



**CITY OF ANNAPOLIS 2025 MAYORAL CAMPAIGN OF
RHONDA PINDELL CHARLES**



CITY OF ANNAPOLIS MAYORAL CANDIDATE 2025 RHONDA PINDELL CHARLES

“Annapolis: Spreading the Love...”

RESUME

WORK EXPERIENCE

City of Annapolis, Alderwoman/Councilwoman, Ward 3

December 2, 2013-present (full-time)

- AND Periodically, serve as Acting Mayor, including the longest time: January 28-February 13, 2020 (17 days)
- December 4, 2017-present: Chair, City Council’s Public Safety Standing Committee—Police, Fire (including paramedics/EMS), and the Office of Emergency Management; and Member, City Council’s Transportation Standing Committee; and Member, Audit Committee
- One of 2 “civilians” asked to speak at the funeral of the late Maryland House Speaker Michael E. Busch, remarks entitled “He Was Us”, with an article published about this speech on the front page of The Sun (newspaper), 2019
- Worked with the Mayor’s Office to develop the initiative “Annapolis United” (Annapolis Recreation and Parks Department, Office of Emergency Management, Fire Department, and Police Department) with the Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis (HACA) as a partner, 2022-present
- Initiated, first time ever, the yearly City Council Work Session where the Anne Arundel County Public Schools Superintendent and his Staff, and the Board of Education representatives, make a 2-hour presentation to the Mayor and City Council
- Co-Developer of a 6-week program (including graduation), along with Ward 3 Community Liaison Ms. Debbie Odum, the “Annapolis Gardens Leadership Academy”, 2022
- City Council representative: Anne Arundel County, Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, Youth-Schools Subcommittee, 2019-2021
- Co-Founder of the “Annapolis Anne Arundel County Financial Education Coalition (AAAFEC), launched in April 2018
- Prepared a 15-page Alderpersons Training Manual entitled: “So You Want to Be An Alderperson?! A Week in the Life of...”, aka, “Alderpersons 101: A Guide to Survive” (2017)
- Asked by the Maryland Municipal League (MML) at their annual Summer Convention to Co-Present on their Session “Orientation for Newly Elected Officials”, June 2023
- Faced with an unprecedented crisis in Ward 3, Tornado Ida, September 1, 2021, and greatly assisted by all governmental agencies (City, County, State, local, Governor Hogan), as well as nonprofits including the Tzu Chi Foundation and The Red Cross, among many others
- Co-Presenter, Semi-Annually, Leadership Anne Arundel, along with other City, County, and State elected officials, 2018-present

- Asked by the Maryland Municipal League (MML) at their annual Summer Convention, to serve as Moderator at the Session “Structure of Municipal Government” (which is one of their Core Classes), June 2016
- Graduate of the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Leadership Academy, 2016
- Founder, “Street Corner Ministries Coalition”, March 2016, with 31 area partners (the monthly meetings ceased as of March 2020 due to COVID)
- Host, City of Annapolis TV Program, “Watershed Moments”, 2014-2017

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), School and Community Relations/Outreach/Liaison Specialist

January 18, 2006-December 31, 2021 (retired), full time

- January-February 2006, Central Office, Office of Student Services
- February 2006-June 2007, Central Office, Office of Equity Assurance and Human Relations/Office of Civil Rights
- July 2007-June 2008, Central Office, Office of School Performance
- July 2008-May 2012, Central Office, Office/Department of Strategic Initiatives: Office of School and Family Partnerships, AND Office of Student Leadership, Involvement, and Development (CRASC, Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils—working with the Student Councils throughout all of AACPS)
- May 2012-December 2019, School-Based, Frank Hebron-Harman Elementary School (over 800 students, 90 staff members)
- December 2019-December 2021, Central Office, Office of Equity and Accelerated Student Achievement

SEE “HIGHLIGHTS” SECTION BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

Anne Arundel County, Department of Health (DOH), Program Manager, Office of Minority Health

October 2004-October 2005, full-time

- County-wide, responsible for the development, implementation, and evaluation of health risk reduction programs—cancer prevention (including breast cancer), tobacco use prevention and cessation, and other health risk reduction programs in minority communities, and conducted needs and resource analysis, through grant programs, i.e., helping to reduce health disparities in minority communities—primarily, African-American (including public and subsidized housing communities in the City), Latino, and Asian
- Supervised a very diverse staff of 5—including those of African-American, Latino, and Asian backgrounds
- Oversaw a small budget
- Chosen to be the Lead Office and to Organize a first-time ever, and highly touted, “Immigration Forum” where 147 persons were invited, 4 did not attend, however, 7 attendees “showed up at the door”, 2005
- In October 2004 upon my arrival, there were 3 Latino Men’s Soccer Teams—each man agreeing first to participate in healthy eating presentations and smoking cessation presentations in order to play on the teams; by October 2005, the number of teams had grown to 19; and the data proved that these presentations were very effective

