APPOINT A THIRD PARTY NEUTRAL TO CONDUCT AN ELECTION AND TO CERTIFY WHETHER THE LABOR ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE BY A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST IN THE ELECTION.

- 4. THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION AND THE THIRD PARTY NEUTRAL SHALL BE SHARED EQUALLY BY THE PARTIES.
- (IV) 1. FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF AN EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE PARTIES SHALL MEET AT REASONABLE TIMES AND ENGAGE IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN GOOD FAITH.
- 2. THE PARTIES SHALL MAKE EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS IN A TIMELY MANNER TO ALLOW FOR INCLUSION BY THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF MATTERS AGREED UPON IN ITS BUDGET REQUEST TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FREDERICK COUNTY.
- (V) 1. A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT SHALL CONTAIN ALL MATTERS OF AGREEMENT REACHED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCESS.
- 2. THE AGREEMENT MAY CONTAIN A GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE PROVIDING FOR NONBINDING ARBITRATION OF GRIEVANCES.
- 3. AN AGREEMENT REACHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBPARAGRAPH SHALL BE IN WRITING AND SIGNED BY THE DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS.
- 4. A. SUBJECT TO SUBSUBSUBPARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBSUBPARAGRAPH, AN AGREEMENT IS NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL IT IS RATIFIED BY A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST BY THE DEPUTY SHERIFFS IN THE BARGAINING UNIT AND THE SHERIFF.
- B. ADDITIONAL FUNDING, IF ANY, REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.
- (VI) NOTHING IN THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE CONSTRUED AS AUTHORIZING OR OTHERWISE ALLOWING A DEPUTY SHERIFF TO ENGAGE IN A STRIKE AS DEFINED IN § 3–303 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

Approved April 26, 2005.