

(3) The District Court shall issue its summons, directed to any constable or sheriff of the county entitled to serve process, and ordering [him] THE CONSTABLE OR SHERIFF to notify [by first-class mail] the tenant, assignee, or subtenant BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL:

(I) [to] TO appear before the District Court at the trial to be held on the fifth day after the filing of the complaint[,]; AND

(II) [to] TO answer the landlord's complaint to show cause why the [prayer] DEMAND of the landlord should not be granted[, and].

(4) (I) [the] THE constable or sheriff shall proceed to serve the summons upon the tenant, assignee or subtenant OR THEIR [in the property or upon his] known or authorized agent AS FOLLOWS:[, but if for any reason, neither the tenant, assignee or subtenant, nor his agent, can be found,]

1. IF PERSONAL SERVICE IS REQUESTED AND ANY OF THE PERSONS WHOM THE SHERIFF SHALL SERVE IS FOUND ON THE PROPERTY, THE SHERIFF SHALL SERVE ANY SUCH PERSONS;

2. IF PERSONAL SERVICE IS REQUESTED AND NONE OF THE PERSONS WHOM THE SHERIFF IS DIRECTED TO SERVE SHALL BE FOUND ON THE PROPERTY AND, IN ALL CASES WHERE PERSONAL SERVICE IS NOT REQUESTED, [then] the constable or sheriff shall affix an attested copy of the summons conspicuously upon the property.

(II) The affixing of the summons upon the property after due notification to the tenant, assignee, or subtenant by first-class mail shall conclusively be presumed to be a sufficient service to all persons to support the entry of a default judgment for possession of the premises, together with court costs, in favor of the landlord, but it shall not be sufficient service to support a default judgment in favor of the landlord for the amount of rent due.

[(2)](5) Notwithstanding the provisions of [paragraph (1)] PARAGRAPHS (1) THROUGH (4) of this subsection, in Wicomico County, in an action to repossess any premises under this section, service of process on a tenant may be directed to any person authorized under the Maryland Rules to serve process.

(c) (1) If, at the trial on the fifth day indicated in subsection (b) of this section, the court is satisfied that the interests of justice will be better served by an adjournment to enable either party to procure [his] THEIR necessary witnesses, [he] THE COURT may adjourn the trial for a period not exceeding [one] 1 day, except [that if] WITH the consent of all parties, [is obtained,] the trial may be adjourned for a longer period of time.

(2) (I) If, when the trial occurs, it appears to the satisfaction of the court, that the rent, or any part of the rent[, is] AND LATE FEES ARE actually due and unpaid, the court shall determine the amount of rent [due] and LATE FEES DUE AS OF THE DATE THE COMPLAINT WAS FILED, IF THE TRIAL OCCURS WITHIN THE TIME SPECIFIED BY SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

(II) IF THE TRIAL DOES NOT OCCUR WITHIN THE TIME SPECIFIED