

Interference with Court Officers

FOR the purpose of redefining the offense of obstruction of justice and improper interference with court officers, jurors, and witnesses; removing the requirement that the crime of obstruction of justice be charged by indictment; clarifying language; and making stylistic changes.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 27
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

27.

If any person [shall corruptly] BY CORRUPT MEANS or by threats or force [endeavor] ENDEAVORS to influence, intimidate, or impede any juror, witness, or COURT officer [in] OF any court of this State in the discharge of his duty, or [shall corruptly] BY CORRUPT MEANS or by threats or force [obstruct] OBSTRUCTS [or impede], IMPEDES, or [endeavor] ENDEAVORS to obstruct or impede[,] the due administration of justice therein, he [shall be] IS liable to be prosecuted[, therefor] ~~by--indictment~~, and on conviction [thereof] TO be punished by fine not exceeding [ten thousand dollars] \$10,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding [three] 3 years, or both, according to the nature and aggravation of the offense.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved May 12, 1981.

CHAPTER 275

(Senate Bill 325)

AN ACT concerning

Juvenile Causes - Violation of Vehicle Laws