

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARCHIVES**

**Guide to the Records of the**

**Office of Consumer Protection**  
**(formerly Office of Consumer Affairs-RG 10)**  
**1976-1980, 2007-2008**

**Record Group 7: Public Safety**

**November 18, 2014**  
**Updated 2018**

Montgomery County Archives  
Montgomery County Records Center  
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### **ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY**

In 1971, Montgomery County established a consumer protection office as one of the first goals and priorities of the newly created County Executive and County Council. Chapter 11 of the Montgomery County Code created the “Office of Consumer Affairs” to eliminate consumer fraud and unfair and deceptive practices.

In 1996 the Office of Consumer Affairs became a division within the Department of Housing and Community Affairs. In 2006, Council President Tom Perez initiated action to restore the consumer protection office as a separate County department rather than a division within a housing department. To reflect the nature of these changes, the office was renamed the “Office of Consumer Protection.” OCP joins the Police Department, Fire and Rescue Service, Sheriff’s Office, and State’s Attorney’s Office in the public safety cluster of County agencies in safeguarding and educating consumers and businesses. OCP administers and enforces 11 County laws.

For further information see “Office of Consumer Protection: Annual Report, FY2011”

### **EXTENT**

0.15 cubic feet: 2 folders.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The records of the Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection document its activities as an educator of the consumer. Two folders of documents include pamphlets, workshop outlines, and publications from 1976-1980, as well as two annual reports from 2007-2008.

### **CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS**

This collection is open for research.

### **LANGUAGE**

English.

### **PROVENANCE**

Originally created in 1971, the Office of Consumer Affairs became a division within the Department of Housing and Community Affairs in 1996. In 2006, action was towards restoring the consumer protection office as a separate County department rather than a division within a housing department. To reflect the nature of these changes, the office was renamed the “Office of Consumer Protection.” In 2007, OCP joined the Police Department, Fire and Rescue Service, Sheriff’s Office, and State’s Attorney’s Office in the public safety cluster of County agencies in safeguarding and educating consumers and businesses. The records were moved from RG 10 to RG 7 in 2014 to reflect the departmental changes to the Office.

**RELATED MATERIALS**

For more information, see also Record Group 10: Community Development and Housing; Printed Material; Series IV: Subseries 1 & 2.

**USING THESE RECORDS**

To request records listed in this finding aid, the following information should be given to the archivist:

Record Group 7, **Office of Consumer Protection**, Box Number and Folder Title(s).

The preferred citation for materials from these records is:

Montgomery County Archives; Gaithersburg, Maryland. Record Group 7: Public Safety.  
Records Title: Records of the Office of Consumer Protection.

**PROCESSING PROCEDURES**

General processing procedures consisted of discarding duplicates, unnecessary binders, and routine transmittals. Oversized documents were removed from the original location in their assigned series and placed in separate containers. Separation sheets were inserted in the original location within the folder to indicate the new location of any records placed elsewhere. Preservation copying of newspaper clippings was performed whenever feasible.

**PROCESSING STAFF/FINDING AID AUTHOR**

MCA staff.

**FOLDER INVENTORY:**

Publications, 1976-1980

Annual Reports, 2007-2008