

official, any candidate for a nomination or for delegate to any convention or for member of a central committee or position who has been defeated on the face of the [returns,] RETURNS may petition the board for an appeal from and review of the action and decision of the judges in counting the ballots and for a recanvass and recount of the ballots cast in any or all of the precincts of any county or Baltimore City or ward or legislative district or political division therein. If the candidate was a candidate for a State office or for Congress or for judge he may petition for said recount in two or more counties or legislative districts or wards or precincts of Baltimore City simultaneously.

13-4.

(a) The board after receiving the petition shall ascertain the votes recorded on the voting machines in the manner provided in § 17-8 of this article; or, if paper ballots were used, the board shall collect the ballot boxes, returns, tally sheets and paraphernalia of the election; or if punchcard ballots were used in Montgomery County, the board shall collect the punchcards, printouts and paraphernalia of the election. It shall proceed [forthwith] FORTHWITH, in a summary way without answer, pleading or technicality and without requiring any evidence to be taken or proof submitted, to recount the ballots in those precincts named in the petition in any county, city, legislative district, ward or other political subdivision thereof, as the case may be.

(1) The review, recount and recanvass of voting machines shall be conducted by the board in the manner provided in § 17-4 of this article on the days and within the hours provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) The review, recount and recanvass of paper ballots or punchcard ballots (for any election at which the use of such ballots has been authorized in Montgomery County by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws pursuant to § 16A-1 of this article) shall be conducted with all possible expedition and dispatch and in preference to all other business, under such mode of procedure as the board shall prescribe by means of tellers approved by them on the recommendation of and with equal representation to the opposing candidates. The board shall pass upon and decide whether any ballot contested by the teller for either side shall be rejected or counted. The members of the board shall sit for this purpose in the office of the board or in the courtroom of the circuit court for the county, as the case may be, every day, excepting Sunday, at least from 9 o'clock a.m. to 5 o'clock p.m., with one hour's intermission for lunch, until the review, recount and recanvass is completed.

14-1.

(d) The board shall [deliver] DELIVER, not more than three days and not less than one day preceding the election, ballot boxes for each precinct and other equipment and supplies required for the election, together with a sealed package of ballots,