

Chapter 37

(Senate Bill 170)

AN ACT concerning

Washington County – Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs – Practice of Law

FOR the purpose of allowing an individual employed as a sheriff or deputy sheriff in Washington County who has been admitted to the Maryland Bar to practice law in a county other than Washington County; and generally relating to the practice of law by sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in Washington County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 10–603
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Occupations and Professions

10–603.

(a) This section does not apply to:

(1) a lawyer while employed as a part–time master for juvenile cases;

or

(2) an individual while:

(i) performing an affirmative duty required by law; or

(ii) engaging in an activity related to a case in which the individual is a party or has a property interest.

(b) Even if an individual has been admitted to the Bar, the individual may not practice law while employed:

(1) [as] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, AS a sheriff or deputy sheriff;

(2) in a jail or penitentiary, as:

- (i) a warden or deputy warden; or
- (ii) a superintendent or deputy superintendent;
- (3) as a bailiff;
- (4) as a clerk or deputy clerk of any court or an employee of a clerk;
- (5) as a register or deputy register of wills or an employee of a register of wills; or
- (6) as an officer or employee in a juvenile court.

(C) AN INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED AS A SHERIFF OR DEPUTY SHERIFF IN WASHINGTON COUNTY WHO HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO THE BAR MAY PRACTICE LAW IN A COUNTY OTHER THAN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

[(c)] (D) (1) This subsection does not apply to the settlement of small estates as set forth in Title 5, Subtitle 6 of the Estates and Trusts Article.

(2) In Prince George's County, a sheriff, deputy sheriff, warden, deputy warden, clerk, or employee of any court may not prepare or help in the preparation of any form or document that is filed in a court in that county or that affects a case that is or may be filed in a court in that county.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2012.