

title "Justices of the Peace," subtitle "Process and Practice," providing for the service of Civil Summons by registered mail with return receipt by Justices of the Peace in Washington County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 34 of Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Justices of the Peace," subtitle "Process and Practice," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

34.

(a) The process to be issued by justices of the peace in civil cases shall be a summons, wherein shall be stated briefly the purpose for which the party is summoned, and shall be made returnable before the justice issuing the same, or before some other justice to be named therein, on a day to be stated in said summons, not exceeding forty days from the time of issuing the same.

(b) *In Washington County, Summons, which shall include as a part thereof a copy of the statement of claim shall be served upon the defendant named therein, either by Constable or, in suits for money judgments, when and as authorized by rule as hereinafter provided, by registered mail with return receipt, or by certified mail with return receipt. Where service is by registered mail, or by certified mail, the clerk shall enclose the summons and a copy of the statement of claim in an envelope addressed to the defendant, prepay the postage and mail the same forthwith, noting on the records the day and hour of mailing. Such receipt when returned shall be attached by the clerk to the original statement of claim and shall constitute prima facie evidence of service upon the defendant. If such receipt is not returned within such time as shall be prescribed by rule, personal service upon such defendant shall be made by Constable. Any such mail summons shall constitute effective service even though not delivered if (1) such non-delivery is caused by the addressee's or addressee's agent's refusal to accept delivery and (2) the Clerk mails such summons to the addressee by ordinary mail at least three days before the date fixed for the trial. Notations by an authorized postal employee to the effect that the addressee or his agent has refused delivery shall be prima facie evidence thereof.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1963.

Approved April 30, 1963.

---

CHAPTER 689

(House Bill 930)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 256 (a) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1962 Supplement), title "Elections," subtitle "Servicemen's Absentee Voting," to provide that the canvass of the votes ~~on~~ OF absentee ballots of servicemen be ~~counted~~ CONDUCTED at the