

9-503.

(a) A paid fire fighter, paid fire fighting instructor, or sworn member of the Office of the State Fire Marshal employed by an airport authority, a county, a fire control district, a municipality, or the State or a volunteer fire fighter, volunteer fire fighting instructor, volunteer rescue squad member, or volunteer advanced life support unit member who is a covered employee under § 9-234 of this title is presumed to have an occupational disease that was suffered in the line of duty and is compensable under this title if:

- (1) the individual has heart disease, hypertension, or lung disease;
- (2) the heart disease, hypertension, or lung disease results in partial or total disability or death; and
- (3) in the case of a volunteer fire fighter, volunteer fire fighting instructor, volunteer rescue squad member, or volunteer advanced life support unit member, the individual has met a suitable standard of physical examination before becoming a fire fighter, fire fighting instructor, rescue squad member, or advanced life support unit member.

(b) (1) A paid police officer employed by an airport authority, a county, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, a municipality, or the State, a deputy sheriff of Montgomery County, or, subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a Prince George's County deputy sheriff is presumed to be suffering from an occupational disease that was suffered in the line of duty and is compensable under this title if:

- (i) the police officer or deputy sheriff is suffering from heart disease or hypertension; and
- (ii) the heart disease or hypertension results in partial or total disability or death.

(2) (i) A Prince George's County deputy sheriff is entitled to the presumption under this subsection only to the extent that the individual suffers from heart disease or hypertension that is more severe than the individual's heart disease or hypertension condition existing prior to the individual's employment as a Prince George's County deputy sheriff.

(ii) To be eligible for the presumption under this subsection, a Prince George's County deputy sheriff, as a condition of employment, shall submit to a medical examination to determine any heart disease or hypertension condition existing prior to the individual's employment as a Prince George's County deputy sheriff.

(c) A paid fire fighter, paid fire fighting instructor, or a sworn member of the Office of the State Fire Marshal employed by an airport authority, a county, a fire control district, a municipality, or the State or a volunteer fire fighter, volunteer fire fighting instructor, volunteer rescue squad member, or volunteer advanced life support unit member who is a covered employee under § 9-234 of this title is