

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2000 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-40-2000

Chapter No. 52

Proposed and Presented by The Chairman (by request – County Executive)

Introduced by Council Member Shapiro

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction June 27, 2000

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Electrician Licensing

3 For the purpose of amending or establishing licensing requirements for Master Electricians,
4 Journeyman Electricians, Apprentice Electricians and Electrical Contractors and providing for
5 the effective date of this Act.

6 BY adding:

7 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

8 Section 2-253.62,

9 The Prince George's County Code

10 (1999 Edition).

11 BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

12 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

13 Sections 2-253.50, 2-253.51, 2-253.52, 2-253.53, 2-253.54,

14 2-253.55, 2-253.57, 2-253.58, 2-253.59, and 2-253.61,

15 The Prince George's County Code

16 (1999 Edition).

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
18 Maryland, that Section 2-253.62 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby
19 added:
20
21

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

**DIVISION 14B. MASTER [ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE] ELECTRICIAN,
JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN, APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN [LICENSE] AND
ELECTRICAL [CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE] CONTRACTOR LICENSES.**

Section 2-253.62 Enforcement.

(a) No person shall perform electrical work without a valid permit clearly posted on the job site or presented to the owner or occupant. Except as provided in Section 9-117 of the Prince George's County Code, all electrical work shall be performed under the supervision of a licensed Master Electrician or Master Electrician, Limited.

(b) No person shall perform electrical work as a Journeyman Electrician or Apprentice Electrician unless that person has been licensed under Section 2-253.51 of this Division and carries a photo I.D. issued by the Director.

(c) No person shall work in the capacity of a Journeyman Electrician or Apprentice Electrician unless licensed under the provisions of this Division.

(d) Any violation of this Division shall be a civil offense subject to a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The procedures of Subdivision 1, Division 3, Subtitle 28 of this Code shall apply.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that Sections 2-253.50, 2-253.51, 2-253.52, 2-253.53, 2-253.54, 2-253.55, 2-253.57, 2-253.58, 2-253.59, and 2-253.61 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

**DIVISION 14B. MASTER ELECTRICIAN, JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN,
APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN AND ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR LICENSES.**

Sec. 2-253.50. Definitions.

(a) For the purposes of this Division, the following words, terms, and phrases shall have the meanings given herein:

(1) **Apprentice Electrician** means an individual licensed under this Division who is principally employed by the Electrical Contractor or Electrical Contractor, Limited and works under the direct supervision of a Journeyman Electrician, Master Electrician or Master Electrician, Limited to ensure that the work meets minimum code requirements.

1 [(1)] (2) **Associate Master** means an individual licensed under this Division as a
 2 Master and who acts as an additional Master to a licensed contractor and who is principally
 3 employed and represents the Electrical Contractor and who personally supervises, directs, and
 4 assures the work meets minimum code requirements.

5 [(2)] (3) **Associate Master Limited** means a person licensed under this Division as a
 6 Limited Master and who acts as an additional Master Limited to a licensed Limited Contractor
 7 and who holds the same type of limited license as the contractor and who personally supervises,
 8 directs, and assures work of a limited type (such as, but not limited to, burglar holdup alarms,
 9 communications, elevators, gas pumps, heating and air conditioning, remote control signaling,
 10 signs, or x-rays) meets the minimum code requirements.

11 [(3)] (4) **Board** means the Board of Registration for Master Electricians and
 12 Electrical Contractors.

13 [(4)] (5) **Department** means the Office of Business and Regulatory Affairs.

14 [(5)] (6) **Director** means the Director of the Office of Business and Regulatory
 15 Affairs or the Director's designee.

16 [(6)] (7) **Electric Light Company** means any public service company, which owns
 17 any electric plant and transmits, sells, or distributes electricity or generates electricity for
 18 distribution or sale.

19 [(7)] (8) **Electric Railway Company** means every common carrier by rail, powered
 20 by electricity.

21 [(8)] (9) **Electrical Contractor** means a person licensed under this Division to
 22 engage in the business of contracting to perform electrical work.

23 [(9)] (10) **Electrical Contractor, Limited** means a person licensed under this Division
 24 to engage in the business of contracting to perform electrical work of a limited type (such as, but
 25 not limited to, burglar and holdup alarms, communications, elevators, gas pumps, heating and air
 26 conditioning, remote control, signaling, signs, or x-rays), which may be a part of an occupation
 27 or business licensed or regulated by the County Code or State law, or as an incidental part of a
 28 business or occupation for which the Board has determined the licensee's knowledge.

