

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

Article - Public Safety

1-202.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) (i) "Child" means a natural or adopted, legitimate or illegitimate child or stepchild of the decedent.

(ii) "Child" includes a child or stepchild born posthumously.

(3) "Correctional officer" has the meaning stated in § 8-201(e)(1) of the Correctional Services Article.

(4) (i) "Law enforcement officer" has the meaning stated in § 3-101 of this article.

(ii) "Law enforcement officer" includes:

1. an officer who serves in a probationary status; and
2. an officer who serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority of a county or municipal corporation.

(5) "Performance of duties" includes, in the case of a volunteer or career firefighter or rescue squad member:

(i) actively participating in fighting a fire;

(ii) going to or from a fire;

(iii) performing other duties necessary to the operation or maintenance of the fire company;

(iv) actively participating in the ambulance, advanced life support, or rescue work of an advanced life support unit or a fire, ambulance, or rescue company, including going to or from an emergency or rescue; and

(v) providing emergency or rescue assistance, whether acting alone or at the direction of or with a fire, ambulance, or rescue company or advanced life support unit.

(6) "Stepchild" means a child of the surviving spouse who was living with or dependent for support on the decedent at the time of the decedent's death.

(b) (1) Subject to SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION AND paragraph (2) of this subsection, a death benefit of ~~[\$50,000]~~ ~~\$125,000~~ shall be paid to the surviving spouse, child, dependent parent, or estate of each of the following individuals who is killed or dies in the performance of duties on or after July 1, 1989:

(i) a law enforcement officer;