

~~194-H~~ 210G.

The Judges of the People's Court of Wicomico County shall have all the authority, power, civil and criminal jurisdiction in the whole of said county, heretofore vested in the justices of the peace designated as trial magistrates and other justices of the peace of said county. In civil cases, the Judges shall have jurisdiction in cases where the amount in controversy does not exceed One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), which jurisdictions shall be exclusive in cases involving amounts not exceeding Three Hundred Dollars (\$300), and provided that all cases where the amount in controversy exceeds Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) may be immediately transferred or removed for trial by any party to the Circuit Court for Wicomico County.

~~194-I~~ 210H.

In addition to the power above enumerated and not in derogation or limitation thereof, the Judges of the People's Court shall have the following powers:

(a) To provide by appropriate rules and printed forms, for the administration of said Court and for the expeditious, orderly, efficient and simple practice and procedure in said Court which may relate to, and include, but shall not be limited to, the fixing of court costs, registered or certified mail service, return days, practice in suits against nonresidents, attachments, replevins, joint tortfeasors, counterclaims, cross-claims, and consolidations, continuances, depositions, dismissals, arbitrations, set-offs, appeal bonds, summary judgments, judgments by default, judgments by confession, supplementary proceedings, new trial, and such other matters not inconsistent with law. Such rules shall have the force of law until rescinded or modified by the said Judges or by the Judge of the Circuit Court of Wicomico County.

(b) To punish for contempt of court.

(c) To suspend or reduce sentence and/or costs in any case within their jurisdiction within ten (10) days after judgment has been pronounced.

(d) To place on probation before or after conviction and to make conditions of probation.

(e) To have concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Wicomico County in cases involving care and custody of a minor.

~~194-I~~ 210-I.

(a) The Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate shall appoint justices of the peace in Wicomico County who shall be designated committing magistrates of the People's Court of Wicomico County and who from and after May 1, 1967, shall have throughout the county all the powers and jurisdiction vested by law in justices of the peace other than trial magistrates and substitute trial magistrates.

(b) There shall be such number of committing magistrates, but no less than two, as may be recommended by the Wicomico County Council.