29 (11) **Electrical Sub-Contractor** means an electrical contractor licensed under this
 30 Division that engages in the business of sub-contracting to perform electrical work.

1 (12) **Electrical Sub-Contractor, Limited** means an electrical contractor licensed
 2 under this Division that engages in the business of sub-contracting to perform electrical work of
 3 a limited type, such as, but not limited to, burglar and holdup alarms, communications, elevators,
 4 gas pumps, heating and air conditioning, remote control, signaling, signs or x-rays, which may
 5 be a part of an occupation or business licensed or regulated by the County Code or State law, or
 6 as an incidental part of a business or occupation for which the Board has determined the
 7 licensee's knowledge.

8 [(10)] (13) **Electrical work** means the installation, erection, or repair of:

9 (A) Electrical wires or conductors to be used for the transmission of electric
 10 power for communications, electric light, heat, or other power-consuming purposes;

11 (B) Moldings, ducts, raceways, or other conduits for the reception or protection
 12 of such wires or conductors; or

13 (C) Any electrical machinery, fixed appliance, or other device, fixture, or
 14 associated hardware to be used for communications, light, heat, or other power-consuming
 15 purposes if directly connected to the power supply by a permanent connection.

16 [(11)] (14) **Inactive License** means a Master Electrician's or Master Limited
 17 Electrician's license when the licensee has ceased working the trade but desires to preserve the
 18 right to become active again without taking the examination by making application for such
 19 license and by paying the biennial renewal fees. Reactivation of license requires payment of
 20 normal licensee fee as prescribed in Section 2-253.55(c).

21 (15) **Journeyman Electrician** means an individual licensed under this Division who
 22 has been regularly and principally engaged in electrical work for a period of not less than four
 23 years under the direct supervision of a licensed Master Electrician.

24 [(12)] (16) **Master Electrician** means an individual licensed under this Division who
 25 is principally employed by and represents the Electrical Contractor and who personally
 26 supervises, directs, and assures the work meets minimum Code requirements.

27 [(13)] (17) **Master Electrician, Limited** means a person licensed under this Division
 28 who is principally employed by the Electrical Contractor Limited he represents and who
 29 personally supervises, directs, and assures the work of a limited type (such as, but not limited to,
 30 burglar and holdup alarms, communications, elevators, gas pumps, heating and air conditioning,
 31 remote control signaling, signs, or x-rays), which meets minimum Code requirements.

1 [(14)] (18) **Telegraph Company** means any public service company which owns or
 2 leases telephone lines for the reception, transmission, or communication of messages by
 3 telegraph, or which lets, licenses, or sells telegraphic communications.

4 **Sec. 2-253.51. Licenses required; violations.**

5 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business or act in the capacity of an
 6 Electrical Contractor, Electrical Sub-Contractor, [or] Electrical Contractor, Limited, or Electrical
 7 Sub-Contractor, Limited, in Prince George's County without obtaining and maintaining a valid
 8 license issued under this Division, and employing a Master Electrician [or], Master Electrician,
 9 Limited, Journeyman Electrician, or Apprentice Electrician, as appropriate.

10 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business or act in the capacity of a
 11 Master Electrician [or] , Master Electrician, Limited, Journeyman Electrician, or Apprentice
 12 Electrician without obtaining and maintaining a valid license issued under this Division.

13 * * * * * * *

14 (e) It shall be unlawful for any person licensed under this Division as a Journeyman
 15 Electrician or Apprentice Electrician to contract to perform electrical work of any type.

16 (f) Any person who violates any provision of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor
 17 and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars
 18 (\$1,000) or imprisonment of not more than six (6) months, or both.

19 **Sec. 2-253.52. Board of Registration for Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians,**
 20 **Apprentice Electricians, [and] Electrical Contractors, and Electrical Sub-Contractors.**

21 (a) A Board of Registration for Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians, Apprentice
 22 Electricians, and Electrical Contractors is hereby created. The Board shall consist of five (5)
 23 members who shall be appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.
 24 The Board shall include two (2) members who are Master Electricians, one (1) member who is
 25 an Electrical Contractor, and two (2) members of the public with no pecuniary interest in any
 26 business engaged in electrical work or related fields.

