## CHAPTER 424-S. F. No. 664

An act relating to the law of garnishment, providing for the sale, assignment, or transfer of the salary or wages of officers or employees of any county, town, city, village, or school district, or any department thereof, the levy of attachment or execution thereon and release of property from attachment; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1941, Chapter 571, and Laws 1943, Chapter 151.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

- Section 1. Garnishee summons. In any action in a court of record or justice court for the recovery of money, at the time of issuing the summons or at any time during the pendency of the action or after judgment therein against the defendant, a garnishee summons may be issued against any third person as provided in this chapter. The plaintiff and defendant shall be so designated and the person against whom the summons issues shall be designated garnishee. Any individual, partnership or corporation within the state having property subject to garnishment may be named as garnishee.
- Sec. 2. Effect of service of summons. Subdivision 1. Except as provided in Sections 3 and 10, service of the garnishee summons upon the garnishee shall attach and bind, to respond to final judgment in the action, all personal property of the defendant in his possession or under his control and all indebtedness owing by him to the defendant at the time of such service.
- Subd. 2. All moneys and other personal property including such property of any kind due from or in the hands of an executor, administrator, receiver or trustee and all written evidences of indebtedness whether negotiable or not or under or overdue may be attached by garnishment, and money or any other thing due or belonging to the defendant may be attached by this process before it has become payable if its payment or delivery does not depend upon any contingency, but the garnishee shall not be compelled to pay or deliver the same before the time appointed by the contract.
- Sec. 3. When garnishment prohibited. No person or corporation shall be adjudged a garnishee by reason of:
- (1) Any money or other thing due to the defendant, unless at the time of the service of the summons the same is due absolutely, and without depending on any contingency;
- (2) Any debt due from such garnishee on a judgment, so long as he is liable to an execution thereon;

- (3) Any liability incurred upon any negotiable instrument.
- Sec. 4. Agent to accept service. In addition to the officers designated by law for the service of process, a domestic corporation may designate an agent upon whom the garnishee summons may be served. Service upon any agent of a foreign corporation doing business in this state is service upon such corporation.
- Salary of public servants. The salary or wages of Sec. 5. any official or employee of a county, town, city, village, or school district, or any department thereof, is subject to garnishment. In the case of such officer, the garnishee summons shall be served upon the auditor, treasurer, or clerk of such body, or department thereof of which he is an officer; and in other cases, shall be served upon the officer in whose office, or the head of the department in which, or the presiding officer of the body by which, such person is employed; and the disclosure shall be made by the officer or person so served, or by some person designated by him having knowledge of the facts. If payment is made by such county, town, city, village, or school district, or any department thereof pursuant to a judgment against it as garnishee, a certified copy of the judgment with a certificate of satisfaction to the extent of such payment endorsed thereon shall be delivered to the treasurer as his voucher for such payment.
- Sec. 6. Money due from highway department. Money due or owing to any corporation or person by the state on account of any employment, work, or contract with the commissioner of highways is liable to garnishment. The garnishee summons may be served upon the commissioner of highways by registered mail; and the disclosure shall be made by the commissioner or by some person designated by him having knowledge of the facts. If payment is made pursuant to judgment against the state as garnishee a certified copy of the judgment, with a certificate of satisfaction to the extent of such payment endorsed thereon; shall be delivered to the commissioner as his voucher for such payment.
- Sec. 7. In district court. Subdivision 1. Procedure. In an action in the district court the garnishee summons may be issued by plaintiff or his attorney and shall be served upon the garnishee in the same manner as other district court summons except that service must be personal. The plaintiff may also serve with the garnishee summons written interrogatories, and if so served the garnishee shall as a part of his disclosure under oath answer said interrogatories. The gar-

