

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 88A – Department of Human Resources
Section 6
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Family Law
Section 5–560 and 5–561(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2004 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Family Law
Section 5–564
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2004 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to
Article – Family Law
Section 5–580.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2004 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 88A – Department of Human Resources

6.

(a) Except in accordance with a court order or to an authorized officer or employee of the State, another state or local government, or the United States, or a fiduciary institution having a right thereto in an official capacity, and as necessary to discharge responsibilities to administer public assistance, medical assistance, or social services programs, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to divulge or make known in any manner any information concerning any applicant for or recipient of social services, child welfare services, cash assistance, food stamps, or medical assistance, directly or indirectly derived from the records, papers, files, investigations or communications of the State, county or city, or subdivisions or agencies thereof, or acquired in the course of the performance of official duties.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in Title 5, Subtitle 7 of the Family Law Article, § 6A of this subtitle, and this section, all records and reports concerning child abuse or neglect are confidential, and their unauthorized disclosure is a criminal offense subject to the penalty set out in subsection (e) of this section. Reports or records concerning child abuse or neglect: