

poration concerned in the issuance, sale, offer for sale, promotion, advertisement or distribution of any stocks, bonds, notes, shares, profit sharing agreements, service agreements, membership certificates and trustees certificates, or other securities within the State of Maryland, to file any statement or to furnish any information, books, papers or records required by the Attorney General, or his duly authorized assistant, to be filed or furnished in connection with such investigation under this sub-title, the Attorney General may issue his order under Section 15 of this Article.

Secs. 14-17 not repugnant to art. 27, sec. 184. *State v. Coblenz*, 167 Md. 528.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 12. 1920, ch. 552, sec. 12. 1931, ch. 271, sec. 12. 1937, ch. 348, sec. 12.

15. The Attorney General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him, that in the issue, sale, promotion, negotiation, advertisement of, or distribution of any stock, bonds, notes, shares, profit sharing agreements, service agreements, membership certificates and trustee certificates, or other securities within the State of Maryland, any person, partnership or corporation is employing or is about to employ any device, scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of any false or fraudulent pretense, representation, or promise, issue and cause to be served upon such person, partnership or corporation an order requiring the party guilty thereof to cease and desist therefrom, and from the further sale or offering for sale of such securities within this State. If it shall appear to the Attorney General that an irreparable public injury is imminent, unless such order is issued before a full investigation can be made pending such investigation, he may issue such order, but the same shall be accompanied with a request for information as to the facts relied on in issuing the order, and such temporary order shall only remain in force until such information is furnished and two days thereafter. Orders of the Attorney General under this section may be served by any one duly authorized by the Attorney General either (a) by delivering a copy thereof to the person to be served; or to a member of the partnership to be served, or to the president, vice-president, secretary or other executive officer or director of the corporation to be served; or (b) by leaving a copy thereof at the principal office or place of business of such person, partnership or corporation; or (c) by registering and mailing a copy thereof, addressed to such person, partnership or corporation at his or its principal office or place of business. A verified return by the person so serving said order, setting forth the manner of said service, shall be *prima facie* proof of the same, and the return post office receipt for said order registered and mailed as aforesaid shall be *prima facie* proof of the service of the same, as aforesaid.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 13. 1920, ch. 552, sec. 13.

16. Any person, partnership or corporation affected or aggrieved by the order of the Attorney General under Section 15 shall be entitled to a hearing *de novo* before the Circuit Court of the County in which said person, partnership or corporation has performed or is alleged to have performed the acts referred to in said order of the Attorney General, or in the Superior Court of Baltimore City, if said acts or alleged acts occurred in Baltimore City, or, at the option of said person, partnership or corporation, said proceeding for a hearing *de novo* may be filed in the Circuit Court for the County in which said person, partnership or corporation