

or during the hearing, or by reference in preliminary reports or otherwise, of the material so noticed, and they shall be afforded an opportunity and reasonable time to contest the facts so noticed. A hearing board may utilize its experience, technical competence, and specialized knowledge in the evaluation of the evidence presented.

(f) With respect to the subject of any hearing conducted pursuant to this subtitle, the chief or the officer designated by the chief shall administer oaths or affirmations and examine any individual under oath.

(g) Witness fees and mileage, if claimed, shall be allowed the same as for testimony in a circuit court. Witness fees, mileage, and the actual expenses necessarily incurred in securing attendance of witnesses and their testimony shall be itemized, and shall be paid by the law-enforcement agency.

(h) (1) The chief, or hearing board, as the case may be, shall in connection with any disciplinary hearing, have the power to administer oaths and to issue summonses to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses, and the production of books, papers, records, and documents as may be relevant or necessary. These summonses may be served in accordance with the Maryland Rules of Procedure pertaining to service of process issued by a court, without cost. Any party may request the chief or hearing board to issue a summons or order under the provisions of this subtitle.

(2) In case of disobedience or refusal to obey any of these summonses, the chief, or hearing board, may apply to the circuit court of any county where the summonsed party resides or conducts business, for an order requiring the attendance and testimony of the witness and the production of books, papers, records, and documents, without cost. Upon a finding that the attendance and testimony of the witness, or the production of the books, papers, records, and documents sought is relevant or necessary, the court may issue an order requiring the attendance, testimony, or production of books, papers, records and documents without cost, and any failure to obey an order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

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(a) Any decision, order, or action taken as a result of the hearing shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by findings of fact. The findings shall consist of a concise statement upon each issue in the case. A finding of not guilty terminates the action. If a finding of guilt is made, the hearing board shall reconvene the hearing, receive evidence, and consider the law-enforcement officer's past job performance and other relevant information as factors before making its recommendations to the chief. A copy of the decision or order and accompanying findings and conclusions, along with written recommendations for action, shall be delivered or mailed promptly to the law-enforcement