

(1982 Replacement Volume and 1983 Supplement)

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

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

45A.

(a) For the purposes of this section, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(1) ["public] "PUBLIC record" includes all official books, papers, or records whether kept on a manual or automated basis, which are created, received, or used by the State or any agency thereof, a bicounty or a multicounty agency, any county, municipality, or other political subdivision.

(2) "ACCESS" MEANS TO APPROACH, INSTRUCT, COMMUNICATE WITH, STORE DATA IN, RETRIEVE DATA FROM, OR OTHERWISE MAKE USE OF ANY--RESOURCES--OR EQUIPMENT INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COMPUTERS AND OTHER DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT OR RESOURCES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

(b) It is unlawful for a person to do or attempt to do the following:

(1) Wilfully make a false entry in any public records; [or]

(2) Except under proper authority, wilfully alter, deface, destroy, remove, or conceal any public record[.]; OR

(3) EXCEPT UNDER PROPER AUTHORITY, WILFULLY AND INTENTIONALLY ACCESS PUBLIC RECORDS.

(c) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned up to 3 years or fined up to ~~-\$1,000-~~ \$10,000, or both.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this section shall not be construed to preclude the application of any other provisions of the criminal law of the State which applies or may apply to any transaction.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1984.

Approved May 15, 1984.