nishee summons shall require that the garnishee within 20 days after service thereof, serve upon the plaintiff or his attorney a written disclosure of his indebtedness to defendant and any property of defendant in his possession or under his control, and shall state the full name of the defendant and his place of residence, the amount of plaintiff's claim against defendant, including disbursements to date, and require the garnishee to retain in his possession such property of defendant or indebtedness owing to defendant in an amount not exceeding twice the amount of such claim. A copy of the summons with a notice showing the time and manner of service upon the garnishee shall be served upon defendant in the same manner as a district court summons not later than 20 days after the service on the garnishee; provided that if the sheriff or other court officer shall make a return that defendant cannot be found, or if the plaintiff, his agent, or attorney make and file an affidavit either that the whereabouts of the defendant is unknown or if known that he is outside the county, or that the plaintiff has unsuccessfully attempted to make service upon the defendant, such service upon the defendant may be made by mail addressed to defendant's last known address. A single summons may be addressed to two or more garnishees but shall state whether each is summoned separately or jointly.

Subd. 2. Forms: summons, notice, and affidavit. The garnishee summons and notice to defendant, together with the affidavit of service, shall be substantially in the following form:

STATE OF MINNESOTA County of	A, ss	DISTRICT COURT Judicial District
Against	Plaintiff	
And	Defendant	
GARNISHMENT SUMMONS	Garnishee	<del>-</del>

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, to the above named Garnishee:

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon the plaintiff or his attorney, within 20 days after the service of

	n you, a written disclosure under oath,
touching your indel	otedness to the defendant,
(Give full	name and residence of defendant)
fendant in your poss of plaintiff's claim a you are hereby requ	ony property, money, or effects of said desession or under your control. The amount gainst the defendant is \$; and ired to retain in your possession such propects in an amount not exceeding twice the m.
	Attorney for plaintiff
Dated	19
	Address
NC To	TICE TO DEFENDANT
To SIR:	Defendant:
above is a true copy	t a Garnishment Summons, of which the y, and which is herewith served upon you, ed upon
	named therein, by delivering a copy
	the said Garnishee, at
	said County, on theday of
	, 19, and that at said time and place
the said Garnishee_ \$1.00 feès.	was paid in advance the sum of
	Attorney for plaintiff
	Address
	<del></del>
AF STATE OF MINNI County of	ESOTA, ss
	, being
duly sworn, on oath	says, that on theday
of	19, at the

of	, in said cou	inty, he served	the within
Summons on the wit			
copy thereof to		the said Ga	rnishee,
and paid			
in advance the sum of	f \$1.00 fees; an	nd that on the	
day ofin said County, he ser a copy of the within Defendant, of whitime, place and mann	ved upon the w Summons, toge ch the foregoin	vithin named De other with a not ng is a copy, s	efendant ice to said stating the
Garnishee, signed Said service was mad a copy of said Summ	le by leaving w	ithat the last usu	al place of
abode of said Defend	ant, in said_		
saidand discretion then r	being esident therein	a person of su	uitable age
FEES: Service of Su	mmons, \$	Notice. \$	
		_ Notice, \$	
		_ Notice, \$	
Subscribed and swori	n to before me		
this	day of	·, 19	
Notary Pt	ıblic	_	
· .	_County, Minne	esota.	•

Sec. 8. In justice court. Subdivision 1. Procedure. an action in justice court, the summons shall be issued by the justice, and shall require that the garnishee within 12 days from the date of service thereof serve upon plaintiff or his attorney a written disclosure of his indebtedness to the defendant, and any property or money of the defendant in his possession or under his control, and shall state the full name of the defendant and his place of residence and the amount of plaintiff's claim against defendant and require the garnishee to retain in his possession property of defendant or indebtedness owing to defendant not exceeding twice the amount of such claim. The summons shall be served in the same manner as a justice court summons against a defendant, except that the service must be personal. A copy of the summons, together with a notice to the defendant of such service upon the garnishee, signed by the justice or the officer who served

STATE OF MINNESOTA,

-the same, shall be served upon the defendant within six days after service upon the garnishee; provided that if the court officer shall make a return that defendant cannot be found, such service may be made by mail addressed to defendant's last known address.

