

Liber K. high Sheriff of this County to appear on thursday April 7th before your Excellency & this honble Board to answer here at this time to severall high crimes & misdemeanors with which in that Citation I am said to stand Charged as Committed & done by me in Contempt of their Majestys Royal Authority and of the present Government together with what else should be Objected against me on their Majestys Behalf, and whereas by the said Summons I am dishonoured and disgraced by being at present dismiss & Suspended from being a Member of their Majestys Councill & from being a Iustice either in their Provincial Court or in any other Part of this Province, before I am heard or know any thing of my Accusers or Accusation (except in the matter relating to my Office of Publick Notary the Execution of which is thereby forbidden me which tho I humbly desired to be informed of by my address to your Excellency on Wednesday March 29th as also that your Excellency would then please to grant me certain other reasonable requests in Order to my present defence yet have I received no answer to any of them, I do therefore again humbly desire of your Excellency and of this honble Board a full Copy of my Charge in Writing as also of all the Affidavits & Depositions of my Accusers and in order
 p. 179 to my defence I desire again that the Councill Books hitherto always denyed me may be laid before me and that a Copy of all your Excellencys Instructions relating to me especially those which appoint me to be a member of the Councill & a Iustice of the Provincial Court may be delivered me, & lastly that an order of Summons may be given me to Cite such Persons to appear at a reasonable time to be allowed me to put in my defence which I humbly request may be made in Writing that in a matter of so great moment wherein the dignity of their Majestys Commission my own reputation & Innocency are concerned all sudden or Inconsiderate Speech may be avoided by me that no misconstruction or Forgetfulness of my Extempore words or answers may hereafter be Objected against me and that if at last it shall be thought necessary that the whole Proceedings be laid before their Majestys my Accusation and my undeniable replys in my Vindication may go together

Thomas Lawrence

The Citation mentioned in the foregoing Letter or Petition is as follows

By his Excellency the Gov^r &c^a

Maryland ss

Whereas Sir Thomas Lawrence Baronet one of the Iustices of the Provincial Court & of their Majestys honble Councill