

most qualified individual available for the office, the Mayor may employ any recognized testing agency to evaluate and make recommendations concerning the qualifications of prospective appointees.

(b) The POLICE commissioner shall receive a salary as may be provided in the annual Ordinance of Estimates of Baltimore City, but in no event less than \$25,000 per [annum] YEAR.

(c) If a person appointed Police Commissioner is a member of a retirement or pension system of the State of Maryland or City of Baltimore, or any other municipality within this State participating in the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland, [he] THAT PERSON has the right to continue as a member of the system with all the rights, privileges and benefits which the members of the system have as to retirement or pension, or the payment of A pension, or other benefits, to [his] THAT PERSON'S widow, WIDOWER, or other beneficiary, provided he OR SHE continues to pay the same rate of contribution to the retirement system or pension fund which [he] THE INDIVIDUAL was paying when [he] THE INDIVIDUAL became police commissioner. If the person appointed police commissioner is not a member of a retirement system, [he] THAT PERSON may, at his OR HER option, become a member of the Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System of the City of Baltimore.

(d) Before entering upon the duties of [his] THE POLICE COMMISSIONER'S office, the commissioner shall take and subscribe to, before a judge of the [Superior Court of] CIRCUIT COURT FOR Baltimore City, or the clerk thereof, the oath or affirmation prescribed by Section 6 9 of Article 1 of the Constitution of Maryland and shall give bond to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore in a form and in an amount as determined by the Mayor and City Council.

(e) The POLICE Commissioner is subject to removal by the Mayor for official misconduct, malfeasance, inefficiency or incompetency, including prolonged illness, in the manner provided by law in the case of civil officers.

(f) In case of death, resignation, retirement, removal or disqualification of the POLICE Commissioner, the Mayor shall appoint a successor for the remainder of the term so vacated.

(g) The POLICE Commissioner is not eligible for an elective or appointed office during the term for which [he] THE COMMISSIONER was appointed, unless [he] THE COMMISSIONER resigns six months prior to the primary election or appointment.

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(b) No member of the POLICE Department may be [so] dismissed or removed except after written charges have been preferred, reasonable notice provided, and full opportunity afforded to be heard in [his] THE MEMBER'S own defense, either