Subd. 2. Forms. The garnishee summons and notice to defendant, together with the affidavit of service, shall be substantially in the following form:

። ያጥልጥክ <i>(</i>	OF MINNES	ያስጥ ለ	}	NDANT		- 1
County o	f		{	ss		Ť.,
То				Defenda	nt:	
SIR_ the withi	: Take Not	ice that copy, and	a Garni l which	ishee Sur is herev	nmons, vith ser	of which ved upon
you, was	personally s	eryed up	on	•		· ·
The Garr	ishee nan	ned there	ein, by	deliverin	да сору	y thereof
to the sa	id Garnishe	e, at t	he		·	
of		dav	of	_ in said	Count	y, on the 19
	at said time	-				
	<u>    i</u> r	-				
	-					• •
•			Jus	tice of th	ie Peace	<b>).</b>
STATE (County o	OF MINNES	SOTA,	. }	ss		
I here	by certify a	nd retur	n that	on the		<del> </del>
of	. ,	in s	said Co	unty, I s	erved tl	ne within
Summons	s upon the v	vithin na	med G	arnishee_	_, by d	lelivering
him in a	ereof to the dvance the s	sum of \$	31.00 fe	es; and	[ furthe	er certify
	he					
I served within Su of which manner o	upon the warmons, tog the foregoing of service of	ithin nai ether wi ng is a c ' said St	ned De th a No opy, sta immons	fendant_ tice to sa ating the upon sa	_ a cop id Defe time, p	oy of the endant, place and
signed by	<u> </u>	<del></del> -	<u> </u>	•		
	•			Congtab		
FEES: S	Service of Su	mmons,	\$	Notice,	\$	\$
						- \$
I	Mileage,		\$	Notice,	\$	. \$

- Sec. 9. Disclosure. Subdivision 1. Garnishee to disclose. Within the time herein limited the garnishee shall serve upon the plaintiff or his attorney a disclosure in writing and under oath setting forth the amount and character of defendant's property in his hands or indebtedness owing to defendant and the facts in reference thereto including answers to any interrogatories served upon him. Such disclosure may be served personally or by mail. If such disclosure is by a corporation it shall be verified by some officer or agent having knowledge of the facts.
- Subd. 2. Contents of disclosure. Such disclosure shall state:
- (1) Whether he was, at the time of the service of the garnishee summons indebted or under any liability to the defendant, naming him, in any manner or upon any account, specifying, if indebted or liable, the amount, the interest thereon, the manner in which evidenced, when payable, whether an absolute or contingent liability, and the facts necessary to a complete understanding of such indebtedness or liability. When the garnishee shall be in doubt respecting any such liability or indebtedness he may set forth the facts concerning the same.
- (2) Whether he held at the time aforesaid the title or possession of or any interest in any personal property or any instruments or papers relating to any such belonging to the defendant or in which he is interested. If he admits any such interest or any doubt respecting the same he shall set forth a description of such property and the facts concerning the same, and the title, interest or claim of the defendant in or to the same:
- (3) If he claims any set-off or defense to any debt or liability or any lien or claim to such property he shall allege the facts.
- (4) He may state any claim of exemption from execution on the part of the defendant or other objection, known to him, against the right of the plaintiff to apply upon his demand the debt or property disclosed.
- (5) If he discloses any debt or the possession of any property to which the defendant and other persons make claim he shall allege the names and residences of such other claimants and, so far as known, the nature of their claims.
- Subd. 3. Form of disclosure. If interrogatories have been served, such interrogatories answered under oath shall be

deemed a disclosure. If no interrogatories are served, the disclosure in any court by the garnishee shall be substantially in the following form:
STATE OF MINNESOTA, County of ss
COURT
Plaintiff vs.
Defendant and
I am the of the garnishee herein, and duly authorized to disclose for said garnishee.
On the 19, the time of the service of garnishee summons herein on said garnishee:
(1) There was due and owing the defendant above named,, from said garnishee, the sum of
<b>\$</b> ;
(State how evidenced, when payable, whether an absolute or contingent liability.)
(2) There was in the possession of the garnishee the following personal property, instruments, and papers belonging to the above named defendant:
(Describe the property and state the title or claim of the defendant to same.)
(3) The garnishee claims the following set-off or defense or lien or claim to such property:

· •		is the following	,-
execution:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			<u>.</u>
(5)	•	claims own	ership of, or an
interest in, such	property as	follows:	<del>,                                     </del>
	<del></del>	<del>_</del>	<u> </u>
Subscribed and s	worn to befor	re me this	
	_day of	, 19	
į	• -		·
	,		
·	·		
	Notary	Public	•
· , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Coun	ty, Minnesota.	,

Sec. 10. Effect of disclosure. Subject to the provisions of Sections 11 and 12, the disclosure shall be conclusive against plaintiff as to all property of defendant. If the garnishee denies that he is indebted to defendant or has any property of defendant in his possession the filing in court of a copy thereof shall operate as a full discharge of the garnishee at the end of 20 days from date of service of such disclosure, in the absence of further proceedings as provided for in Sections 11 and 12 hereof. The filing of objections to the disclosure or the filing of any motion or other proceedings shall operate as a stay of such discharge. The court may, upon proper showing, relieve the plaintiff from the operation of such discharge after the expiration of 20 days. The garnishee may be discharged where the value of the property of defendant held or indebtedness owing to defendant does not exceed \$25.00, if the action is in district court, or where the value of the property of defendant held or indebtedness owing to defendant does not exceed \$10.00, if the action is in justice court, and the garnishee may apply to the court to be discharged as to any property or indebtedness in excess of the amount which may be required to satisfy plaintiff's judgment.

Sec. 11. Oral disclosure; supplemental complaint. Either before or after such written disclosure any party to the garnishment proceedings may obtain an ex parte order requiring

oral disclosure. Such order may be obtained upon affidavit showing upon information and belief facts justifying the said order, and the court shall require the garnishee to appear for oral examination before the court. If the garnishee hold the garnished property by a title that is void as to defendant's creditors, he may be charged therefor although the defendant could not have maintained an action against him therefor; but in this, and in all other cases where the garnishee denies liability, the plaintiff may move the court at any time before the garnishee is discharged, on notice to both the defendant and the garnishee, for leave to file a supplemental complaint making the latter a party to the action, and setting forth the facts upon which he claims to charge him; and, if probable cause is shown, such motion shall be granted. The supplemental complaint shall be served upon both defendant and garnishee, either or both of whom may answer, and the plaintiff may reply. Such issues shall be brought to trial and tried as in other actions after judgment is rendered for plaintiff in the main action.

- Sec. 12. Third party may intervene. If it appears that any person not a party to the action has or claims an interest in any of the garnished property antedating the garnishment, the court may permit such person to appear and maintain his rights; and if he does not so appear, may direct that he be notified to appear or be barred of his claim. The notice in such case may be served in such manner as the court directs, and the person so appearing or notified shall be joined as a party and be bound by judgment against the garnishee.
- Sec. 13. **Default.** If any garnishee who is duly summoned fails to serve his disclosure as required in this chapter, upon proof by affidavit of such facts, the court may render judgment against him for an amount not exceeding plaintiff's judgment against defendant or twice the amount claimed in the garnishee summons, whichever is the smaller but the court upon good cause shown may remove such default and permit the garnishee to disclose on such terms as may be just.
- Sec. 14. Judgment against garnishee; when; effect. No judgment shall be rendered against a garnishee until after judgment is rendered against the defendant. If the garnishee is not discharged, the cause shall be continued to abide the result in the main action. Judgment against a garnishee shall be rendered, if at all, for the amount due the defendant, or so much thereof as may be necessary to satisfy the plaintiff's judgment against such defendant, with costs taxed and allowed in the proceeding against the garnishee but not to exceed twice the amount claimed in the garnishee summons.

Such judgment shall acquit and discharge the garnishee from all claims of all the parties named in the process in and to the property or money paid, delivered, or accounted for by such garnishee by force of such judgment.

When any person is charged as garnishee by reason of any property in his possession other than an indebtedness payable in money, he shall deliver the same, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to the officer holding execution, and such property shall be sold and the proceeds accounted for in the same manner as if it had been taken on execution against the defendant; but the garnishee shall not be compelled to deliver any specific articles at any time or place other than as stipulated in the contract between him and the defendant.

