

*twenty four hours thereafter, report such demotion, suspension or discharge with the reasons therefor, to the Commissioner of such department, who shall thereupon, affirm or revoke such demotion, suspension or discharge according to the merits under the facts of the case, and if affirmed or revoked the appointing officer shall furnish the subordinate so demoted, suspended or discharged, and also the Commission, a copy of the order and also his reasons for such action. Every officer or employee so demoted, suspended or discharged, after the termination of the probationary period, and whose demotion, suspension or discharge has been affirmed, or the officer or person so suspending or discharging a subordinate when such suspension or discharge has been revoked as the case may be, may within five (5) days from the affirmance of any such demotion, suspension or discharge, appeal therefrom to the Civil Service Commission in writing; such Commission shall fully hear and determine the appeal upon the merits of the case, and if it be determined that any such demotion, suspension or discharge was unwarranted, the appellant shall be reinstated; otherwise, it shall be affirmed. Any such appeal may be taken by serving upon the Commission a notice in writing, within said time, specifying the ruling appealed from, which notice shall be signed by the person taking the appeal. A true copy of such notice of appeal shall be filed with the proper Commissioner. Within five (5) days from service of such notice of appeal, the proper department Commissioner shall file with the Civil Service Commission Chairman, a written specification of the charges or grounds upon which affirmance of the demotion, suspension or discharge appealed from, was based. Within five (5) days after such specifications are filed, as aforesaid, the Commission shall fix the time and place for hearing the appeal and notify the appellant in writing of the time and place so fixed, which notice shall contain a copy of the specifications so filed. The time for hearing such appeal shall not be fixed earlier than five (5) days, not later than twenty (20) days from filing such specifications. The Commission shall have power to enforce the attendance of witnesses or production of books and papers and to administer oaths in the same manner and with like effect and under the same penalties as in cases of magistrates exercising criminal or civil jurisdiction under the statutes of Maryland. The hearing of such appeals shall be public, and the appellant may be represented by counsel.*

*In the event that a suspension, demotion or discharge shall be sustained by the Commission, the officer or employee affected may appeal from said decision to the Circuit*