

JAN. 31, 1977

# Maryland Sends Mandel a Check For Back Money

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Maryland officials yesterday mailed former governor Marvin Mandel a paycheck for about \$32,000, minus taxes, for the 333 days he was suspended from the governor's office after being convicted on political corruption charges.

State computers this week produced the check for Mandel, who was reinstated to the payroll when his conviction was overturned by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, according to officials who handle the payroll in the governor's office.

Federal and state taxes and social security took bites of about \$11,000 from the check, according to one state official, and there may be at least two other interested parties standing in line to collect some more.

The state still wants to collect more than \$3,200 from Mandel for nine pieces of furniture he took when moving out of the ornate governor's mansion in Annapolis after his sentencing in October 1977.

His first wife, Barbara Mandel, won a court order last June stating that Mandel owes her more than \$28,000 in overdue alimony payments and lawyer fees.

Mandel, who declared after his conviction that he was penniless, runs a consultant's office in Arnold, Md., but neither he nor his wife, Jeanne, could be reached there yesterday.

Mandel forfeited his office and salary on Oct. 8, 1977, after he was sentenced in federal court. He officially returned to office last Jan. 15, just 45½ hours before his term expired.

The Justice Department still is considering whether it will ask the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals to reinstate Mandel's conviction.

Asked about that prospect, Deputy Attorney General George Nilson said yesterday that reinstatement of the conviction "would raise a very real question about Mandel's ability to retain" his back salary.