

political parties to aid in hearing such applications or challenges at a compensation fixed as provided in Section 4 of this Article. Persons whose right to register has been challenged and persons whose names are alleged to have been erroneously omitted or dropped from the registration lists shall be notified and may appear in person or by counsel. At the request of either party, the Board shall issue subpoenas to witnesses to appear at such hearings, who shall be sworn and examined. All cases shall be decided immediately after hearing.

27. Any person who feels aggrieved by the action of any Board of Registry, or in Baltimore City by the action of the Board of Supervisors or any of its Registrars or by the action of any boards appointed under Section 26 of this Article, in refusing to register him as a qualified voter, or in erasing or misspelling his name, or that of any other person on the registry, or in registering or failing to erase the name of any fictitious, deceased or disqualified person, may at any time, either before or after the last session of the Board of Registry, but not later than the Saturday next preceding the election, if in Baltimore City, and not later than the Tuesday next preceding the election, if in the counties, file a petition, verified by affidavit, in the Circuit Court for the county, or, if the cause of complaint arises in Baltimore City, in any Court of said city, setting forth the ground of his application and asking to have the registry corrected. The Court shall forthwith set the petition for hearing and direct summons to be issued requiring the said Board or other official to attend at the hearing or by counsel; and when the object of the petition is to strike off the name of any person alleged to be fictitious, deceased or disqualified, summons shall also be issued to such person. In determining whether any person is or is not a resident of any voting precinct, it shall be presumed that if a person is shown to have acquired a residence in one locality, he retains the same until it is affirmatively shown that he has acquired a residence elsewhere; and it shall also be presumed that if a person is shown not to reside at the dwelling given in the entries relating to him on the registration books, forms or cards, he is not a resident of the said precinct, unless it should be affirmatively shown that he is such a resident. The court shall dispose of the matter summarily by granting or refusing the order prayed, and if the Board of Registry shall have returned the registers to the Supervisors of Elections, a certified copy of any such order granted by the court shall be delivered to said Supervisors, who shall thereupon make the required correction upon the proper registers and under the head of "Remarks" note that the same was made under such order of the Court; but no person admitted to the registry by such order of court shall be protected by such order if prosecuted for false registration or false vot-