

reason to involve a personal representative in what are, in reality, public duties.

An officer, while he is in office, is personally responsible for carrying out the duties of his office, whether or not the duties accrued during his term or the term of his predecessor. An officer who fails to carry out his duties may be proceeded against on his bond.

Although the provisions on which this section is based originally applied only in the case of sheriffs, the section is expanded to negate any implication that the personal representative of any other officer may be responsible for completing unperformed duties.

SEC. 2-104. OATHS.

(A) IN GENERAL.

EVERY AUDITOR, CLERK, SHERIFF, CONSTABLE, COMMISSIONER, SURVEYOR, OR OTHER OFFICER BEFORE HE ASSUMES THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE, SHALL TAKE AND SIGN THE OATH OR AFFIRMATION PRESCRIBED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

(B) DEPUTIES.

EVERY DEPUTY CLERK OR SHERIFF SHALL TAKE AND SUBSCRIBE THE FOLLOWING OATH OR AFFIRMATION: "I, A.B., DO SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I WILL NOT FOR LUCRE OR MALICE DELAY ANY PERSON APPLYING TO ME FOR ANY BUSINESS BELONGING TO THE OFFICE I OFFICIATE IN, AND THAT I WILL NOT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ASK, TAKE, EXACT, DEMAND, OR RECEIVE FROM OR CHARGE TO ANY SUCH PERSON TO MY OWN USE ANY FEE OR REWARD WHATSOEVER FOR ANY SERVICES I MAY DO AS DEPUTY OF THE SAID OFFICE, AND THAT IN MAKING OUT THE OFFICE FEES I WILL NOT WITTINGLY OR WILLINGLY CHARGE OTHER OR HIGHER FEES THAN ARE ALLOWED BY LAW".

(C) BEFORE WHOM TAKEN.

(1) EXCEPT AS AUTHORIZED BY ARTICLE XV, § 10 OF THE CONSTITUTION, EVERY OFFICER, EXCEPT THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF A COUNTY, THE SUPREME BENCH OF BALTIMORE CITY, A COURT OF THE SUPREME BENCH OF BALTIMORE CITY, OR AN APPELLATE COURT SHALL TAKE