**Baltimore City, Office of the State’s Attorney, Assistant State’s Attorney/Prosecutor
December 1983-August 2004 (retired), full time**

- Trained and Supervised prosecutors and support staff, law clerks, interns, temporary staff for 18 ½ of these 20 ½ years;

Supervisor, Charging Unit, 1986-1990 (age 31)

Deputy Chief, Juvenile Courts Division, and Supervisor of the Charging Unit, 1990-1996 (age 35)

Prosecutor, Felony Family Violence Division (primarily Child Abuse and Domestic Violence cases), 1996-2004 (age 41)

- Opened this new and very innovative Division along with the State’s Attorney and the Division Chief
Prosecuted specially assigned physical child abuse cases and companion domestic violence cases where the focus was on establishing and maintaining healthy families and relationships

Speech Writer for the State’s Attorney

- Regularly trained a variety of law enforcement officers at the Police Academy, including College/University Police, Housing Police, School Police, Public Library Police, Sheriff’s Deputies, and Police from Pennsylvania; as well as members of the Grand Jury; and Maryland Department of Juvenile Services/Justice staff; Maryland Department of Social Services staff

SEE “HIGHLIGHTS” SECTION BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

City of Baltimore

1983

Hearing Officer, part-time, volunteer

- Conducted proceedings regarding vehicle impoundments, and water and sewer charges, and rendered legal opinions

Attorney General’s Office, Department of Natural Resources, Annapolis

August 1979-December 1983

Attorney, full-time

- Researched legal issues; drafted legal memoranda/documents; interpreted administrative regulations (federal, State, County); rendered oral and written opinions; advised Department heads; and represented the State, including traveling throughout the State and Washington, DC—from far western Maryland, Garrett County (and even West Virginia); to the Upper (Cecil County) and Lower Eastern Shore (Ocean City) of Maryland; to Southern Maryland, and our metropolitan areas

Office of the Public Defender, Anne Arundel County, Annapolis Office

Fall 1978

Asper Fellow, University of Maryland School of Law (part-time, unpaid/volunteer)

Spring 1979

Legal Intern (part-time, paid/compensated)

**Maryland National Bank (later Bank of America), Church Circle, Annapolis/Downtown Branch
(now closed)
Bank Teller
Summers 1978, 1977, 1976, 1975**

**Morgan State University (MSU), Baltimore
School of Business, College Teaching Assistant
School year, 1974-1975**

- Worked directly for Professor Frank Turner (recently retired, long-time Maryland State Legislator represented Howard County)

**Sears, Parole Plaza (closed, now the site of the Parole Town Center, Annapolis)
Price Changer; and Accounting Clerk
Summer 1974**

**United Blast Cleaning Company, Inc. (maritime industry), Lee Street, Annapolis (out of
business)
Secretary/Receptionist
Summer 1973**

**Montgomery Ward, Annapolis Mall (out of business), part-time
“Busboy”/Dishwasher, “Buffeteria” (Buffet Cafeteria)
November 1972-February 1973**

**Mount Olive A.M.E. Church, Annapolis, part-time
Church Bulletin Clerk, and Events Marketing Materials Preparer
1970-1990**

**Anne Arundel General Hospital (now Anne Arundel Medical Center), Annapolis
Candy-striper, Children’s Unit (volunteer)
Junior High School**

**Pindell and Pindell Building Contractors, Annapolis, “Secretary/Receptionist/Payroll Clerk”
(Owners: Father, Uncle, and Cousin)**

**Gwendolyn Queen Pindell, AACPS, Algebra and Math Teacher, “At-Home Teacher Assistant”,
Graded Student Assignments and Tests, and Typed Tests
Elementary/Junior High Schools, and Senior High School
September 1964-August 1972**

HIGHLIGHTS

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), School and Community Relations/Outreach/Liaison Specialist, January 18, 2006-December 31, 2021 (retired), full time (highlights)

Central Office (partial list)

