

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

**Article 10 - Legal Officials**

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(s) (1) (i) In St. Mary's County the State's Attorney's salary is 90 percent of the salary of a judge of the District Court of Maryland. A salary increase shall take effect at the beginning of the elected term of office and may not increase during that term of office.

(ii) During his term of office, the State's Attorney may not engage in the private practice of law in any matter after December 31, 1982.

(iii) The State's Attorney may not appear professionally in any criminal proceeding in this State, except in connection with and in the performance of his duties as the State's Attorney.

(2) (i) The State's Attorney may appoint administrative support staff as necessary for the conduct of the office.

(ii) Administrative support staff positions are in the St. Mary's County merit system.

(iii) The County Commissioners of St. Mary's County shall make provisions for all administrative support staff, independent office facilities, office equipment, supplies and books, and any other items necessary for the operation of the State's Attorney's office.

(3) (i) The State's Attorney may appoint a deputy State's Attorney, two or more assistant State's Attorneys and one or more investigators.

(ii) The deputy State's Attorney and the assistant State's Attorneys may be part-time or full-time employees and shall serve at the pleasure of the State's Attorney.

(iii) The investigators:

1. May be part-time or full-time employees; and
2. Shall be in the St. Mary's County merit system.

(iv) The County Commissioners shall make available to the State's Attorney an annual sum from which the State's Attorney shall appropriate salaries for the deputy State's Attorney, the assistant State's Attorneys, and the investigators.

(4) Payments for salaries shall be made biweekly and payments for expenses shall be made upon the presentation of vouchers.