To the Worsh.ble Richard Dorsey Esq.r Chief Justice of Baltimore County Court & his Associates

The humble Petition of Wm. Reid

Humbly Submitteth

That yo.r Petitioner has for several years last past been educated in the Common Laws of England and still during the said time assiduously applyed himself to the Study thereof as the only means of w.ch he might support and maintaine himself for the future in pursuance whereof yo.r Petitioner the approbation of yo.r Worsh.ps designs to practise here in this Court and withall diligently and fidelity and integrity duly to discharge his duty to the utmost of his skill capacity and in such manner as may tend to the just advantage and benefit of such who shall repose any trust or confidence in him

Wherefore yo.r pet.r humbly prayes yo.r worsh.ps Direction for his due admission and qualification for that purpose according to the Ceremonies practised in such cases

And shall ever pray &c

Maryland ss

By virtue of the Power and authority to me given to be his maj.ties Att.ny General & prosecutor of his maj.ties Pleas in this province to be prosecuted and attended by my Clerk in the Provincial Court and by such other and discreet person as I shall appoint in this Generall County Court I doe hereby authorize and appoint you Wm. Reid Gent. and one of the Att.ny at law of the said County Court to be Clerk of his maj.ties Indutiny and prosecutor of his maj.ties Pleas in the said County & Receiver of all such sums and demands of what nature or kind soever arising w.thin the said County & Receivable by the Justices of the said County Court and the profits fees and regards to the same office now appertaining of w.ch may appertaine by Law to the same to yo.r own proper use and behoofe to take and receive requiring you of this Commission of the premisses diligently to attend the premisses & observe the generall articles of Instruction w.ch now are or hereafter may be given you thereon given under my hand & Seale this third day of May in the second year of the Reign of our Soveraigne Lady Anne Queen of England &c Annoque Domini 1703

Memorandum for Mr. Wm. Reid the Clerk of the Indutiny or prosecutor of the Kings Pleas in Baltimore County

You will receive herewith a Commission or Deputation for this Office in yo.r County Court and also the Forme of an oath by you to be taken before yo.r Entrance into the same you are to use this Authority w.th all due care of the King & Justice and service to the Subjects and record yo.r Commission in the County Court

you are to take due care that no fine of all such fines as shall passe in Court against any man doe the party against whome any fine shall pass be present in Court to receive his sentence you shall not omit to make any Sci facias to show cause &c. at another day if the party against whome such fine is passed be not present in Court but absent you are then to make a Sci facias against any such person to appear and show cause if any he hath why Execution should not issue against such person for such fine and the same Executed so the King may receive the money if the party should not show cause why the same should not be that this fine is affirmed you may then present the same for the King

If the party with pay w.th out to the Sheriff of this County

2dly you may demand and take 200 of Tob.o for every indictment found by a Grand Jury &c

3dly you may demand and take 200 of Tob.o for every Indictment found by a Grand Jury &c by you prosecuted in such manner as by Acts of Assembly is directed to be done in

4thly when you cause to have witnesses to prosecute any offence in any Criminal matter till a Bill be found by the Grand Jury or you found this Fee Concerning for it & this by the late Act of Assembly to yo.r Fee person was but where you know of any notorious offender you may get a justice warr.t upon yo.r Complaint & he that informed shall the party secured

Thirdly Fees to answer Bills

5 where any matter shall be prosecuted against any offender or offenders by the Grand Jury that is capital and the punishment to lead to life and member you are not to proceed to trial in this County but you are to take the Charge to transmit the record of those proceedings to the Justices of the provincial Court and bind over the party Criminal and Evidence & you are to transmit to me a state of this case & the Evidence namely w.th all speed

6 you are to be very careful that the maj.ty name is not often undervalued as a Colour of malitious persons to take revenge against yo.r neighbor by for it often falls out that when a spiteful person disposed they will endeavour to raise Criminal accusations against their neighbors in such cases examine very strictly and if you find them material and fit for prosecution let the Informer make Oath before the Justice of the truth of his accusation and in Summon

7 when you shall begin to prosecute any Action either Criminal or Civil where her maj.ty Interest is concerned you are to take care not to suffer any agreement to be made or not prosecuted to be entered but by Consent of the Court &c. if the Court does Command it you are to make them to pay costs and Consent of the Court &c. if this Court does Command it you are to make them to pay costs and reason on the record & indeavour them to indict and that is a Remedy for a Public & not a private wrong for it often happens that when a Criminal is upon just ground prosecuted for a Crime by another the party w.th the party injured and making up an agreement they procure a nolle prosequi to the prosecution to the party injured and making up an agreement they procure a nolle prosequi to the prosecution tending to the prejudice of Commonwealth all & goes unpunished w.ch is a great Encouragement to all evil doers & begets other times when an action is begun against any man by any party where the Judgment has an Interest for the breach of any Law the party agreeing with the party defeats the justice of the duty in such case you are to prosecute for the Lessen part mentioned standing the party agreement punishable & Court command the party to transgress & yet you very good reason w.ch I define you to send to me w.th all agreement proceedings

8 you are to take due care to acquaint her maj.ty Revenue all sums lined to her maj.ty of all such fines forfeitures or shall happen in the Court to be adjudged to her maj.ty use & pay the Clerk of the Court is lined to transmit an fair record of them to her maj.ty Receiver Gen.ll once every year

Mr. George Walker is for the district of Patapsco & Mr. Wm. Dennis is at Potomack for her maj.ty Revenue Gen.ll and Mr. Walker you are to observe his Warrant for any fine

May the 3d. 1703

Wm. Reid