- Facilitated effective communication flowing from AACPS to the students, and their parents/caregivers, and the community, by serving as a Mediator/Advocate/Ombudsman for IEP (Individualized Educational Plan) Meetings, Manifestation Hearings/Meetings/Conferences, AIS Meetings/Conferences, and “504” Meetings/Conferences for students, which involved/required some professional legal as well as health/medical experience, and some requiring multiple sessions (Office of Equity Assurance and Human Relations/Office of Civil Rights)
- Assisted with preparing a School-Based Resource Directory, and Community-Based Resource Directory (Office of Equity Assurance and Human Relations/Office of Civil Rights)
- Was instrumental in getting acclaimed actor Idris Elba to speak at Glen Burnie High School for the arts students from all of the 12 AACPS high schools, for “The Community Classroom—A Forum for Career Discovery” event
- Received Maryland State Department of Education recognition and award for an award-winning and innovative parent involvement program, “*FamilyHood Scores!*”, AACPS, Annapolis-based, 2006-2007 (each County received one award), at Martin’s West, Baltimore
- Co-Founded the Community Ambassadors program at Annapolis High School, 2006-2007
- Co-Founder and Co-Facilitator of “The Annapolis High School Champions Club”—bi-weekly mentorship program sessions for underachieving, academically struggling, and challenged/”at-risk” males, with the theme: “Knowledge is Power”, and emphasizing “Academics, Relationships, Careers, Good Citizenship”, 2004-2007 (volunteer until 2006)
- Founder of the parallel program for Girls, 2005-2007 (volunteer until 2006)
- Co-Founder and Co-Facilitator of “The Annapolis High School Tackle Club” (football)—bi-weekly program formed for the purpose of assisting in mentoring and enhancing academic achievement for the student athletes on the football team, and assisting the athletic staff; and empowering parents/caretakers to take ownership of their children’s education, with the theme: “Challenging the Gridiron—Championing the Grades”, 2004-2007 (volunteer until 2006)
- Selected to be a part of the Superintendent’s Leadership Team, 2007-08
- Served as the Producer for 2 AACPS programs (Office of School and Family Partnerships)
- Named the “Parent Link” and gave it its “tag” (Office of School and Family Partnerships’ e-newsletter)
- Named the “tag” for the “Parent Connection” TV program (Office of School and Family Partnerships)
- Assigned by the Superintendent to serve as the Coordinator for the yearly “Harvest for the Hungry: Kids Helping Kids” Campaign, Central Office, and served as the Point of Contact and assisted with the Campaigns at the 128 County-wide schools, including visiting all 128 schools and “touching base”, face to face, there with every Principal; and this Campaign resulted in a newly formed and perennial partnership with the U.S. Naval Academy’s MAG (Midshipman Action Group) Program
- Regularly worked with the Bilingual Facilitators
- Served on the “Youth Suicide Awareness Action Team”—a grant received originally from Johns Hopkins
- Presenter to the “Teen Parent Alternative Program”
- AACPS Representative for the “Raising4Reasons” student organization, which was originally developed by Leadership Anne Arundel

- Co-Presented to the Founders, upon inception, of the “Eastport Girls Club” (now “Seeds4Success”), at (now) Blackwall Hitch
- Attended/Participated/Presented at a variety of AACPS meetings and related events: Anne Arundel County Mentoring Roundtable; Disciplinary Sanction Review Committee (Students), and Code of Student Conduct; Leadership Conferences; Staff Development Meetings; Professional Development; Cultural Proficiency; Summits (including for high schools); Interview Panels (including for a high school head football coaching position); Parent Involvement Conferences and Workshops; Back to School; Annapolis High School Business Advisory Committee; Anne Arundel Alliance of Black School Educators; etc.
- Requested, by the Central Office, to present solo to 2 sets of AACPS professional leadership teams: “Annapolis Cluster, Professional Development for Assistant Principals, Community Engagement” (14 Assistant Principals); and “Professional Development for all AACPS Equity Leads, Community Engagement” (128—1 assigned to each AACPS school), 2020, 2021
- Appointed by the Superintendent to serve on the County Executive’s “Inter-Faith Advisory Committee” (IFAC), 2020

Frank Hebron-Harman Elementary School (FH-HES); over 800 students, 90 staff members (partial list)

