

HOUSE BILL 1277

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By: **Delegates Vallario, Cluster, Conaway, K. Kelly, McDermott, and Smigiel**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Office of the Public Defender – Representation at Bail Hearing – Provisional**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the representation provided by the Office of the
4 Public Defender to an indigent individual at a bail hearing before a District
5 Court or circuit court judge shall be limited solely to the bail hearing and shall
6 terminate automatically at the conclusion of the hearing; establishing a certain
7 exception; and generally relating to representation by the Office of the Public
8 Defender.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Criminal Procedure
11 Section 16–204
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

17 16–204.

18 (a) Representation of an indigent individual may be provided in accordance
19 with this title by the Public Defender or, subject to the supervision of the Public
20 Defender, by the deputy public defender, district public defenders, assistant public
21 defenders, or panel attorneys.

22 (b) (1) Indigent defendants or parties shall be provided representation
23 under this title in:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) a criminal or juvenile proceeding in which a defendant or
2 party is alleged to have committed a serious offense;

3 (ii) a criminal or juvenile proceeding in which an attorney is
4 constitutionally required to be present prior to presentment being made before a
5 commissioner or judge;

6 (iii) a postconviction proceeding for which the defendant has a
7 right to an attorney under Title 7 of this article;

8 (iv) any other proceeding in which confinement under a judicial
9 commitment of an individual in a public or private institution may result;

10 (v) a proceeding involving children in need of assistance under §
11 3–813 of the Courts Article; or

12 (vi) a family law proceeding under Title 5, Subtitle 3, Part II or
13 Part III of the Family Law Article, including:

14 1. for a parent, a hearing in connection with
15 guardianship or adoption;

16 2. a hearing under § 5–326 of the Family Law Article for
17 which the parent has not waived the right to notice; and

18 3. an appeal.

19 (2) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph,
20 representation shall be provided to an indigent individual in all stages of a proceeding
21 listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection, including, in criminal proceedings, custody,
22 interrogation, bail hearing before a District Court or circuit court judge, preliminary
23 hearing, arraignment, trial, and appeal.

24 (ii) Representation is not required to be provided to an indigent
25 individual at an initial appearance before a District Court commissioner.

26 **(III) 1. THIS SUBPARAGRAPH DOES NOT APPLY TO AN**
27 **INDIVIDUAL WHO REMAINS INCARCERATED AFTER A BAIL HEARING.**

28 **2. THE REPRESENTATION PROVIDED TO AN**
29 **INDIGENT INDIVIDUAL AT A BAIL HEARING BEFORE A DISTRICT COURT OR**
30 **CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE SHALL BE LIMITED SOLELY TO THE BAIL HEARING AND**
31 **SHALL TERMINATE AUTOMATICALLY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HEARING.**

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2014.