

ERNEST A. CROFOOT

Ernest A. Crofoot was appointed the County's first in-house, full time County Attorney on December 31, 2008 after having provided legal services to the County for nearly four years as a partner in the law firm of Funk & Bolton, P.A. Mr. Crofoot has extensive experience in the areas of local government law, public information, open meetings, real estate transactions, planning and zoning law, cable franchise regulation, public finance, tax-exempt organizations, adult business regulation, drafting and reviewing legislation, and business transactions.

Mr. Crofoot is a graduate of The Johns Hopkins University (A.S., Accounting) and The University of Baltimore School of Law (J.D., cum laude, Heusler Honor Society, 1982). He started his legal career in Denton, Maryland, serving as a law clerk to The Honorable Marvin H. Smith, Associate Judge, Court of Appeals of Maryland, from July, 1982 to August, 1983.

From 1983 to 1992, Mr. Crofoot practiced with two large Baltimore firms, concentrating in tax, municipal finance, corporate, business, and transactional matters. In February 1993, after a brief time in solo practice, Mr. Crofoot was appointed County Attorney for Harford County, Maryland, where he was responsible for all of the civil legal affairs of that jurisdiction. In November, 1998, he joined the County Attorney's office in Montgomery County, Maryland, where he was responsible for contract review, represented the procurement and information technology departments, and served as legal counsel to the Montgomery County Revenue Authority. In June, 2000, Mr. Crofoot accepted the position of General Counsel to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the water and wastewater utility serving Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, where he served through February, 2002. From September, 2002, to February, 2005, Mr. Crofoot served as a Chief Solicitor in the Baltimore City Department of Law.

Mr. Crofoot is admitted to practice in Maryland as well as in the United States District Court for District of Maryland, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, the United States Supreme Court, and the U.S. Tax Court. He is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association and is a former Chair of its State and Local Government Section. He also served for two years as the state representative for the International Municipal Lawyers Association. He is active in the Maryland Association of Counties and its County Civil Attorneys Affiliate. For the last ten years Mr. Crofoot has served, and continues to serve, as an Academy Advisor and the ethics lecturer for the University of Maryland Institute for Governmental Service and Research in its Academy for Excellence in Local Governance. Mr. Crofoot is a former adjunct professor of law at The University of Baltimore School of Law and at Villa Julie College (now, Stevenson University). He recently ended a lengthy period of service on the Board of Directors of the non-profit Relay Children's Center, in Baltimore County, and now serves on the Board of the United Way of Caroline County.