- Initiated or renewed approximately 50 partnerships in support of the school
- Assisted with relationships between the school and parents, where FH-HES had over 30 different countries represented within their student body
- Point of Contact for the proposed MAGLEV train where there were plans to have the train tracks installed 80 feet underground—directly under the school
- Point of Contact for the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (which is 2-3 miles from the school)
- School Coordinator for “Healthy Weekends” (“Backpack Buddies Program”, which supplies nutritious food for students on the weekends)
- School Coordinator for the Strengthening Families Program, County Department of Health (DOH)
- School Representative on the PTA
- School Representative on the Harman Civic Association
- School Representative and Member on the Anne Arundel County Police Department, Western District (Odenton), Police Community Relations Council (PCRC)
- Member, Severn Center Task Force/Work Group, and the History Subcommittee
- Worked on projects on every grade level—from Pre-K to 5
- Worked with Morgan State University Student Interns assigned to FH-HES
- School Coordinator at FH-HES for the AACPS pilot program “Senior-Senior”, where senior high school students (Meade High School) and “seasoned” seniors, along with County Police Officers, were paired with 2nd graders who were having challenges with reading
- Assisted with the school’s possible designation “Wellness School of Distinction”
- Co-hosted a “Pop-Up Job Fair”, along with the Anne Arundel County Workforce Development Corporation, in the Meade Village community

City of Baltimore, State’s Attorney’s Office (highlights)

Juvenile Courts Division

- Hired by State’s Attorney Kurt Schmoke at the age of 29 and assigned to the Juvenile Courts Division:

- Promoted to Supervisor, Charging Unit at the age of 31; and
- Promoted to Deputy Chief by State’s Attorney Stuart Simms at the age of 35, while still serving as the Supervisor of the Charging Unit
- As the Deputy Chief of the Juvenile Courts Division, Trained and Supervised hundreds of new Prosecutors—15 of whom have been elevated to Judgeships at every level of the (4) Maryland State, and (1) Federal Judiciary—Supreme, Appellate, Circuit, and District, and the U.S. District Court of MD (Magistrate); as well as 3 elected County State’s Attorneys in Maryland:
- The Honorable: A. David Copperthite (U.S. District Court, District of MD); Shirley M. Watts (Supreme); Michael Reed (Appellate); Charles Blomquist, Emanuel Brown, Videtta Brown, Althea Handy, Jeanne Hong, Cynthia Jones, Lynn Stewart-Mays, and Rodney Warren (Circuit); and Robert Cooper, James H. Green, Melvin Jews, and Michael Studdard (District); and State’s Attorneys Anne Colt Leitess (Anne Arundel County), J. Charles Smith (Frederick County), and Ivan Bates (Baltimore City)
- Independently, and then assisted the Division Chief, with reviewing and sorting through thousands of applications and resumes of potential prosecutors; selecting which potential prosecutors would be interviewed, and scheduling them for interviews; interviewing potential prosecutors; discussing the interviewees with the Division Chief after the interviews; selecting and hiring prosecutors; and then training new prosecutors (all day for 5-8 days), assisted with scheduling prosecutors for courtroom assignments, charging cases, etc.; evaluating and assessing all prosecutors on all aspects of prosecution and their skills, and based upon these evaluations and assessments, recommending prosecutors for elevation, but sometimes recommending them for termination
- For example, as the Deputy Division Chief for the Juvenile Courts Division, was directly responsible, overall, for reviewing applications, interviewing, hiring, training, and supervising 20 attorneys, 15 support staff (over time, hundreds of staff)—this Division handling over 30,000 hearings per year, i.e., served as the day-to-day “Operations Manager” as well, especially since the Division Chief oftentimes assisted and accompanied the State’s Attorney outside of the Office
- Developed and Created the first State’s Attorney’s Office’s Juvenile Courts Division-wide “Policies and Procedures Manual”
- Oversaw the State’s Attorneys’ Office’s Juvenile Courts Diversion Program, where appropriate juvenile offenders were selected to participate in closely monitored programs that were able to redirect them and place them on a positive path, and included various components, e.g., counseling; therapy; tutoring; school, home, and community adjustments; etc.
- Visited various juvenile counseling, justice, and delinquency programs and facilities, and schools/educational facilities, within and outside of the State of Maryland
- Selected by the State’s Attorney to separately host and present to 2 legal delegations: one from China (hosted by the Office of the Public Defender); and one from Russia
- Regularly attended legal, judicial, and court, and administrative agencies meetings—day and evening—sometimes representing the Deputy State’s Attorney and/or the State’s Attorney
- Co-organized and spent an entire 3-day weekend overnight with about 50 child victims who had been significantly impacted by violence, at an Outdoor (in the woods) Bereavement Camp—a State’s Attorney’s Office’s annual event
- At one point, regularly handled cases in 4 different courthouses—Mitchell, Eastside, Wabash, and Southern
- Overall, worked with and around 300 prosecutors, 150 support staff, 4,000 law enforcement officers
- At a young age (late 20’s/early ‘30’s), the State’s Attorneys recognized my ever growing seasoned ability to manage a very large and complex organization in a very large metropolitan city (over 700,000 residents)

