

Chapter 635

(House Bill 709)

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law – Accessory After the Fact – Murder (The Sheddy–Bennett Act)

FOR the purpose of altering the maximum penalties for being an accessory after the fact to murder in the first and second degree; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the crime of accessory after the fact.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 1–301
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Law

1–301.

(A) Unless otherwise provided by law **AND EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION**, a person who is convicted of being an accessory after the fact to a felony is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to the lesser of:

- (1) imprisonment not exceeding 5 years; or
- (2) a penalty not exceeding the maximum penalty provided by law for committing the underlying felony.

(B) (1) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF BEING AN ACCESSORY AFTER THE FACT TO MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING ~~20~~ 10 YEARS.

(2) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF BEING AN ACCESSORY AFTER THE FACT TO MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any offense committed before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2013.