



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jan H. Gardner
County Executive

News Release

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CONTACT: [Vivian Laxton](#)
Communications Director, 301-600-1315

County Executive Appoints Black as County Attorney

Longtime County Attorney Mathias Retires After 31 Years

FREDERICK, Md. – Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner is pleased to announce the promotion and appointment of Bryon Black as County Attorney. The County Council unanimously confirmed Mr. Black's appointment today. Mr. Black succeeds longtime County Attorney John Mathias, who retires this month after 31 years in the position.

Mr. Black has served as Senior Assistant County Attorney since 2018. Prior to joining the public sector, Mr. Black was a partner at Schaffer & Black, PC, where he focused on the areas of criminal and contract law, property disputes, family law, administrative law, personal injury and estate planning. He also worked in the Frederick County State's Attorney's Office as an assistant state's attorney.



“John Mathias has been a steady presence in Winchester Hall for decades. His legal guidance and sense of humor will be missed,” Executive Gardner said. “We are fortunate to have someone of Bryon’s caliber ready to take over the role. Bryon brings a wealth of experience, strong management skills, and an emphasis on customer service. I’m sure he will hit the ground running and provide a smooth transition.”

Mr. Black earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Dayton School of Law in 1991. He holds a bachelor of science degree from Shippensburg University. Mr. Black was admitted to the Maryland State Bar in 1991 and the U.S. District Court in 1992. A resident of Middletown, Black is a member of the Frederick County Bar Association, served as treasurer and president of the Frederick County Criminal Defense Bar, was a member of the Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commission, and a District Court alternative dispute resolution mediator. He served on the Board of Directors of Hospice of Frederick County, is a Master Mason with Columbia Lodge 58 AF&AM, and is a member of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, where he is a 32nd degree Freemason. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout from BSA.

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A high-resolution photo is available upon request.

Frederick County: Rich History, Bright Future

Winchester Hall • 12 East Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-600-1100 • Fax 301-600-1050
www.FrederickCountyMD.gov