

**Guide to the Oral History of  
GILCHRIST, CHARLES W. (1936–1999)**

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

Charles Gilchrist was a Maryland State Senator and Montgomery County Executive. He was born in Washington, D.C. and attended local schools. He graduated from Williams College in 1958 with a degree in American History and Harvard Law School in 1961. Gilchrist practiced law for about 12 years and was a partner with Lee, Toomey, and Kent. Gilchrist was active in Maryland politics and served as a member of the Democratic Central Committee prior to becoming a Maryland State Senator in 1974. In 1978, Gilchrist was elected to be the Montgomery County Executive. During his tenure, he reorganized county government, embarked on various economic development programs, expanded the county's Ride-On Bus Service, established an Arts Council, and expanded social services programs.

**Interview** - Interviewed December 30, 1986 and January 2, 1987 by Jeannine Jeffs for MCA.

**Subject**

AAA bond rating  
Affirmative Action  
Cable television  
Liquor Control Board  
Maryland – Politics and Government  
Maryland State Senate  
Maryland State Senate – Ethics Committee  
Maryland State Senate – Finance Committee  
Metro System  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Budget  
Montgomery County (Md.) – County Executive  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Economic development  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Police Department  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Politics and Government  
Montgomery County Detention Center

**Subject Names**

Anderson, Tom  
Gleason, James P.  
Lee, Blair  
Lee, E. Brooke  
McAuliffe, James

**Table of Contents/Index** - Not available for these interviews.