

David S. Lapp

Acting People's Counsel

Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh appointed David S. Lapp Acting People's Counsel in December 2020. As a lawyer, policy analyst, and writer, Mr. Lapp has focused on public policy and corporate accountability in important segments of the economy. His positions have required mastery of complicated legal issues and competing public policy goals. For the past 23 years as an attorney, his work has emphasized the role of state and federal regulatory policy in holding accountable the utility, tobacco and healthcare industries.



Until his appointment as Acting People's Counsel, Mr. Lapp worked from 2004-2020 as an Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland (OAG). In his most recent position at OAG, Mr. Lapp served as Deputy Counsel for the Maryland Department of Health, addressing healthcare industry regulation and providing advice and representation to the State Medicaid Program. Before that, as Chief Counsel of the OAG's Tobacco Enforcement Unit, he was a leader in State and national efforts to enforce the national tobacco Master Settlement Agreement against the major cigarette manufacturers.

For more than ten years prior to his work at OAG, Mr. Lapp advocated on behalf of consumer and environmental interests in the field of utility regulation, first as a writer and policy analyst and then as an attorney primarily representing and advising state regulatory commissions and environmental and consumer advocates.

Mr. Lapp graduated in 1998 from the University of Maryland School of Law, Order of Coif. He served as Articles Editor of the Maryland Law Review and received several academic awards. Following law school, he served as a law clerk on the Maryland Court of Appeals for Judge Howard Chasanow. He received his Bachelor of Arts with honors in 1989 from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana.