CHAPTER 296

(House Bill 824)

AN ACT concerning

Montgomery County - Fire and Explosive Investigator - Rank Qualifications

MC 805-08

FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that an individual must have attained a certain rank to become a fire and explosive investigator in Montgomery County; altering the definition of "Montgomery County fire and explosive investigator" to include certain additional qualifications; correcting certain language; and generally relating to fire and explosive investigators in Montgomery County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Criminal Procedure Section 2–208.1(a) and (c) Annotated Code of Maryland (2001 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

Article - Criminal Procedure

2-208.1.

- (a) In this section, "Montgomery County fire and explosive investigator" means an individual who:
- (1) is assigned <u>FULL TIME</u> to the Fire and Explosive Investigations Section of the Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office <u>AND IS A PAID EMPLOYEE</u>; and
- (2) I(i) has the rank of a fire rescue lieutenant or higher; and BEEN EMPLOYED BY THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE AS A FIREFIGHTER/RESCUER FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS;
- (ii) (3) has successfully completed a training program from a police training school approved by the Police Training Commission established under Title 3, Subtitle 2 of the Public Safety Article; AND

(4) AT ALL TIMES MAINTAINS ACTIVE CERTIFICATION BY THE POLICE TRAINING COMMISSION.

- (c) The Montgomery County Fire [Administrator] **CHIEF**:
- (1) may limit the authority of a Montgomery County fire and explosive investigator under this section; and
 - (2) shall express the limitation in a written policy.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2008.