

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments

Section 253A

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1987 Replacement Volume and 1989 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments**

253A.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Board” means the Charles County Gaming Permit Review Board.

(3) “County” means Charles County.

(4) “Fund-raising organization” means a bona fide fraternal, civic, war veterans’, religious, charitable organization, volunteer fire company, rescue squad, or ambulance company. A fund-raising organization need not be incorporated.

(5) (i) “Gaming device” includes paddle wheels, wheels of fortune, chance books, and any mechanism for playing a game of chance.

(ii) “Gaming device” does not include bingo, slot machines, or other devices that are otherwise regulated by State law.

(6) (i) “Gaming event” includes:

1. A carnival;

2. A bazaar;

3. A raffle involving prizes of cash of more than \$1,000 or merchandise with a cash equivalent of more than \$1,000; or

4. Any event involving a game of chance.

(ii) “Gaming event” does not include bingo.

(7) “Gaming permit” means a permit for operation of a gaming device at a gaming event issued by the County Commissioners in accordance with this section.

(8) “Person” includes an individual, corporation, partnership, trust, firm, estate, association, joint interest held by 2 or more persons, and any other legal or commercial entity.

(9) “Representative” means a bona fide member of a fund-raising organization for at least 1 year prior to the date of a gaming permit application.

(b) This section applies to bingo and gaming events in the county.