27 * * * * * * *

28 (c) Each member of the Board shall be a resident of Prince George's County. The Director
 29 or [his] the Director's designated agent shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board.

30 * * * * * * *

Sec. 2-253.53. License application procedure; requirements.

* * * * *

(b) Any person desiring to be licensed as an Electrical Contractor [or], Electrical Contractor, Limited, Electrical Sub-Contractor, or Electrical Sub-Contractor, Limited, shall make and file with the Director a notarized, written application on a form approved by the Board, together with a nonrefundable application fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100), and a copy of a current Maryland construction license where required by State law. The applicant shall provide proof of ownership of bodily injury liability insurance of not less than Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) per occurrence, and property damage liability insurance of not less than Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) per occurrence, or equivalent self-insurance. The application shall include information as to the trade name and place of business of the person desiring to be licensed, and the name and license number of the Master Electrician or Master Electrician, Limited, employed by the Electrical Contractor [or], Electrical Contractor, Limited, Electrical Sub-Contractor, or Electrical Sub-Contractor, Limited, or his firm to supervise and personally be responsible for electrical work performed under contract of the Electrical Contractor or Sub-Contractor. The firm shall notify the Board within five (5) working days of the name and license number of any person other than the persons named in the original license or renewal license application as the Master Electrician or Master Electrician, Limited, employed by the firm.

(c) Any individual desiring to be licensed as a Master Electrician shall make and file with the Director a notarized, written application on a form approved by the Board, together with a nonrefundable [examination] application fee of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) [for each examination.], including:

(1) Application. Every applicant shall include in [his] the application two (2) identical 1" by 1.5" transferable front-faced photos and information as to [his] pertinent experience and education. An applicant shall have been regularly and principally employed or engaged in electrical work either by the government or under the direction and supervision of a Master Electrician, or a combination thereof, for not less than seven (7) years. An applicant employed by the government shall submit affidavits from qualified supervisory personnel certifying the applicant's seven (7) years of experience in electrical work. The Board may accept

1 an educational equivalent for not more than two (2) years of employment experience required of
2 any applicant.

3 * * * * *

4 (d) Any individual desiring to be licensed as a Master Electrician, Limited, shall make and
5 file with the Director a notarized, written application on a form approved by the Board, together
6 with a nonrefundable fee of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) for each examination [.] , including:

7 (1) Application. Every applicant shall include in [his] the application two identical 1"
8 x 1.5" transferable front-faced photos and information as to [his] pertinent experience and
9 education. An applicant shall have been regularly and principally employed or engaged in
10 electrical work either by the government or under the direction and supervision of a Master
11 Electrician; or in electrical work of the particular type applied for, under the direction and
12 supervision of Master Electrician, Limited, or a combination thereof, for not less than four (4)
13 years. An applicant employed by the government shall submit affidavits from qualified
14 supervisory personnel certifying the applicant's four (4) years of experience in electrical work or
15 electrical work of a limited type. The Board may accept an education equivalent for not more
16 than two (2) years of employment experience required of any applicant.

17 * * * * *

18 (e) Any individual desiring to be licensed as a Journeyman Electrician shall make and file
19 with the Director a notarized, written application on a form approved by the Board, together with
20 a nonrefundable fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), including:

21 (1) Application. Every applicant shall include in the application information as to
22 pertinent experience and education. An applicant shall have been regularly and principally
23 employed or engaged in electrical work, either by the government or under direction and
24 supervision of a Master Electrician, or a combination thereof, for not less than four (4) years. An
25 applicant employed by the government shall submit affidavits from qualified supervisory
26 personnel certifying the applicant's four (4) years of experience in electrical work.

27 (2) Submit with:

28 (a) Two identical 1" x 1.5" transferable front-faced photos; and

29 (b) Letters of verification of employment on company letterhead, signed by
30 the Master Electrician of the company.

1 (3) If the Master for the company is not licensed in Prince George's County, the
2 Master must include the Master's license number and the name of the jurisdiction from which the
3 license was obtained.

4 (4) Letter(s) of verification must indicate specific dates of employment.

5 (5) Upon a determination by the Board that the applicant is eligible to take the
6 qualifying examination, written notice will be forwarded to the applicant designating the time
7 and place of the examination.

