

The Daily Record

Court: Defendants have right to counsel at initial bail hearings

Posted: 10:33 am Wed, January 4, 2012

By Steve Lash

Criminal defendants have a right to counsel when their bail is set, Maryland's top court unanimously held on Wednesday. Without finding a constitutional guarantee, the Court of Appeals said the state's Public Defender Act entitles defendants to have a lawyer present at the initial bail hearing. "What the Court of Appeals has done is end the system ...