

MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments

470A.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Religious real property” includes:

(i) A church, synagogue, or other place of worship;

(ii) A cemetery;

(iii) A religious school, educational facility, community center, structure, or other real property used for any religious purpose; and

(iv) The grounds adjacent to the property described in items (i) through (iii) of this paragraph.

(b) A person may not:

(1) Deface, damage, or destroy or attempt to deface, damage, or destroy religious real or personal property that is owned, leased, or used by a religious entity;

(2) Obstruct, or attempt to obstruct by force or threat of force, a person in the free exercise of that person’s religious beliefs;

(3) Harass or commit a crime upon a person or damage the real or personal property of a person because of that person’s race, color, religious beliefs, or national origin; or

(4) Deface, damage, or destroy or attempt to deface, damage, or destroy the real or personal property of a person because of that person’s race, color, religious beliefs, or national origin.

(c) A person who violates the provisions of this section is subject to the following penalties:

(1) If the violation involves a separate crime that is a felony ~~or if {death} INJURY results to {the} A victim~~, the person is guilty of a felony and upon conviction is subject to imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.

(2) IF THE VIOLATION INVOLVES A SEPARATE CRIME THAT IS A FELONY AND RESULTS IN DEATH TO A VICTIM, THE PERSON IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND UPON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 20 YEARS, OR A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$20,000, OR BOTH.

[(2)] (3) In all other cases, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is subject to imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.