and meeting skills gaps in the post-automation economy. Dr. Gopalan’s research and work has been published in multiple academic journals and media in several countries. Dr. Gopalan was the chairman of the Arizona Aerospace and Defense Commission. Prior to academia, he worked as an investment banker on Wall Street and as a lawyer.



Reginald “Reggie” Hilton
Vice President, Client Partnerships
EZRA Coaching LHH

Reggie Hilton serves as Vice President of Client Partnerships with EZRA. Hilton works with Fortune 500 organizations to advise and assist them in creating a company culture of coaching, thereby increasing diversity and inclusion outcomes in the corporate space. Hilton previously worked in the digital media industry as a Senior Account Manager for Indeed.com and Enterprise Account Manager for an AI Software organization. While in prior positions, he also served as the Head of External Events for Indeed.com’s Black Inclusion Group “BIC” which facilitated events with internal resource groups across the technology industry.

Meet the Commissioners



Arnold E. Jablon
Attorney

Arnold Jablon is in the private practice of law, as a sole practitioner. His career was primarily in Baltimore County's local government, beginning in 1983. Jablon has held the following positions: Zoning Commissioner, County Attorney, Director of the Department of Zoning Administration and Development, Director of the Department of Permits and Development Management, Deputy Administrative Officer, and Director of the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections. Jablon also spent seven years at Venable, LLP earlier in his career and then returned in 2019, until he began his solo practice in 2022.



Israel "Izzy" Klein
Co-Founder & Principal
Klein/Johnson Group

Israel "Izzy" Klein is co-founder of the Klein/Johnson Group, a bipartisan federal lobbying and public policy consulting firm in Washington, DC. With over a dozen years of experience in the private sector and more than 25 total years in policy, communications, and political work, he represents many trade associations and non-profits in front of Congress and the Executive branch. Klein held multiple senior communications, policy, and political positions, serves on cabinets for a number of local, state, and federal officials, is a founding board member of the Jewish Democratic Council of America, and teaches at George Washington University.



Qili Li
Founder & CEO
Worldshine Group

Qili Li is an entrepreneur who has pioneered innovation at the crossroads of real estate and senior care. As the Founder and CEO of Worldshine Group LLC, he has transformed the company from a focus on international trade and real estate into a leader in the senior care industry. Under Li's leadership, Worldshine Group operates three large-scale adult medical day care centers in Maryland, serving over 600 clients. The group has also expanded into assisted living, medical technology, and physical therapy services, while supporting academic research in gerontology and sociology through partnerships with Michigan State University and Howard University. As President of the United States-China Association of Commerce, Li also promotes economic, commercial, and cultural exchanges between the United States and China.

Meet the Commissioners



Gwen McCall-Winston
President
F&L Construction & Solid
Waste, LLC

Gwen McCall-Winston is a business executive who specializes in strategies, processes, and people to ensure next level growth and profitability for companies. She has over 30 years of experience across business strategies, organizational development, operations, corporate sustainability and leadership.

McCall-Winston is the former CEO of the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation. She is President of F&L Solid Waste Corporation with numerous local, regional and private sector clients. McCall-Winston also serves as President to the 9620 LLC Development Corporation and the Metropolitan UpCYCLE, an authorized reseller of Harp Renewables.



Ginger Noble. MBA
Business Operations &
Tax Preparation

Ginger Noble seeks to help others and encourage them to reach for their dreams. This drive carries through to her professional goals, as she works in public service and is affiliated with multiple community service organizations such as the AFSME, AFLCIO, and Williamsport Volunteer Fire & EMS, Co. She is an Agricultural Resource Conservation Specialist for the Maryland Department of Agriculture and a shareholder of McConnellsburg Motor & Implement. She also does personal tax preparation at Liberty Tax Service. Noble possesses skills and expertise in small business, agriculture, labor relations, and emergency services.



Leon F. Pinkett, III
Executive Director & CEO
Baltimore Arts Realty
Corporation (BARCO)

Leon F. Pinkett, III has 30 years experience serving communities throughout Baltimore. Pinkett is the Executive Director/CEO of the arts-focused real estate development nonprofit, Baltimore Arts Realty Corp. (BARCO). He previously served a term as Councilman for Baltimore City, representing the 7th District and acting as the Vice Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Taxation, Finance, & Economic Development Committee. He also served on four additional committees, was the Assistant Deputy Mayor for the Office of Economic and Neighborhood Development, and was a Sr. Economic Development Officer at the Baltimore Development Corporation.

Meet the Commissioners



Eben Smith
President
Three|E Consulting Group,
LLC

Eben Smith serves as president of Three|E Consulting Group. He has over 20 years of experience in compliance, procurement and contract administration, and has served as a project manager responsible for numerous highly demanding projects for Prince George's County. He monitored over \$500 million worth of procurement spend and contracting activities with diverse suppliers to ensure compliance with the County's MBE and local business utilization goals. Smith also served as Senior Buyer for Prince George's County's Contract Administration and Procurement Division and handled the County's complex procurement acquisitions. After leaving county government, Eben was appointed as the Compliance Manager for MGM Oversight Committee at National Harbor. Eben has also served as the Vice-President of the Prince George's County NAACP.



Darius A. Stanton
CEO
The Stanton Group, Inc.

