

PROFILE | **Richard J. Bodorff**

Chair, Maryland Public
Broadcasting Commission



Richard J. Bodorff was named chair of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, Maryland Public Television's governing body, in 2025. He was appointed to the commission five years earlier.

MPT, a noncommercial broadcasting operation headquartered in Owings Mills, Maryland, is a state licensee member of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Prior to his commission chair role, Mr. Bodorff had served as chair of the MPT Foundation, Inc., MPT's 501(c)(3) nonprofit, established to encourage increased funding for MPT and receive donations and grants on the organization's behalf. He remains on the foundation's board.

He is a charter member of the foundation's Chesapeake Circle, whose members provide critical funding for one-hour programs that serve as the keystone productions during MPT's annual Chesapeake Bay Week observances each April.

Mr. Bodorff has practiced communications law in Washington, D.C., since his graduation from the Vanderbilt University School of Law. He has been associated with the law firm Wiley Rein, LLP, for more than 35 years, where he has served as counsel to broadcasters in matters pertaining to the Federal Communications Commission.

In addition to his current roles with Maryland Public Television, he is past chairman of the board of the Commonwealth Public Broadcasting Corporation (now Virginia Public Media), based in Richmond, Virginia, and past vice chairman of the board of the D.C.-based America's Public Television Stations (APTS). He currently serves on the board of the Broadcasters Foundation of America, headquartered in New York City.

On Maryland's Eastern Shore, Mr. Bodorff is the past chairman of the boards of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, the YMCA of the Chesapeake, and the Academy Art Museum.

He is a recipient of honors including that from the Broadcasters Foundation of America, which presented him with its 2025 Chairman's Award in recognition of his contributions to the broadcasting industry and community at large. In addition, the Rotary Club of Easton, Maryland, designated him for its highest award, the J. Howard Anthony Community Services Award, citing his "service above self" and his numerous community roles.

Mr. Bodorff is an alumnus and past member of the board of trustees of Denison University. He received an alumni citation, the university's highest alumni award, in 2022. Mr. Bodorff resides in Easton with his wife, Ellen.



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