on a daily and long-term basis; amassing keen and insightful experiences toward working with good talent within that organization, as well as to improve those who initially exhibited average talent and skill sets; and was given continuing and a multitude of opportunities to practice civility and to be successful in seeking justice, and as a consensus builder and a negotiator—finding common ground—not so easily found nor can be learned “on the job”; thus, decision-making in these types of consistent and “pressure cooker”-type situations is very impactful on residents, businesses, visitors, and a city and its surrounding areas

EDUCATION

- University of Maryland School of Law (UM), J.D., 1976-1979
- Morgan State University (MSU), B.S., 1972-1976, Major: Business Administration, General (minor-Economics)
- Annapolis High School (AHS), 1969-1972, Academic curriculum/Scholar Athlete (and member of the Basketball and Softball Teams, “pre-Title 9”)
- Annapolis Junior High School, 1966-1969 (1965-1969, member of the AJHS Orchestra, viola)
- Parole Elementary School (now the Walter S. Mills-Parole Elementary School), 1960-1966 (1962-1968, piano; 1963-1966, viola); “Valedictorian” (1966)

EDUCATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS (partial list)

- 1980 – Member, Maryland Bar
- 1983 – Admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court
- 1993 – Admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court
- 1979 – Sole Student Member, Faculty Appointments Committee, UM School of Law
- 1976 – As chosen by the Faculty to be the sole recipient of the “1976 Outstanding Achievement in Business Administration Award”, MSU

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (partial list)

- Serve on the Walter S. Mills-Parole Elementary School “Community School Steering Committee”, 2022-present
- Serve on the Germantown Elementary School “Community School Steering Committee”, 2023-present
- Serve on St. John’s College, Elizabeth M. Mitchell Art Museum, Board of Advisors, December 2021-present, soon to be retitled “Advisory Board”
- Appointed by the Governor to serve on the Judicial Appointments Commission for Anne Arundel County, 2008-2013 (resigned due to my election to the City Council)
- Served on the City of Annapolis Board of Appeals, 1988-1994
- Served on several City of Annapolis bipartisan mayoral transition teams, 1997, 2001
- Served on the City of Annapolis Governmental Structure and Charter Revision Commission, 1996
- Served on the State Highway Contract Task Force for the Aris T. Allen Boulevard, Annapolis, 1988-1992

- Member, Community Health Center at Parole, Inc., Annapolis (former Officer, resigned as an Officer due to my election to the City Council), over 35 years
- Member, and Membership Chair (489 members in 2015; now approximately 380), Greater Parole Community Association, Inc. (formerly, Community Association of Parole; and formerly, Parole Improvement Association, since 1951) (former Officer, resigned as an Officer due to my election to the City Council), over 20 years
- Member, Walter S. Mills-Parole Elementary School, PTA and/or CAC (Citizens Advisory Committee) and/or other involvement, 1987-present
- Member, Annapolis Middle School, school-parent-community involvement, 1992-1998
- Member, Annapolis High School, school-parent-community involvement, including the Sports Boosters Club, 1996-2002
- Founder, Parole Elementary School Alumni and Friends Association, 1992-2015 (the only such organization that existed)
- Name placed on the Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation's "Honor Roll of Women" in the Rebecca M. Clatanoff Pavilion
- Inducted "onto" the Annapolis High School's "Wall of Fame"
- Member, Mount Olive A.M.E. Church, Annapolis (former Church School Teacher and Treasurer; Basketball and Baseball Teams' Scorekeeper/Statistician, Men's Club's Youth Athletics Program; among many other positions held), Life-long member
- Friend, St. Philip's Episcopal Church, has been an Ad Hoc Consultant to the Finance Committee, Advisor to the Rector, and Advisor to various organizations/members, 2007-present
- Strategic Event Planner/Coordinator, Speaker, Moderator, Facilitator, Panelist, Guest Lecturer for various events, organizations, etc.

I REMAIN FOREVER THANKFUL AND "GREATFUL" for the infinite and exorbitant number of wide-ranging opportunities and experiences that I have had throughout my lifetime.

Contact:

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