

appears to be a minor sixteen years of age or older without proper care or guardianship, and who is not an inmate of a State institution, or any institution incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland for the care and correction of children, or of any reform school or industrial school for juvenile offenders, and having knowledge of the person or persons responsible for or contributing to the condition of said child, may file with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the county, or of the Criminal Court of Baltimore City, or with the Magistrate for Juvenile Causes in any county, a petition in writing, setting forth the facts verified by affidavit; or the judge of the Circuit Court for the county in which the child resides or of the Criminal Court of Baltimore City, or the Magistrate for Juvenile Causes for any of the respective counties on his personal knowledge, or on information given him may direct such petition to be filed by a duly appointed probation officer, or by the State's Attorney for the county. The petition shall set forth the name and residence of the child, and of its parents or guardians, or other persons having the custody, control or supervision of such child, and of the person or persons responsible for or contributing to the condition of such child; and that the child is a minor without proper care or guardianship, and it shall be sufficient that the affidavit to the facts set forth in the petition is on information and belief.

Upon the filing of the petition a summons shall issue requiring all persons named in the petition to appear at a place and time stated in the summons which time shall not be less than twenty-four hours after service. Such summons may be served by the sheriff or constable, or police officer, or a probation officer. If the person summoned shall fail to appear, the court may issue an attachment for such person's personal attendance in court at the time to be stated therein, and upon the execution of the attachment such person may give bond for his appearance at the time stated therein in such sum as the court may direct. If it shall be made to appear by affidavit, that there are good reasons to believe, that any person proceeded against under this sub-title will leave the jurisdiction of the court before the day set for the trial of the proceedings herein, the court may cause a warrant to issue directed to the sheriff or an officer authorized by law to serve a warrant commanding such officer to take the person named therein, and bring him forthwith before the court, or the judge thereof, and the court or judge thereof, may thereupon require such person to give bond for his appearance at the time named for trial, or may make such interlocutory orders as are proper in the premises.