

Chapter 479

(House Bill 542)

AN ACT concerning

Circuit Court for Calvert County – Fees for Appearance of Counsel

FOR the purpose of altering certain appearance of counsel fees collected or charged by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert County; altering the purposes for which certain appearance fees deposited into the Calvert County Law Library Fund may be used; and generally relating to certain appearance of counsel fees.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 7–204(a)(1) and (f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 7–204(a)(7)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 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

7–204.

(a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection for Baltimore County, in paragraph (3) of this subsection for St. Mary’s County, in paragraph (4) of this subsection for Baltimore City, in paragraph (5) of this subsection for Harford County, [and] in paragraph (6) of this subsection for Carroll County, **AND IN PARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR CALVERT COUNTY**, the clerk of each circuit court shall:

(i) Collect, in advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of counsel when bringing or defending a civil action in the court;

(ii) Charge as costs a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of counsel when prosecuting or defending a criminal action in the court; and

(iii) Collect, in advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of counsel when bringing or defending a case in the Court of Appeals.

(7) THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CALVERT COUNTY SHALL:

(I) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CIVIL ACTION IN THE COURT;

(II) CHARGE AS COSTS A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN PROSECUTING OR DEFENDING A CRIMINAL ACTION IN THE COURT; AND

(III) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CASE IN THE COURT OF APPEALS.

(f) (1) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert County shall deposit monthly all appearance fees collected by the Clerk under this section into a special account to be known as the Calvert County Law Library Fund.

(2) The Fund shall be used [only] for **THE GENERAL PURPOSES OF THE COURT LIBRARY AND ASSIGNMENT OFFICE AND FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE COURT’S FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND PROGRAMS.**

(3) **THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION INCLUDE** the acquisition of books [and], other publications, **AND** library equipment, **PAYMENT FOR SERVICES OF LIBRARY AND OTHER PERSONNEL**, and other necessary expenses, as determined by the County Administrative Judge.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2015.