

120. *Bail.*

(a) *Criminal Division.*

(1) *The judges of the Municipal Court sitting in the Criminal Division shall have power to set bail and release on personal recognizance to the same extent as the justices of the peace assigned to sit in the station houses of Baltimore City were empowered on the day preceding the effective date of this Act.*

(2) *The judges sitting in the Criminal Division of the Municipal Court shall have power at any time to change the amount of bail, determined and endorsed upon any warrant under the provisions of Section 116 (b) of this Article.*

(3) *Except as provided in Sub-sub-section (4) hereof, whenever any person shall be arrested and brought to any station house in the City of Baltimore under a warrant endorsed as provided in Section 116 (b) above, during the absence of the judge from the location of that part (other than Housing) of the Criminal Division of the Court, which is nearest to said station house, the police captain, lieutenant, or other police officer, in charge of said station house shall release for the next hearing before said judge the person so arrested, upon his furnishing security for his appearance at the hearing in double the amount endorsed upon the warrant.*

(4) *Where there is an arrest by an officer of the Police Department of the City of Baltimore of any person for the violation of an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore or of a statute of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland punishable by fine and not by imprisonment, or for a violation of Section 388 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Ed.) (manslaughter by automobile, etc.) at a time when a judge is not available at that location of the Criminal Division of the Municipal Court (except Housing), which is nearest to the station house of the arresting officer, or nearest to the office of the State's Attorney of Baltimore City in cases under said Section 388, the police captain, lieutenant or other officer on duty and in charge of such station is hereby authorized and empowered to release for the next hearing before the said judge any person so arrested upon a deposit of an amount equal to the maximum fine and costs or penalty which could be imposed, if found guilty, as surety for such appearance, and after the hearing the deposit is to be returned to the depositor if the complaint is dismissed, if otherwise, it is to be appropriated as designated by law.*

(b) *Traffic Division.*

*The judges assigned to sit in the Traffic Division shall be empowered to set bail as provided in Article 66½, Section 320, ANNOTATED CODE.*

(c) *In all cases the Court shall have the discretionary power to strike out the forfeiture of bond or collateral where the defendant can show reasonable grounds for his non-appearance.*

121. *Contempt. The Municipal Court shall have the same power as possessed by the several courts of this State to issue attachments and inflict summary punishments for direct contempts, committed in the presence of the Municipal Court, or so near to said court as to interrupt its proceedings, in the types of cases set forth in Section 4 of this Article. The procedure in such cases shall be as provided for direct contempts under Section 5 of this Article.*