

time judges of the People's Courts of Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Montgomery, Wicomico and Baltimore City and the Municipal Court of Baltimore City who retired prior to the effective date of this subtitle.

145. Jurisdiction; venue; warrants; bail; writs; sentence.

(b) Criminal and traffic jurisdiction.

(1) Traffic. The District Court shall have jurisdiction to hear, try, and determine the case of any person who has attained his sixteenth (16th) birthday, or of any corporation, charged with the commission of an offense arising under Article 66-1/2 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition, as amended), generally known as the Motor Vehicle Code, except for any OFFENSE THEREIN SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED AS A FELONY AND EXCEPT FOR THE offenses specifically enumerated in Article 26, Section 70-2, (d) (2) of the Annotated Code of Maryland, 1957 Edition as amended.

(2) Criminal. The District Court shall have jurisdiction to hear, try, and determine the case of any person who has attained his eighteenth (18th) birthday, or of any corporation, charged with the commission of:

(i) Any common law or statutory misdemeanor,

(ii) A violation of any county, municipal or other ordinance if the offense charged is not a felony.

(3) Preliminary Hearings. The District Court shall also have jurisdiction to conduct hearings in felony cases to determine if the defendant shall be held for action of the grand jury.

(4) Concurrent and Exclusive Jurisdiction. In any case described in paragraphs (1) or (2) of subsection (b) hereof in which the penalty may be confinement of three (3) years or more or a fine of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) or more, the District Court and the circuit court shall have concurrent jurisdiction, but in all other cases the District Court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction. If any person is charged with an offense or offenses within the jurisdiction of the District Court, and also an offense or offenses not within the jurisdiction of the court arising out of the same circumstances, the person shall be originally proceeded against in the circuit court in the county within which the offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed, or in the Criminal Court of Baltimore if the offense or offenses are alleged to have occurred within the city, and such court shall have jurisdiction over each such offense.

(5) Venue. (i) Each District Court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine cases involving violations described in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of subsection (b) hereof committed within each respective district provided that within each district the defendant shall be tried within the county in which the crime or offense was committed or the City of Baltimore, if the offense was committed therein, and unless the case is lawfully removed.

(ii) In every case described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) hereof, the defendant shall have a right at any time prior to trial to demand a trial by jury in which case the matter shall be