

Article---Courts-and-Judicial-Proceedings  
 Section-4-402(d)  
 Annotated-Code-of-Maryland  
 (1984-Replacement-Volume-and-1985-Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
 Section 297(h)(1) and (i)  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (1982 Replacement Volume and 1985 Supplement)

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

Article---Courts-and-Judicial-Proceedings

4-402-

(d)-(1)--Except--in--a--case--under--paragraph--(2)--(4)--(5)--or--(6)--of--§--4-401--of--this--subtitle,--the--plaintiff--may--elect--to--file--suit--in--the--District--Court--or--in--a--trial--court--of--general--jurisdiction,--if--the--amount--in--controversy--exceeds--\$2,500, exclusive--of--attorney's--fees--if--attorney's--fees--are--recoverable--by--law--or--contract.

(2)--In--a--case--under--paragraph--(7)--of--§--4-401--the--plaintiff--may--elect--to--file--a--petition--for--injunctive--relief--either--in--the--District--Court--or--the--circuit--court.

(3)--IN--A--PROCEEDING--ON--A--PETITION--FOR--FORFEITURE--OF--A--MOTOR--VEHICLE--UNDER--ARTICLE--27,--§--297,--THE--PETITIONER--MAY--ELECT--TO--FILE--THE--PETITION--EITHER--IN--THE--DISTRICT--COURT--OR--THE--APPROPRIATE--CIRCUIT--COURT.

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

297.

(h) (1) If the State's Attorney determines after the recommendation of the chief law enforcement officer of the police department, bureau, or force that seized the motor vehicle that the motor vehicle should be forfeited to the State, the State's Attorney, within 45 days after the seizure of the motor vehicle, shall:

(i) Petition in [equity in] the circuit--}--THE court of the appropriate subdivision in the name of the State of Maryland against the motor vehicle as designated by make, model, year, and motor or serial number; and

(ii) At the same time send copies of the petition by registered or certified mail to each registered owner