

288D.

The Governor shall appoint a substitute judge of the People's Court from a list of qualified persons nominated by the Bar Association of Cecil County whose term of office shall be four (4) years. The substitute judge of the People's Court shall serve in the place of the Judge of the People's Court in the event of his temporary absence or inability and shall have the same power and authority and duties and responsibilities as the Judge, and he shall sit upon request of the Judge at any time it is necessary to relieve a crowded docket.

288E.

The Judge of the People's Court shall not engage in the private practice of law during his term of office, and the substitute judge shall not practice before the People's Court during his term of office.

288F.

The People's Court shall sit in Elkton, AND ANY OTHER PLACE IN THE COUNTY IF THE JUDGE FEELS THE WORK LOAD JUSTIFIES SITTING OTHER THAN IN ELKTON, and the County Commissioners shall provide adequate courtroom facilities for the court.

288G.

The People's Court of Cecil County shall have the criminal jurisdiction formerly vested in the justices of the peace designated as trial magistrates and shall have civil jurisdiction in cases involving amount's in controversy not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). This jurisdiction shall be concurrent with the Circuit Court.

288H.

The People's Court shall have the following powers:

(a) To provide by appropriate rules and printed forms, for the administration of said Court and for the expeditious, orderly, efficient and simple practice and procedure in said Court which may relate to, and include, but shall not be limited to, the fixing of court costs, return days, practice in suits against non-residents, attachments, replevins, joint tort-feasors, counterclaims, cross-claims, and consolidations, continuances, depositions, dismissals, arbitrations, set-offs, appeal bonds, summary judgments, judgments by default, judgments by confession, supplementary proceedings, new trial, and such other matters not inconsistent with law. Such rules shall have the force of law until rescinded or modified by the said Judges or by the General Assembly.

(b) To punish for contempt of court.

(c) To suspend or reduce sentence and/or costs in any case within their jurisdiction within the thirty (30) days after judgment has been pronounced.

288-I.

(a) There shall be no formalized pleadings required in civil cases in which the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) or