

(c) Any person so suspended, removed or reduced in rank may appeal therefrom to the Commission, by a statement in writing, and the Commission shall forthwith grant him a public hearing on the circumstances thereof.

(d) If as a result of any such hearing the Commission shall by a majority vote determine that the said suspension, removal, or reduction in rank, or discharge, was in violation of any provision in this Article, it shall reverse the order of suspension, removal, or reduction in rank, or discharge, and the appellant shall forthwith be re-instated in his former position and paid at his regular rate of compensation for the time he was so suspended, removed or reduced in rank, or discharged. The Commission shall report to the Mayor and City Council any such reversal of an order of suspension, removal, or reduction in rank, or discharge.

(d-1) Any person so suspended, removed or reduced in rank, or discharged, shall have a right to appeal to the Circuit Court of Allegany County, which shall hear the case de novo. The Court may either affirm or reverse the decision of the Commission. If the decision is reversed, the appellant shall be reinstated in his former position and paid at his regular rate of compensation for the time he was so suspended, removed or reduced in rank, or discharged.

(e) Every person suspended or removed for the purpose of reducing the force, and without fault upon his part, shall receive a certificate so stating. All persons so suspended or removed shall be placed upon the eligible list in the order of the length of their service and shall have preference over others on the eligible list.

82. POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS. The Chief of Police and the Chief of the Fire Department may peremptorily suspend or remove any subordinate under his direction, for neglect of duty, insubordination, or misconduct, but shall report such suspension or removal to the appointing authority within twenty-four hours. The appointing authority shall thereupon affirm, modify or reverse the suspension or removal by the Chief of Police or the Chief of the Fire Department. If the appointing authority determines that the said subordinate shall be suspended, removed, or reduced in rank, the provisions hereinabove in this sub-title shall be applicable to such suspension, removal, or reduction in rank.

83. VETERANS. Any person in the Classified Service who is inducted into the armed forces of the United States, or who enlists therein in time of war or other national