

4-1002.

(a) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(1) "Law enforcement officer" means:

- (i) A law enforcement officer as defined in Article 27, § 727 of the Code;
- (ii) An officer serving in a probationary status;
- (iii) An officer who serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority of a county, incorporated municipality, or Baltimore City;
- (iv) The security force of the Department of General Services; and
- (v) The special police of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene who are commissioned police officers.

(2) "Children" means any natural, illegitimate, adopted, or posthumous children or stepchildren of the decedent who are:

- (i) Eighteen years of age or under; or
- (ii) Over eighteen years of age and incapable of self-support because of physical or mental disability.

(3) "Correctional officer" means a member of a correctional unit who is responsible for the investigation, care, custody, control, or supervision of persons confined to places of incarceration.

(4) "Correctional unit" means any State or county governmental organization which has by statute, ordinance, or court order the responsibility for the care, control, and supervision of inmates in correctional institutions for persons declared to be parolees or for persons placed on probation or suspension of sentence.

(5) "Stepchild" means a child of the surviving spouse who was living with or dependent for support on the decedent at the time of his death.

(6) "STATE FIRE MARSHAL" MEANS ANY SWORN MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

(b) (1) A death benefit shall be paid to the surviving spouse, children, or dependent parents of any law enforcement officer of the State or of any political subdivision of the State, any sheriff or deputy sheriff, any correctional officer, [or] any volunteer or professional fire fighter or rescue squad member ~~OR ANY SWORN MEMBER OF THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL~~, who is killed or dies in the performance of duties on or after July 1, 1989. The amount of the benefit shall be \$50,000.

(2) This sum shall be in addition to any:

- (i) Workmen's compensation benefits; or