8 (6) Upon a determination by the Board that the applicant is not eligible to take the
9 qualifying examination, written notice will be forwarded to the applicant. Upon proper notice,
10 the applicant may appear at a subsequent meeting of the Electrical Board to give further
11 information regarding the applicant's qualifications.

12 (7) License Fee. Prior to the issuance of a first year license and subsequent to passing
13 the qualifying examination, each applicant shall remit Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) to cover the costs of
14 the first two-year license. The applicant will then be issued an Identification Card which shall be
15 carried at all times while working on sites within the area of Prince George's County under the
16 jurisdiction of this office.

17 (8) The license is renewable every two (2) years.

18 (f) Any individual desiring to be licensed as an Apprentice Electrician shall make and file
19 with the Director a notarized, written application on a form approved by the Board, together with
20 a nonrefundable fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00), including:

21 (1) Application. Every applicant shall include in the application information as to
22 pertinent experience and education or present Apprentice Electrician program in which the
23 applicant is enrolled. No examination is required to register as an Apprentice Electrician.

24 (2) License Fee. Prior to issuance of a license, each applicant shall remit an
25 additional Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) to cover the cost of the first two-year license.

26 [(e)] (g) An applicant shall notify the Board of any proceeding pending or instituted
27 against [him] the applicant for a commission of any crime involving moral turpitude, or for a
28 violation of the Electrical Code, or any law of the County or State of Maryland related to the
29 performance of electrical work. Upon termination of such proceeding, the applicant shall notify
30 the Board of the result of the proceeding.

1 **Sec. 2-253.54. Issuance of licenses; restrictions.**

2 (a) The Board shall review all applications for issuance and renewal of licenses, including
3 all pertinent information and recommendations from the Director and other sources related to the
4 applications.

5 * * * * *

6 (3) The Board may accept applications for Apprentice Electricians if, upon review of
7 the application, it is determined that the applicant is presently working for a licensed Electrical
8 Contractor or licensed Electrical Contractor, Limited, whose work is under the direct supervision
9 of a Master Electrician, or Master Electrician, Limited, meeting the requirements of this
10 Division.

11 (4) The Board may request further information from the Director or other sources,
12 make independent investigations, or conduct further examinations of an applicant, at its
13 discretion.

14 (b) The Board shall certify to the Director whether an applicant is qualified to be licensed
15 within thirty (30) days after the next meeting of the Board following receipt of all information
16 requested by the Board pertaining to an applicant, unless the time is extended for good cause.

17 * * * * *

18 (2) An applicant for license as a Master Electrician [or], Master Electrician, Limited,
19 or Journeyman Electrician shall satisfy the Board that the applicant has acquired the technical
20 competence and experience to comply with the Electrical Code.

21 (c) If the Board, upon review of all pertinent information, determines that an applicant is
22 not qualified for issuance or renewal of a license, the Board shall deny the application in writing,
23 stating the reason, and deliver that denial to the Director. The Director shall cause that denial to
24 be personally served or mailed by certified mail to the address of the applicant supplied on his
25 application.

26 * * * * *

27 (2) An applicant, upon denial of [his] the applicant's application, may appeal that
28 denial to the Circuit Court by filing notice of appeal with the Clerk of the Circuit Court not later
29 than thirty (30) days after notice of denial of his application is personally served or mailed.

(3) An applicant shall be given an opportunity to review all records of the Board pertinent to [his] the applicant's appeal or request for public hearing in accordance with the procedures established by the Board.

* * * * *

(f) Ratio between licensed Journeyman Electricians and Apprentice Electricians. Electrical Contractors and Electrical Sub-Contractors are required to maintain a job ratio of one (1) Journeyman Electrician to every four (4) Apprentice Electricians (1:4).

(g) Any person issued a Master Electrician, Master Electrician, Limited, Journeyman Electrician or Apprentice Electrician License will be issued a wallet size, photo license which is to be carried by the licensee, and upon request, the licensee shall provide the license including license number.

Sec. 2-253.55. Term of licenses; renewal.

* * * * *

(b) A licensee may renew a license by making and filing with the Director a written application for renewal on a form approved by the Board, together with a fee of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) for each [application] Master Electrician or Master Electrician, Limited; Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each Journeyman Electrician; and Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for each Apprentice Electrician. The Director shall notify licensees by mail of the expiration date of their licenses sixty (60) days prior to the date of expiration.

