

Johns Hopkins Police Accountability Board
Open Meetings Act Training

March 10, 2022

OMA Trainer Biographies

Frank Johnson

Frank Johnson has served local government since 2000 at both the county and municipal level. He was elected to the Mt. Airy Town Council in 2000, and at that time was also serving as an Assistant County Attorney for Montgomery County, Maryland. He later served as Special Assistant and then Senior Assistant County Attorney for Carroll County, handling legislative affairs, and was elected Mayor of Mt. Airy in 2006. He later handled federal Circuit Court appeals for the U.S. Department of Justice, but returned to local government in 2014, working as Assistant and now Deputy City Attorney for Gaithersburg, Maryland. In that position he has advised the City Council, Planning Commission and other City boards and commissions on Open Meetings Act compliance, in addition to other legal issues. He has taught Academy Open Meetings classes since 2017, and in 2016 drafted the Municipal Infractions manual, published by MML.

April C. Ishak

A graduate of Rutgers University, April began her legal career more than 25 years ago representing parties in class and derivative stockholder litigation in the Delaware Court of Chancery. She shifted her practice to Maryland in 2009. Her interest in municipal law developed while working at a Bel Air law firm that represented municipalities in Harford County, Maryland. In 2017, April was appointed City Attorney for the City of Havre de Grace. She opened her solo practice in June 2019. The remainder of her legal practice is dedicated to estate planning, estate administration, business law, and civil litigation.

In 2015, Governor Hogan appointed April to serve on the three-member Open Meetings Compliance Board. She was re-appointed 2020 as Chair of the Board. She is also a member of the Maryland Municipal Attorneys Association and serves as General Counsel to the MFRW. In 2020, April began teaching Open Meetings Act classes. April enjoys spending spare time with her family and boating on the Chesapeake Bay.