

STATE OF MARYLAND

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## **MEETING WITH CHINESE ANTI-CORRUPTION DELEGATION**

On November 21, 2006, the State Prosecutor met with prosecutors from The Peoples Republic of China who were assigned to the Anti-Corruption Bureau. The Delegation of nine persons was headed by Mr. Qian Zhongxian who is the Deputy Procurator General of Zhejiang Province.

The meeting was initiated by the Chinese delegation who wanted to exchange ideas about techniques used in the United States to investigate bribery and corruption cases. The State Prosecutor and his staff stressed the importance of having an anti-corruption bureau which was totally independent and which had the authority to investigate corruption allegations at every level of government. The delegation expressed special interest in learning how evidence is collected. This lead to a discussion of our grand jury process and how search and seizure warrants are obtained and executed. It was stressed that the Maryland Office of the State Prosecutor does not report to any governmental official and no branch of the government is permitted to attempt to influence the decisions of the State Prosecutor.

While the Chinese legal system has substantially different procedures and concepts, it is a system that is still evolving. An exchange of information among prosecutors is always beneficial.