

at the pleasure of the Governor, and to have a commissioned grade not above that of Brigadier General.

The Governor selects, in his discretion, either the Adjutant General or the Assistant Adjutant General to serve as Chief of Staff of the Governor's Military Staff. Either the Adjutant General or the Assistant Adjutant General may also be appointed by the Governor as Chairman of the Maryland Veteran's Commission.

Article 65, Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, provides that the Ranking Line Officer shall be in control of the military department of the State, and subordinate only to the Governor in matters pertaining to that department. He performs such duties as pertain to his office, and the other chiefs of staff departments and corps under the regulations and customs of the United States Army. He superintends the preparation and publication of all official forms required for use in the military service of the State; the reports and returns required by the United States; keeps a register of all commissioned officers and the record of enlisted men. He is likewise the custodian of all State and Federal property in use by the organized militia; he is also in control of State appropriations for the maintenance of the organized militia (land and naval); apportions such appropriations and provides for the proper application of funds so as to insure a uniform and consistent disbursement for the progressive benefit of the military establishment of the State.

He also promulgates to the organized militia the orders of the Governor as Commander-in-Chief and provides from time to time appropriate regulations for the government, discipline and maintenance of the military establishment; he also publishes and provides for observance of all federal laws and regulations applicable to the militia of the State.

He is the official channel for communication with the War and Navy Departments on all matters and affairs relating to the federal government's interest in the militia of the State.

He is charged with the care, control and maintenance of all armories owned by the State of Maryland, and all buildings or other property purchased, occupied, leased or rented by or in behalf of the State military forces, which may now or shall hereafter be authorized by law and has all the power and authority necessary or desirable for the purpose aforesaid and with the right to make and enforce all reasonable rules and regulations.

The Governor, in his discretion, may by executive order transfer any or all of the strictly administrative duties of the ranking line officer to the Adjutant General or Assistant Adjutant General, provided that any such transfer shall not affect the control of the ranking line officer over the tactical command and training of the units and organizations of the National Guard or his general control of the Military Department, in all of which the ranking line officer functions under the direct orders of the Governor.

The Assistant Adjutant General may be paid a salary fixed by the Governor out of the appropriation in the budget for the administration of the Maryland Veterans' Commission.

In matters pertaining to the military establishment of the State or the military relations of the State with the United States, communications should be addressed to the Commanding General, Maryland National Guard, Annapolis.