

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

Article - Public Safety

7-302.

(a) This section applies only to Baltimore County, Caroline County, Cecil County, AND Queen Anne's County[, and Washington County].

(b) The sheriff of a county subject to this section may appoint as deputy sheriffs members of fire companies, whether volunteer, career, incorporated, or unincorporated, to exercise the powers of deputy sheriffs at fires and while going to and from fires.

(c) (1) The commanding officer may designate three members of the fire company to be appointed as deputy sheriffs.

(2) The commanding officer may be one of the three members designated under this subsection.

(d) (1) (i) Except in Caroline County, the sheriff of a county subject to this section shall appoint as deputy sheriff a member of the fire company designated under subsection (c) of this section on request of the designated member.

(ii) In Caroline County, the Sheriff of Caroline County may appoint the designated member as deputy sheriff.

(2) A request for appointment shall be accompanied by a written certificate of designation signed by the commanding officer.

(e) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a member of a fire company appointed as deputy sheriff under this section may exercise the powers of deputy sheriffs at fires and while going to and from fires.

(2) The powers of members appointed as deputy sheriffs do not apply and may not be exercised in a municipal corporation that maintains an organized police force.

[(3) In Washington County, a member appointed as deputy sheriff has the powers necessary to perform the duties of deputy sheriffs while going to, functioning at, or returning from:

(i) fires;