

Chapter 260

**(House Bill 573)**

AN ACT concerning

**Harford County – Service of Process – Detention Center Employees**

FOR the purpose of expanding the authority of a certain individual who is designated to serve criminal process by the administrator of the local detention center in Harford County to serve process within the Circuit Court for Harford County and the District Court of Maryland for Harford County; and generally relating to the service of criminal process by employees of local detention centers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
Section 6–310  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

6–310.

(a) In this section, “administrator” includes the sheriff, director, superintendent, warden, or other officer in charge of a local detention center.

(b) The administrator may designate employees of the local detention center to serve a criminal summons, warrant, or charging document.

(c) **(1) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE** authority of an individual designated to serve criminal process under this section shall be limited to the service of process within the local detention center.

**(2) THE AUTHORITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL DESIGNATED TO SERVE CRIMINAL PROCESS UNDER THIS SECTION BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE LOCAL DETENTION CENTER IN HARFORD COUNTY SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN:**

**(I) THE LOCAL DETENTION CENTER;**

**(II) THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HARFORD COUNTY; OR**

**(III) THE DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND FOR HARFORD COUNTY.**

(d) The administrator shall ensure that an employee designated to serve criminal process has received adequate training.

(e) This section may not be construed to limit the authority of any employee of the local detention center to serve civil process as provided in the Maryland Rules.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.**