

ticular case may deem it proper for the Court to know; and it shall be the duty of the Judge or Judges presiding in said Court, regardless of the fact whether any protest or objection shall or shall not have been filed as aforesaid, to refuse to grant or issue any license or to order the same to be issued, upon any application unless the said Judge or Judges shall be satisfied that the applicant or each of them, where the application is made by more than one person, is a person of good moral character and has never been convicted of any felony or of any violation of the liquor laws of Baltimore County within one year preceding the filing of such application, and to whom the granting of the license applied for is, in the opinion of said Judge or Judges, compatible with the peace, order, morality and good government of the County or the vicinity of the place for which said license is to be granted; and for the purpose of informing themselves upon the matters aforesaid the said Judges or any of them are empowered to make such inquiries and investigations or to cause the same to be made by the State's attorney of Baltimore County for the information of such Judge or Judges, and to summon by subpoena any person or persons as witnesses from whom they may desire to obtain any information or testimony, and, upon due notice to the applicant or applicants for the license under consideration and in the presence of such applicant or applicants, if they desire to be present, to examine and take the depositions of such witnesses in Court, under oath, to be administered by the Court or the Clerk thereof. The Court, for any reason disclosed by proof, may refuse to grant the license applied for. In any case where the applicant or applicants, after due diligence, has been misled as to the qualification of a signer or signers to his application, as such qualification has been defined by this Act, the Court or the Judge hearing the protests or having the application under consideration, as aforesaid, shall have power to allow him to substitute other signers duly qualified, in the place and stead of those disqualified, in case the license would be otherwise granted.

8. The Clerk of the Court who receives said application, certificates and affidavits, shall file and carefully preserve the same, and shall keep in his office open to public inspection complete dockets with full and detailed indexes containing the names, recorded in an orderly and systematic way, of all applicants and of all signers upon all applications together with their respective addresses; and after giving the notices, herein-