(c) A licensee who fails to renew [his] a license [by] before the expiration date may renew [his] the license within thirty (30) days after the expiration date upon filing [the] a renewal application [together with a late fee of] including the appropriate renewal fee and paying the following late fees: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each Master Electrician or Master Electrician, Limited; Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) for each Journeyman Electrician; or Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) for each Apprentice Electrician. [A] Except for Journeyman Electricians, any licensee who fails to renew [his] a license within sixty (60) days after the expiration date may renew [his] the license upon filing the renewal application together with a late fee of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00). Satisfactory completion of an examination shall be required by the Board except that the Board may waive the examination for good cause. Licenses expired for longer than three (3) years are not renewable.

* * * * *

(e) Master Electricians and Master Electricians, Limited, holding an active license issued in Prince George's County must obtain ten (10) hours of Continuing Education Units ("CEU") for every two-year license renewal cycle. Verification of CEU will be submitted to the License Office along with the renewal fee and application. No application will be accepted without CEU documentation. Only CEU obtained from a recognized college or trade school or State recognized training program will be accepted.

(f) Notification to the Board is required within three (3) days of a change of professional address.

Sec. 2-253.57. Revocation, suspension, or denial of license.

(a) The Board shall have the power to revoke, suspend, or refuse to issue or renew the license of any person who shall be found to have committed any one or more of the following:

* * * * *

(12) Failure of a licensed Electrical Contractor [or], Electrical Contractor, Limited, Electrical Sub-Contractor, or Electrical Sub-Contractor, Limited, to be financially responsible for the completion of contracted work; and

(13) Failure of a licensed Electrical Contractor, Limited, Electrical Sub-Contractor, Limited, or Master Electrician, Limited, to maintain a license incidental to the limited license, through nonrenewal or revocation or for a violation of the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 12 in the incidental business or profession.

* * * * *

Sec. 2-253.58. License display; duplicates; signs.

(a) Any person issued a Master [or], Master Limited, Journeyman, or Apprentice Electrician's license by the Board will receive a wallet size photo license which is to be carried by the licensee, and, upon demand, the licensee shall give the number of the license and/or the license to any authorized person.

* * * * *

(c) A duplicate Electrician's and/or Contractor's license may be obtained upon application and payment of a fee of [Ten] Twenty Dollars [(\$10.00)] (\$20.00) to replace one that has been lost, defaced, or destroyed.

* * * * *

Sec. 2-253.59. Reciprocity; licenses from neighboring counties.

The requirements for a written examination under Section 2-253.53 for a Master Electrician [or], Master Electrician, Limited, or Journeyman Electrician may be waived by the Board when the applicant is licensed by the State or in [a] any neighboring county of this State, and obtained such license after passing a written examination designed to determine the applicant's knowledge of electrical work and the science of electricity. The Board shall periodically review the requirements of neighboring jurisdictions to determine whether written examinations are designed to determine adequately the applicant's knowledge of electrical work and the science of electricity. The Board may refuse to waive written examination upon finding that a neighboring jurisdiction's written examination is not sufficient to meet County standards or upon finding that a neighboring jurisdiction does not grant reciprocity to Master Electricians [or], Master Electricians, Limited, or Journeyman Electricians licensed by the County.

Sec. 2-253.61. Permits.

* * * * *

(b) [The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any electric light company, electric railway company, telegraph company, or to the Bell Atlantic Telephone Company where electrical work is an integral part of the plant or service used by such companies in rendering their duly authorized services to the public. When premises wiring to any occupancy is not a part of the plant or service used by such companies in rendering their duly authorized service to the public, the licensing and inspection requirements shall apply. Exception:] Residential telephone wiring on existing residential structures by [Bell Atlantic Telephone will be exempt from permitting requirements, provided a licensed Master or Master Limited Electrician certifies all installations to Prince George's County Chief Electrical Inspector] a telephone company or a telecommunications services company, as defined in Section 5A-150(a)(15) of this Code, shall be subject to blanket permitting requirements only, as approved by the Prince George's County Chief Electrical Inspector.

1 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that Section 1 of this Act shall take effect
2 January 1, 2001.

3 SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that Section 2 of this Act shall take effect
4 forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 25th day of July, 2000.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Dorothy F. Bailey
Chair

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Wayne K. Curry
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.