

is to say,) either (1) by personal service in the manner in which original process in an action at law is required to be served, by the sheriff, or (2) by leaving a copy of such summons at such person's last place of abode, or (3) by placing a copy of the notice in the United States mail postage prepaid, addressed to such person at his ordinary post-office address for the receipt of mail, in a sealed envelope with the return address of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation[, supervisors] OR THE SUPERVISOR of assessments [or department of assessments of Baltimore City], as the case may be, on the outside, provided that if such person resides or does business in Baltimore City, it shall be sufficient if said envelope be addressed to the residence or place of business of such person as it appears in the then latest edition of the Baltimore City directory or telephone directory, and provided also that a record of the date of mailing and manner of addressing said envelope shall be contemporaneously made and carefully preserved among the records of the appropriate authority, or (4) if the property to be valued or classified be real estate situated in Baltimore City having a street number, and the name of the owner is unknown or does not appear in such directory, then by addressing and mailing an envelope containing a copy of such notice in the manner prescribed in subdivision (3) of this paragraph to such street number a record being similarly kept of the date and manner of such posting, or (5) if the property to be valued or classified be real estate or tangible personal property and the owner thereof is unknown or a nonresident or cannot be found or served in any manner hereinabove authorized, then by serving such notice upon the person, if any, in actual custody and possession thereof or if no person be found in actual possession or custody thereof, then by posting the same conspicuously upon such real estate or tangible personal property; provided that if the mail address of such person be known, even though he be a nonresident, it shall be the duty of such taxing authority (though not a condition precedent to the validity of the valuation), to mail a copy of the notice to such address.

(d) Any person notified by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation [,] OR the supervisors of assessments [for the county, or the department of assessments of Baltimore City], under subsection (a) of this section, of a proposal to make, increase, change, or refuse to make, increase, change, or refuse to change an evaluation or classification may make answer to the notice [or to the interrogatories accompanying the notice, if any, under oath, either orally or] in writing WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE, and appear before the authority from which the notice emanates either personally or by an attorney or agent on the day so fixed, or on any later date to which the hearing may be adjourned, fixed in accordance with subsection (d-1) of this section, and present such proof and arguments as he may desire; and in the event of his failure to appear, the appropriate assessment authority may make or increase the valuation or change the classification ex parte according to their best judgment and information.