

provisions of this section shall apply to all persons regardless of age.

643.

In all cases where the law prescribing a punishment for crime fixes a maximum and a minimum penalty therefor, [the judge of the Criminal Court of Baltimore and] the several judges of the circuit courts of the counties and of the District Court of Maryland may, in lieu of the minimum penalty so prescribed, impose a less penalty of the same character; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as affecting any maximum penalty fixed by law, or the punishment for any crime where the law provides one and only one penalty.

645A.

(a) Any person convicted of a crime and either incarcerated under sentence of death or imprisonment or on parole or probation, including any person confined or on parole or probation as a result of a proceeding before the District Court who claims that the sentence or judgment was imposed in violation of the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution or laws of this State, or that the court was without jurisdiction to impose the sentence, or that the sentence exceeds the maximum authorized by law, or that the sentence is otherwise subject to collateral attack upon any ground of alleged error which would otherwise be available under a writ of habeas corpus, writ of coram nobis, or other common-law or statutory remedy, may institute a proceeding under this subtitle in the circuit court for the county [or the Criminal Court of Baltimore] to set aside or correct the sentence, provided the alleged error has not been previously and finally litigated or waived in the proceedings resulting in the conviction, or in any other proceeding that the petitioner has taken to secure relief from his conviction.

645JF.

For purposes of this subtitle, (1) the term "trial judge" means a judge of the Circuit court of the county [or of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City,] or of the judicial circuit of this State, in which the sentencing court is located, whether the judge was elected or appointed; (2) the term "trial court" means the Circuit court for any county [or the Criminal Court of Baltimore City]; (3) the term "sentencing judge" means the judge who imposed the sentence or who required that any sentence, previously suspended, in whole or in part, be served; (4) the term "sentencing court" means the court in which the sentencing judge imposed the sentence or required that any sentence, previously suspended, in whole or in part, be served; and (5) the term "panel" means the three (3) or more trial judges who conduct