

when an emergency arises which does not permit compliance with the usual and ordinary provisions of the Classified Service.

(4) *Members of the Classified Service may be permanently separated therefrom through resignation, rejection on probation, or removal for cause. They may be temporarily separated from the Classified Service through suspension pending charges or leave of absence granted at the request of the employee.*

(5) *An employee shall not be permanently removed from the Classified Service other than through resignation or rejection on probation except for cause upon written charges and after an opportunity to be heard in his own defense. The Civil Service Board BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY shall file a copy of any charges against any employee at his last known mailing address and shall provide that within thirty days thereafter the employee has an opportunity to be heard in his own defense. The finding and decision of the Civil Service Board BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY may be appealed to the Circuit Court for Charles County, and the case shall be heard de novo by said Court.*

(6) *The County Commissioners, among the rules and regulations, shall prescribe what may constitute cause for removal, but no removal shall be allowed because of the religious or political opinions or affiliations of any employee.*

(7) *The County Commissioners shall appoint a Civil Service Board of three persons, not more than two of whom shall be members of that political party in the last preceding general election in Charles County who polled the highest number of votes in the aggregate for the several offices of County Commissioners therein.*

(8) *The Civil Service Board shall meet as necessary from time to time to conduct the business of the Board. Terms of office shall be as specified by the County Commissioners. They shall be provided with suitable office space and facilities by the County Commissioners. The salary of each member of the Board shall be \$300.00 annually.*

(n) **[No members of the Sheriff's office shall engage in any political activity.]** *The administrative, clerical, and police employees of the Board who are appointed and employed under the provisions of subsection (c) (3) and (4) of this section shall not engage in any political activity beyond their regular and normal powers to vote and as citizens to express their views on public affairs.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.*

Approved May 6, 1966.