

HOWARD COUNTY

CLAIMED.

(2) THE DIRECTOR SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATION AND SIGNIFY TO THE CLAIMANT IN WRITING WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FOLLOWING RECEIPT THEREOF HIS APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION. IN THE EVENT THE APPLICATION IS DISAPPROVED, THE DIRECTOR SHALL INDICATE HIS REASONS FOR SUCH DISAPPROVAL. GRANTS SHALL BE PAID NOT EARLIER THAN JULY 1 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE CLAIM IS MADE.

(3) ANY CLAIMANT AGGRIEVED BY A DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS TO THE APPEALS TAX COURT FOR HOWARD COUNTY. THE APPEAL SHALL BE IN WRITING AND SHALL CLEARLY SET FORTH THE CLAIMANT'S REASON FOR APPEAL AND ON WHAT SPECIFIC GROUNDS THE CLAIMANT QUESTIONS THE DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

E. PENALTY FOR FILING FALSE OR FRAUDULENT CLAIM, REPORT OR STATEMENT

ANY PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION WHO KNOWINGLY OR WILLFULLY MAKES A FALSE OR FRAUDULENT CLAIM, REPORT OR STATEMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN, OR FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING, ANY RENT RELIEF SHALL BE GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND UPON CONVICTION THEREOF SHALL BE FINED NOT MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE. IN ADDITION, SUCH PERSON SHALL REPAY TO THE COUNTY ANY ALL AMOUNTS OF RENT RELIEF MONIES PAID BY THE COUNTY IN RELIANCE ON SUCH FALSE OR FRAUDULENT CLAIM, REPORT OR STATEMENT AND SHALL BE LIABLE FOR INTEREST ON SUCH AMOUNTS AT THE RATE OF TWO-THIRDS (2/3RDS) OF ONE PERCENT (1%) PER MONTH UNTIL REPAID.

SEVERABILITY

THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT ARE SEVERABLE, AND IF ANY PROVISION, SENTENCE, CLAUSE, SECTION OR PART THEREOF IS HELD ILLEGAL, INVALID OR UNCONSTITUTIONAL OR INAPPLICABLE TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH ILLEGALITY, INVALIDITY, UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OR INAPPLICABILITY SHALL NOT AFFECT OR IMPAIR ANY OF THE REMAINING PROVISIONS, SENTENCES, CLAUSES, SECTIONS OR PARTS OF THE ACT OR THEIR APPLICATION TO OTHER PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCES. IT IS HEREBY DECLARED TO BE THE LEGISLATIVE INTENT THAT THIS ACT WOULD HAVE BEEN ADOPTED IF SUCH ILLEGAL, INVALID OR UNCONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION, SENTENCE, CLAUSE, SECTION OR PART HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED THEREIN, AND IF THE PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCES TO WHICH THE ACT OR ANY PART THEREOF IS INAPPLICABLE HAD BEEN SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTED THEREFROM.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNTY