

Human Services Article Review Committee decided that an explicit definition of "county" should be included in this article.

(C) PERSON.

"PERSON" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL, RECEIVER, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, FIDUCIARY, REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY KIND, PARTNERSHIP, FIRM, ASSOCIATION, CORPORATION, OR OTHER ENTITY.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection is new language added to provide an express definition of the term "person".

The definition of "person" in this subsection does not include a governmental entity or unit. The Court of Appeals of Maryland has held consistently that the word "person" in a statute does not include the State, its agencies, or subdivisions unless an intention to include these entities is made manifest by the legislature. *See, e.g., Unnamed Physician v. Commission on Medical Discipline*, 285 Md. 1, 12-14 (1979).

As to the term "personal representative", *see* Art. 1, § 5.

(D) STATE.

"STATE" MEANS:

(1) A STATE, POSSESSION, TERRITORY, OR COMMONWEALTH OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

(2) THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection is new language added to provide an express definition of the term "state". This definition conforms to the definition of "state" in other revised articles of the Code. *See, e.g.,* IN § 1-101(kk), PUC § 1-101(dd), SP § 1-101(o), CS § 1-101(n), and CR § 1-101(i).

SUBTITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

PART I. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.

1-201. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION — IN GENERAL.

(A) PROHIBITED ACT.

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING AN APPLICANT FOR OR RECIPIENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, CHILD WELFARE SERVICES, CASH ASSISTANCE, FOOD STAMPS, OR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE THAT IS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY DERIVED FROM THE RECORDS, INVESTIGATIONS, OR COMMUNICATIONS OF THE STATE, A COUNTY, OR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR A UNIT OF THE STATE, A COUNTY, OR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR THAT IS ACQUIRED IN THE COURSE OF THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES.