

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 87 - Sheriffs
Section 53
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1985 Replacement Volume)

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

Article 87 - Sheriffs

49.

Members of fire companies to be designated as hereinafter provided, whether the companies to which they belong are volunteer or paid, incorporated or unincorporated, shall be authorized to be appointed deputy sheriffs by the sheriffs of the several counties to have and exercise the powers of such deputies at fires and on the way to and from fires.

53.

(a) The provisions of the foregoing sections in this subtitle shall only apply to Allegany, Baltimore, Cecil, Harford, Queen Anne's and Washington counties, but the powers conferred by virtue hereof upon members of fire companies shall not apply or be exercised in incorporated cities, towns or villages which maintain an organized or regular police force.

(b) (1) The provisions of this subtitle are applicable in Carroll County, Cecil County, Frederick County, [and] Kent County, AND WICOMICO COUNTY, respectively, except as modified in this section. Twelve members of each fire company may be designated by the captain, chief, or other commanding officer of the fire companies of these counties, respectively, and recommended to be appointed deputy sheriffs by the sheriffs of the several counties. The powers of the deputies are limited to those necessary to perform their duties when functioning as fire police at parades, accidents, floods or other emergencies, or at any public function conducted by, or under the auspices of, any volunteer fire company, or by the sheriff's department. Such powers may be exercised in incorporated cities, towns, counties, or on State roadways but only under the discretion and control of the chief of the police force of the city, town, or State Police. All fire police, when on such duty, and when wearing a badge of authority, shall be deemed to be performing the duties of their office. In Frederick County and Carroll County, fire police may also perform traffic control for public functions held by any municipality, town, group, or committee upon request for and approval of such services by the sheriff.

(2) At no time shall any fire police use any weapon in the performance of his duties as described in this section.