

competency to stand trial of any person charged with the commission of any crime within the jurisdiction of the Court.

(10) *Sentencing.* Notwithstanding any other provision of law, every District Court judge shall have the power in those cases described in paragraphs (b) (1) and (b) (2) of this Section 144 to sentence any defendant to confinement for the period or periods of time prescribed by law or by the statute or ordinance creating the offense, and to impose any fine authorized by law or by said statute or ordinance.

(c) *Civil Jurisdiction.*

(1) *General Jurisdiction.* The District Court shall have jurisdiction at law in all cases for the enforcement of contracts and to obtain redress for wrongs where the debt or damages claimed do not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); in actions of replevin where the value of the thing in controversy does not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); in all cases of attachment on original process where the sum claimed does not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); in all other civil action over which the People's Court of Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Montgomery or Wicomico County had jurisdiction prior to the effective date of this section in each such county, and where the amount in controversy does not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); and in all actions involving landlord and tenant, distraint, forcible entry and detainer and grantee suits regardless of the amount involved.

(2) *Concurrent and Exclusive Jurisdiction.* In all those civil actions listed in paragraph 1 hereof, the District Court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction where the amount in controversy does not exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00); provided that the court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction in actions involving landlord and tenant, distraint, forcible entry and detainer and grantee suits regardless of the amount involved. Jurisdiction shall be concurrent with the Circuit Court in all cases where the amount in controversy exceeds Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00), but does not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

(3) *Venue.* (i) The venue provisions of Article 75, Section 75 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, 1957 Edition, as amended, shall apply to all civil actions in the District Court.

(ii) In all civil actions where the amount in controversy exceeds ~~Five Dollars (\$5.00)~~ FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00), either party shall have a right at any time to demand a trial by jury in which event the case shall be transmitted forthwith to the Circuit Court in the County in which the cause of action arose or was filed, or to the Superior Court of Baltimore City if the cause of action arose or was filed in the City of Baltimore.

(4) *Prohibited Jurisdiction.* The District Court shall have no equity jurisdiction, nor shall it have jurisdiction to try title to real property.

(5) *Pleadings.* In all civil actions in which the amount in controversy is ~~Twenty-five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00)~~ ONE THOU-