

CHAPTER 146

(Senate Bill 63)

AN ACT concerning

Crimes - Charge by Citation - Fireworks Violations

FOR the purpose of authorizing the sworn personnel of the Office of the State Fire Marshal to use a criminal citation for the charging of certain misdemeanor criminal offenses; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the issuance of criminal citations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 594B-2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

594B-2.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Citation" means a written charging document, other than an indictment, an information, or a statement of charges, alleging that a defendant has committed an offense, issued to a defendant by a police officer OR FIRE MARSHAL.

(3) "FIRE MARSHAL" MEANS THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, A DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL, OR AN ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHAL OR SPECIAL ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHAL DESIGNATED UNDER ARTICLE 38A, § 7 OF THE CODE.

(3) (4) "Police officer" has the meaning stated in § 594B of this subheading.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, in addition to any other provision of law or rule allowing an offense to be charged by citation, the following offenses may be charged by citation BY A POLICE OFFICER:

(1) Malicious destruction of property under § 111(b) of this article, where the amount of damage to the property is less than \$300;

(2) Disturbing the peace under § 122 of this article;

(3) Disorderly conduct under § 123 of this article; or

(4) Misdemeanor theft, as defined under § 342(f)(2) of this article.