Darius A. Stanton has over 28 years of experience as an executive leader in the private and government sectors. Stanton was appointed as Chief Deputy in the Anne Arundel County Register of Wills. He continues to serve as President of The Stanton Group Inc., a management and human development firm, and is managing partner of a renewable energy start-up, Green Strategic Solutions. Stanton served as the Chief Networking Officer for IESI, Vice President of Business Development with Barnes International LTD, Vice President of Operations at Boys and Girls Clubs of America's Greater Washington and Metro Baltimore affiliates, and founding Board President of MOTISO. He serves as the immediate past chair of the Maryland Black Caucus Foundation and is President of The New Village Academy Charter High School.



J. Kevin White
Executive Director
Global Vision 2020, Inc.

Kevin White has been attacking the issue of poor vision amongst the world's poorest populations since 2005. A career Marine, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, the Army Command and Staff College, and received his MBA from Johns Hopkins, Carey School of Business. White served as the Program Director for Humanitarian and Civic Assistance at European Command (EUCOM) while on active duty. Upon his retirement he worked at Booz Allen Hamilton and White Oak Group in Operations Management leaving in 2014 to make Global Vision 2020 his priority.

Meet the Commissioners



Miguel G. Wilson
CEO

Miguel Wilson Collection,
Inc.

Miguel Wilson is an internationally recognized fashion designer, specializing in finer men's wear. He is well known for his work in wedding attire, creating the first Wedding Collection for Men, along with his well-touted tagline "Because It's His Day Too!" Wilson began his career in fashion in 1993, serving predominantly businessmen, pastors, and athletes, later shifting his focus to grooms' fashion. He has locations in Atlanta, D.C., Miami, and NY. Wilson wrote a book detailing his business journey. Additionally, he has won numerous awards in fashion and community service.



Scott Zakheim
General Partner
Landmark Ventures

Scott Zakheim is a General Partner at Landmark Ventures, running Landmark's Digital Marketing and Media Practice for the last twelve years. Zakheim has curated emerging technology partnerships for many Chief Marketing and Chief Digital Officers across the consumer brand landscape. He has driven hundreds of deals and millions of dollars of new business for his portfolio of emerging digital and ecommerce tech companies. Previously, Zakheim served as a strategy consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton. He holds an MBA in marketing from Maryland's Smith School of Business and an undergraduate degree from Columbia University.

Ex-Officio Members:



Secretary Kevin Anderson
Department of Commerce

Kevin Anderson became Maryland's Secretary of Commerce in 2023. He is Founder & CEO of Cardinal Atlantic Holdings, an economic and community development firm targeting scaled social impact and investment in urban centers. Anderson previously held leadership positions at EVERFI, Inc., City First Homes, Inc., and Jair Lynch Companies, Inc. In 2000, he served as Special Assistant to the City Administrator and Chief of Staff at the D.C. Department of Transportation. Anderson began his professional career at the investment banking firm of Pryor, McClendon, Counts & Co., Inc. in Philadelphia, PA as an Institutional Bond Salesman.



Delegate Brian Crosby
District 29B
St. Mary's County

Maryland Delegate Brian Crosby serves as state delegate for St. Mary's County. Delegate Crosby earned his law degree and joined the U.S. Army, serving as an Infantry Officer and Army Ranger on three deployments to Afghanistan. He continued his commitment to public service and his community by volunteering and then decided he wanted to make a difference in government. Delegate Crosby ensures that St. Mary's County is well represented at the state level. He is a champion for education, prioritizes infrastructure projects in his community, advocates on behalf of small businesses, and supports veterans issues.



Senator Brian Feldman
District 15
Montgomery County

Maryland State Senator Brian J. Feldman, both an Attorney and a CPA, is Chair of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee. Feldman is also the Senate Chair of the Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission and a member of the Executive Nominations Committee and the Rules Committee. As a member of the National Conferences of State Legislators, he serves on the Executive Committee Task Force on State and Local Taxation and the Task Force on Energy Supply. Currently, Feldman sits on the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Meet the Commissioners



Troy LeMaile-Stovall
Executive Director/CEO
Maryland Technology
Development Corporation
(TEDCO)

Troy LeMaile-Stovall serves as TEDCO's CEO, possessing more than 25 years of experience in investment management, higher education, telecommunications, information/communication technology, and management consulting. Previously, LeMaile-Stovall was the COO at the University of the District of Columbia. He founded the management consulting firms LeMaile-Stovall LLC and GTMS Partners; also co-founded GulfSouth Capital. He held positions as the Interim President of Zenith Education Group; Principal at Butler Snow Advisory Services; Executive Vice President and COO of Howard University; and Senior Vice President and CFO at Jackson State University.



Tom Sadowski
Executive Director
Maryland Economic
Development Corporation
(MEDCO)

Tom Sadowski has worked in the economic development profession for more than 30 years. Prior to MEDCO, he served as Vice Chancellor for Economic Development at the University System of Maryland and President & CEO of the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore. His career projects exceed \$10 billion in value and 50,000 jobs; these include the 2005 BRAC win for the U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Ground and numerous headquarters, research laboratory, and industrial projects for major public/private sector clients. Sadowski also has expertise in fostering research partnerships, technology commercialization, and new venture creation.



Secretary Portia Wu
Department of Labor

Portia Wu serves as the Secretary of Labor for the State of Maryland. Secretary Wu has spent her career developing and implementing policies that benefit America's workers. Previously, Secretary Wu was Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training at the United States Department of Labor (DOL). During her time at DOL, she led the implementation of the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2015. Before joining DOL, Secretary Wu served at the White House Domestic Policy Council as Special Assistant and Senior Policy Advisor for Labor and Workforce. Secretary Wu also served as Labor Policy Director.

