

~~care of the complainant clarifying that when a law enforcement officer is required to accompany an alleged victim of domestic abuse to the family home so that the victim may remove the personal effects of certain persons, the personal effects include certain medicines or medical devices; authorizing the complainant to remove certain items regardless of who paid for the items;~~ and generally relating to domestic abuse and the duties of law enforcement officers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments

Section 798

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume)

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

Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments

798.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Abuse" has the meaning stated in § 4-501 of the Family Law Article.

(3) "Victim" includes a "person eligible for relief" as described in § 4-501 of the Family Law Article.

(b) (1) Any person who alleges to have been a victim of abuse and who believes there is a danger of serious and immediate injury to himself or herself may request the assistance of a local law enforcement agency.

(2) A local law enforcement officer responding to the request for assistance shall:

(i) Protect the complainant from harm when responding to the request; and

(ii) Accompany the complainant to the family home so that the complainant may remove THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, REGARDLESS OF WHO PAID FOR THE ITEMS:

1. The personal clothing of the complainant and of any child in the care of the complainant; ~~and~~

2. The personal effects, INCLUDING ANY MEDICINE OR MEDICAL DEVICES, of the complainant and of any child in the care of the complainant that are required for the immediate needs of the complainant or the child; ~~AND~~

3. ~~ANY MEDICINE OR MEDICAL DEVICES OF THE COMPLAINANT AND OF ANY CHILD IN THE CARE OF THE COMPLAINANT.~~

(c) Any law enforcement officer responding to such a request shall have the immunity from liability described under § 5-326 of the Courts Article.