

## 21. Review of decisions of circuit courts and Baltimore City courts.

In any case in which a final judgment has been rendered by the circuit court of any county or by one of the courts of Baltimore City upon appeal from [a justice of the peace, people's court, trial magistrate, or Municipal Court of Baltimore City] *the District Court* if it shall be made to appear to the Court of Appeals in the case of judgment in a civil action not subject to the jurisdiction of the Court of Special Appeals or to the Court of Special Appeals in the case of a criminal action or in the case of a judgment in a civil action subject to its jurisdiction upon petition of any party that a review is necessary to secure uniformity of decision, as where the same statute has been construed differently by the courts of two or more circuits, or that there are other special circumstances rendering it desirable and in the public interest that the case should be reviewed, the Court of Appeals or the Court of Special Appeals, as the case may be, shall require by certiorari or otherwise, any such case to be certified to it for review and determination.

### Appeals from District Court

## 30. Right to appeal in criminal or traffic case; disposition of fines and costs in criminal, traffic, or civil cases.

(a) [Any party may appeal to the circuit court for the county from any judgment of a justice of the peace or trial magistrate of the county in any civil cause and] *In a criminal or traffic case*, the defendant may appeal [to the circuit court for the county] from any conviction or sentence *imposed by the District Court*, including the suspension of sentence, or a sentence following a plea of *guilty or nolo contendere*, in any cause. *The appeal shall be pursuant to Article 26, Sec. 156, Annotated Code of Maryland.* [Such appeal may be taken at any time within thirty days from the date of said judgment if the cause is civil, and within ten days if the cause is criminal or deals with a violation of any motor vehicle law. The court to which such appeal is taken shall hear the case de novo and determine the same according to law and the equity and right of the matter. This section shall be construed to include all actions of debt for the collection of fines, penalties and forfeitures imposed by any law of the State or by any ordinance of any incorporated city or town of the State, and which are made recoverable before a justice of the peace, in which a right of appeal may not be given by the law imposing same; and this section shall also be construed to include all causes of any kind or nature triable before any justice of the peace.]

[If an appeal is taken from a conviction imposing a fine or other monetary penalty in a criminal case, the trial magistrate shall transmit the fine, costs or other monetary penalty so levied to the clerk of the circuit court to which said appeal is taken. In the event of acquittal or of the levy of a fine (including costs) by the circuit court in a sum less than that levied by the magistrate, the entire fine or the surplus held by the clerk in excess of the fine levied by the circuit court, as the case may be, shall be returned to the defendant. All fines levied by the circuit court hereunder shall be paid by the said clerk to the county commissioners as provided in this section. In the event of a dismissal of an appeal by the defendant before trial in the circuit court, the clerk shall pay the fine, costs, or other monetary penalty so deposited with him to the county commissioners as hereinabove provided.]