

**From:** [Zipporah Williams](#)  
**To:** [Margaret Kent](#); [Shannon Avery](#)  
**Cc:** [Brian Shockley](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Guidance: May 17, 2023 Judicial Education Webinar, Climate Change and the Law, Maryland Edition  
**Date:** Thursday, March 2, 2023 3:22:00 PM

---

No worries, thank you for reaching out, Judge Kent!

Zipporah

**Zipporah C. Williams, JD, MAT**

*Program Manager, Judicial Education*

Judicial College of Maryland

Administrative Office of the Courts

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway

Annapolis, MD 21401

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*she/her/hers*

---

**From:** Margaret Kent [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:00 AM  
**To:** Shannon Avery <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Zipporah Williams [REDACTED]; Brian Shockley  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Guidance: May 17, 2023 Judicial Education Webinar, Climate Change and the Law, Maryland Edition

Good morning!

I have not handled any environmental law cases, and I'm pretty sure I told Pete the same. He was curious about any cases involving the question of the wind turbines being discussed for off-shore in Ocean City, but I advised him that I haven't been part of any of those conversations and am not involved in any cases which might touch on that subject.

Sorry to be of no help - like Judge Avery, I find the subject fascinating and would be interested in the applicable regulations/statutes.

Peggy Kent

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 1, 2023, at 11:36 AM, Shannon Avery [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Ms. Williams! Yes, I am currently handling a major environmental violation case in Baltimore City. I will do my best to answer the questions you pose, below.

1. The case I'm handling now is the first environmental matter I've heard in my 9 years in Circuit Court, so I would say no - it's not frequently recurring. This case involves an ongoing show cause for violations of environmental regulations at local construction and storage sites. I really don't have insight into how this matter relates to climate change, but I'm hoping to learn.
2. I have no idea what climate change issues are relevant to Maryland Judges! LOL! But I am hoping the folks who proposed this class will make some of the connections so we can learn.
3. I think it would be useful to bring in AGs who represent Maryland Dept of the Environment to explain the regulations, the connections to climate and other concerns, and their enforcement process.
4. I don't have any further information, but I would like to see sample orders, cases, and other materials that we may need in the future for environmental cases.

I'm afraid this may not be very helpful, but it's all I've got! Thanks for your work on this class.

Judge Shannon E. Avery

Circuit Court for Baltimore City

111 N. Calvert Street

Baltimore, MD 21202

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Zipporah Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 1, 2023 10:41 AM  
**To:** Shannon Avery [REDACTED]; Margaret Kent [REDACTED]; Brian Shockley <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Request for Guidance: May 17, 2023 Judicial Education Webinar, Climate Change and the Law, Maryland Edition

Good morning Judge Avery, Judge Kent, and Judge Shockley,

I hope you're all well! I'm reaching out with a request for guidance on a climate change webinar happening May 17, 2023. I've included a copy of the eblast for the webinar that includes a description below. I heard (from Pete Saquella) that each of you are currently handling (or have recently handled or assigned) cases involving climate change matters. If these are active cases, I know you're limited as to the amount of information you can provide, but would you take some time to respond to this email with answers to the questions below? Any information is greatly appreciated! We want to make sure this webinar is current and relevant to Maryland judges before making plans to create a full day program centered around climate change matters. Your time is valuable, so if you'd prefer to meet with me to discuss, let me know, and I'll set up a time to talk over Zoom. Thank you all!

- Do you see cases involving climate change matters often?
- What climate change issues are most relevant to judges currently sitting in the state of Maryland?
- Based on what you've seen recently, what topics would you like to see covered in a climate change class?
- Is there any other information you can provide that would assist us with developing relevant content for Maryland judges for this webinar?

<image001.png>

Take care,  
Zipporah

<image004.jpg>

**Zipporah C. Williams, JD, MAT**

*Program Manager, Judicial Education*

Judicial College of Maryland

Administrative Office of the Courts

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway

Annapolis, MD 21401



*she/her/hers*