

B. THE PETITION IS SUBMITTED TO THE SHERIFF.

2. IF THE SHERIFF DOES NOT CHALLENGE THE VALIDITY OF THE PETITION WITHIN 10 CALENDAR DAYS FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF THE PETITION, THE LABOR ORGANIZATION SHALL BE DEEMED CERTIFIED AS THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE.

3. IF THE SHERIFF CHALLENGES THE VALIDITY OF THE PETITION, THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION SHALL BE REQUESTED TO APPOINT A THIRD PARTY NEUTRAL TO CONDUCT AN ELECTION AND TO CERTIFY WHETHER THE LABOR ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE BY A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST IN THE ELECTION.

4. THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION AND THE THIRD PARTY NEUTRAL SHALL BE SHARED EQUALLY BY THE PARTIES.

(iv) 1. FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF AN EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (iii) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE PARTIES SHALL MEET AT REASONABLE TIMES AND ENGAGE IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN GOOD FAITH.

2. THE PARTIES SHALL MAKE EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS IN A TIMELY MANNER TO ALLOW FOR INCLUSION BY THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF MATTERS AGREED ON IN ITS BUDGET REQUEST TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FREDERICK COUNTY.

(v) 1. A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT SHALL CONTAIN ALL MATTERS OF AGREEMENT REACHED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCESS.

2. THE AGREEMENT MAY CONTAIN A GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE PROVIDING FOR NONBINDING ARBITRATION OF GRIEVANCES.

3. AN AGREEMENT REACHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBPARAGRAPH SHALL BE IN WRITING AND SIGNED BY THE DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS.