

16. (*Merit System.*)

All personnel of the commission except the commissioners, the General Counsel, and the People's Counsel, shall be subject to and included in the Merit System established under Article 64A.

*Organization*17. (*Office.*)

The principal office of the commission shall be in the City of Baltimore at such place as the commission may select from time to time. The commission's offices shall be open for business during regular business hours from Monday through Friday, (excluding legal holidays) and at such other times as the commission deems necessary.

18. (*Meetings; Seal.*)

The commission shall hold stated meetings at least once weekly, at its principal office, and may hold such other meetings at such times and places within this State as it may deem necessary. The commission shall have an official seal.

19. (*Quorum; Delegation of powers.*)

A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The commission may delegate to any commissioner the authority to conduct any proceeding within its jurisdiction, and to any personnel of the commission which it deems qualified the authority to act as a hearing examiner and to submit findings and recommendations to the commission. No decision in any matter in which authority has been delegated under this section shall be effective until made or confirmed, and ordered filed, by the commission in its principal office.

20. (*Audit.*)

The receipts and expenditures of the commission, and its fiscal affairs, shall be thoroughly and comprehensively audited every two years by the State Auditor, who shall promptly after completing his audit furnish a full and detailed report thereof to the Governor, the Comptroller, and the Treasurer.

21. (*Availability of records.*)

(a) Every public officer, without charge, shall furnish to the commission upon its application, a certified copy of any document or part thereof on file in his office, and receive from the commission for entering, filing, docketing, or recording, any document authorized or required to be filed in his office.

(b) All proceedings of the commission, and all records in its possession, shall be public records open to inspection by the public at all reasonable times.

**SUBTITLE III. PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANIES***In General*22. (*Applicability of subtitle.*)

The provisions of this sub-title shall apply to all public service companies, except as may be specifically otherwise provided.