

VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT. ALL EQUIPMENT, AUTOMOBILES OR MOTORCYCLES PURCHASED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE AND REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF CHARLES COUNTY AND SHALL BE RETURNED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO WHOM THE EQUIPMENT MAY BE ISSUED UPON SEPARATION, FOR ANY CAUSE, FROM THE OFFICE, AND THE COMMISSIONERS SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT AND FOR THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING GASOLINE, OIL, TIRES, BATTERIES AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE SAME.

J. SERVICE OF PAPERS; SPECIAL OFFICERS. THE SHERIFF SHALL CARRY AND SERVE ALL LEGAL PAPERS ISSUED BY THE TRIAL MAGISTRATE OF CHARLES COUNTY. THE SHERIFF IS EMPOWERED TO APPOINT SPECIAL OFFICERS TO AID IN THE POLICING OF AMUSEMENT PLACES AND DANCE HALLS, BUT THESE SPECIAL OFFICERS SHALL HAVE NO AUTHORITY OTHER THAN ON THE PREMISES TO WHICH THEY ARE SPECIFICALLY ASSIGNED. THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, SHALL DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF SPECIAL OFFICERS FROM TIME TO TIME.

K. MERIT SYSTEM.

(1) ESTABLISHMENT. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL PROVIDE A MERIT OR CLASSIFIED SERVICE SYSTEM TO WHICH ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, EXCEPT THE SHERIFF, SHALL BE SUBJECT.

(2) ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL ADOPT AND PROMULGATE AND FROM TIME TO TIME MAY AMEND AND MODIFY RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR EACH POSITION WITHIN THE CLASSIFIED SYSTEM, MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARY SCHEDULES, THE EMPLOYMENT EXAMINATION AND QUALIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS, HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT, HOLIDAYS, SICK LEAVE AND VACATION ALLOWANCE, AND THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL MAKE SUITABLE PROVISION FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS AND FOR NOTICE OF VACANCIES IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

(3) EMERGENCY APPOINTMENTS. THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ALSO SHALL MAKE PROVISION FOR EMERGENCY APPOINTMENTS FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED FOUR (4) MONTHS WHEN AN EMERGENCY ARISES WHICH DOES NOT PERMIT COMPLIANCE WITH THE USUAL AND ORDINARY PROVISIONS OF THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

(4) SEPARATION. MEMBERS OF THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE MAY BE PERMANENTLY SEPARATED THEREFROM THROUGH RESIGNATION, REJECTION ON PROBATION OR REMOVAL FOR CAUSE. THEY MAY BE