

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

Article - Labor and Employment

SUBTITLE 5. EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS

4-501.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) ~~"EMS" MEANS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.~~

(C) ~~"EMPLOYEE" MEANS A FIRE, EMS, OR RESCUE EMPLOYEE.~~

(D) ~~"EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION" MEANS ANY ORGANIZATION OF EMPLOYEES THAT, AS ONE OF ITS PRIMARY PURPOSES, REPRESENTS FIRE, EMS, AND RESCUE PERSONNEL.~~

(E) ~~"EMPLOYER" MEANS A GOVERNMENTAL UNIT THAT EMPLOYS AT LEAST 35 FULL TIME FIRE, EMS, OR RESCUE EMPLOYEES.~~

(F) ~~"EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN CERTIFIED THROUGH AN ELECTION OF ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES TO REPRESENT THOSE EMPLOYEES.~~

(G) (1) ~~"FIRE, EMS, OR RESCUE EMPLOYEE" MEANS A PAID FIRE FIGHTER, PAID FIRE OFFICER, OR PAID FIRE SERVICE PARAMEDIC WHO IS RECOGNIZED BY AN EMPLOYER AS A MEMBER OF A BARGAINING UNIT.~~

(2) ~~"FIRE, EMS, OR RESCUE EMPLOYEE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER, VOLUNTEER FIRE OFFICER, OR VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYEE.~~

(B) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS A FIRE, EMS, PARAMEDIC, OR RESCUE EMPLOYEE HIRED OR COMPENSATED BY THE EMPLOYER.

(C) "EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION" MEANS ANY ORGANIZATION OF EMPLOYEES THAT, AS ONE OF ITS PRIMARY PURPOSES, REPRESENTS FIRE, EMS, PARAMEDIC, OR RESCUE PERSONNEL.

(D) "EMPLOYER" MEANS A CHARTER COUNTY OR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

(E) "EMS" MEANS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

(F) "EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN CERTIFIED THROUGH AN ELECTION OF ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES TO REPRESENT AND BARGAIN FOR THOSE EMPLOYEES OVER ANY TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.