

proval of the Governor, and with the advice and consent of the Senate. One member of the Board shall have been admitted to practice law in the State of Maryland for not less than five years next preceding his appointment.

(c) *The Secretary, with the approval of the Governor, shall designate one member of the Board as chairman, to serve at the pleasure of the [Governor] Secretary.*

4.

The Board, subject to the authority of the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services as set forth in Article 41 of this Code, shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) *To establish and maintain an office and appoint a secretary, clerks and such other employees and agents as may be necessary, such employees to be subject to the provisions of Article 64A, titled Merit System, and prescribe their duties.*

(b) *To adopt, promulgate, amend and rescind suitable rules and regulations to carry out the provisions and purposes of this article, including rules for the approval of attorneys' fees for representation before the Board or before the court upon judicial review as hereinafter provided.*

(c) *To request from the State's Attorney, State Police, county or municipal police departments such investigation and data as will enable the Board to determine if, in fact, a crime was committed or attempted, and the extent, if any, to which the victim or claimant was responsible for his own injury.*

(d) *To hear and determine all claims for awards filed with the Board pursuant to this article, and to reinvestigate or reopen cases as the Board deems necessary.*

(e) *To direct medical examination of victims.*

(f) *To hold hearings, administer oaths or affirmations, examine any person under oath or affirmation and to issue summons requiring the attendance and giving of testimony of witnesses and require the production of any books, papers, documentary or other evidence. The powers provided in this subsection may be delegated by the Board to any member or employee thereof. A summons issued under this subsection shall be regulated by the Maryland Rules of Procedure.*

(g) *To take or cause to be taken affidavits or depositions within or without the State.*

(h) *To render each year to the Governor, to the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and to the legislative council a written report of its activities.*

9.

(c) *The secretary of the Board shall promptly notify the claimant, the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, the Attorney General and the Comptroller of the final decision of the Board and furnish each with a copy of the report setting forth the decision.*