

UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW OR ORDER OF COURT, ANY PERSON MAY, WITHOUT CHARGE, INSPECT, EXAMINE, AND MAKE MEMORANDA OR NOTES FROM AN INDEX OR PAPER FILED WITH THE CLERK OF A COURT.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived from Art. 10, §9. The section presently permits free inspection only by attorneys or their agents. This limitation directly contravenes the mandate of Art. 76A which allows inspection of public records by "any person". Art. 76A, §1(a) defines public records quite broadly and apparently includes court records. The section, as revised, conforms to Art. 76A. Art. 76A imposes a duty on the custodian of the records to make them available for public inspection, therefore, no such duty is imposed here. An exception is included for juvenile court records and other records ordered sealed by the court. See §§3-838 and 4-521(c) of this article.

The section is expanded to apply to the district and appellate courts as well as the circuit courts.

The provisions of §9 applicable to the Registers of Wills and the Commissioner of the Land Office will not be repealed and are allocated to Art. 93 and Art. 54, respectively. (Commissioner of Land Patents)

It should be noted that this section only allows inspection and note taking from records, and in no way limits a clerk from charging a fee for making a copy. See §2-201.

#### SEC. 2-204. OFFICE HOURS.

THE OFFICE OF EVERY CLERK OF COURT SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS OF THE COURT FROM AT LEAST MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK. EACH CLERK'S OFFICE SHALL BE OPEN DURING THE HOURS AND ON THE ADDITIONAL DAYS PRESCRIBED BY THE JUDGE EXERCISING THE FUNCTIONS OF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE.

THE OFFICE SHALL NOT BE OPEN ON LEGAL HOLIDAYS