

Article 62 - Marriages

3A.

(a) The following persons are authorized to solemnize marriages in this State: Any minister of the Gospel or official of a religious order or body authorized by the rules and customs of said order or body to join persons in marriage; and any clerk of the circuit court for any county or such deputy clerks as the resident judge of the circuit court for the county, or the senior judge of the circuit court resident in the county, as the case may be, may designate, and any of the clerks or deputy clerks of any of the courts comprising the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City as the chief judge of the Supreme Bench may designate.

(b) The resident judge, or senior judge, as provided above and the chief judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City shall designate the times during which and the places where the clerks of the judicial circuits or of the Supreme Bench, or such deputies or other clerks as may be designated, may perform marriage ceremonies. The resident judge or senior judge, and the chief judge of the Supreme Bench shall also designate the form of marriage ceremony which shall be recited by the clerks and parties to the marriage.

(c) (1) Except as provided otherwise by this subsection, clerks, deputies, or other clerks for performing a marriage ceremony shall receive a fee of \$10. Of this fee, \$3 shall be retained by the clerks and deposited and disbursed in the same manner as other fees collected by the clerks. The remaining \$7 shall be paid monthly by the clerks into the general funds of the county or City of Baltimore. A clerk, deputy, or other clerk may not receive any other fee, remuneration, or gift of any kind for performing a marriage ceremony not authorized by this section.

(2) In Anne Arundel County the fee is \$15. Of this fee, \$3 shall be retained by the clerks; \$8 shall be paid to the general fund of Anne Arundel County and \$4 shall be retained in a special fund for the Anne Arundel County Committee of the Historical Trust.

(3) In Allegany County the fee is \$12. Of this fee \$3 shall be retained by the clerks and \$7 shall be paid to the general funds of the county. The remaining \$2 shall be paid to the Allegany County Historical Society for its general use on July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1 of each year.

(4) IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, THE FEE IS \$15. OF THIS FEE, \$7 \$3 SHALL BE RETAINED BY THE CLERKS; \$3 \$7 SHALL BE PAID TO THE GENERAL FUND OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, AND \$5 SHALL BE RETAINED IN A SPECIAL FUND FOR THE BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL TRUST, INC.