- Sec. 15. Discharge of garnishee for laches. Upon a proper showing, the court may discharge the garnishee in any action in which there is lack of diligent prosecution.
- Sec. 16. Value. Subdivision 1. Court may determine. Upon application of any party in interest, on notice, the court may determine the value of any property of defendant in the hands of the garnishee and may make any order relative to the keeping, delivery or sale thereof, or touching any of the property, that is necessary to protect the rights of those interested, and may require the property to be brought into court or delivered to a receiver by it appointed. If the garnishee refuses or neglects to comply with any order of the court hereunder, he may be punished for contempt, and also shall be liable to the plaintiff for the value of such property, less the amount of any lien.
- Subd. 2. Lien of garnishee. If it appear that the garnishee has a lien on the property, or that it is in any way liable for the payment of a debt due to him, the plaintiff, on motion, may be permitted to pay the amount thereof, and the amount so paid shall be repaid to plaintiff, with interest, out of the proceeds of the sale of such property. The garnishee may sell the property to satisfy the lien, if a sale be authorized by his contract, at any time before such payment or tender.
- Subd. 3. Property destroyed. If any garnished property be destroyed without negligence of the garnishee, the garnishee shall be discharged from all liability to the plaintiff for the non-delivery thereof.
- Sec. 17. These fees due or paid to garnishee. A garnishee shall be paid \$1.00 fees at the time of service of garnishee summons and if required to appear and submit to oral examina-

tion shall be tendered his fees and mileage for attendance at the rate allowed by law to a witness, and in extraordinary cases, may be allowed such further sum as the court shall deem reasonable for his counsel fees and other necessary expenses. If he be charged as a garnishee, the amount of such fees and allowances may be recovered by plaintiff out of the property in his hands. If charged as garnishee on account of specific articles of personal property, the garnishee shall not be required to deliver the same to an officer until payment of his reasonable charges for storage.

- Sec. 18. Minimum judgment. No judgment shall be rendered against a garnishee in a justice court where the judgment against the defendant is less than \$10.00, exclusive of costs, or in the district court where the judgment against the defendant is less than \$25.00, exclusive of costs, and, in all such cases, the garnishee shall be discharged.
- Sec. 19. Discharge not a bar. If any person summoned as a garnishee is discharged, the judgment shall be no bar to an action brought against him by the defendant or other claimants for the same demand.
- Sec. 20. Garnishment by defendant. If the defendant recovers judgment against the plaintiff, or sets up in his answer a counter-claim exceeding in amount the sum admitted in such answer to be due to the plaintiff, he may institute and prosecute garnishment under this chapter as if he were plaintiff. For the purposes of such proceedings he is to be considered as plaintiff, and the plaintiff as defendant, and his answer is deemed a complaint.
- Sec. 21. Defendant may give bond. At any time before the entry of judgment a defendant whose property has been garnished may secure its release by giving a bond, approved by a judge or court commissioner if the action is in the district court, by the judge if in a municipal court, and by the justice if in justice court, in a penal sum at least double the amount claimed in the garnishee summons, or, if the value of the property garnished is less than such amount, then in double such value, conditioned to pay any judgment recovered against him in the action, or so much thereof as shall equal such value. Thereupon the judge or justice shall make an order discharging the garnishment and releasing the property. The order becomes effective upon filing the same with the bond and serving a copy on the garnishee.
- Sec. 22. Transfer to another court. In case any original action pending in a court not of record is transferred under the provisions of law to any other court, except by appeal,

- any garnishee proceeding, the judgment in which is conditioned on the judgment in the original action is transferred therewith and written notice of such transfer, specifying the court to which the same is made shall be served by the plaintiff on the garnishee. Such transfer shall carry with it all proceedings already had and any disclosure made therein.
- Sec. 23. Change of venue. In case of a change of venue in an action in the district court, whether before or after full disclosure, the garnishee proceedings shall be changed to the county to which the action is transferred.
- Sec. 24. Appeal. Any party to a garnishment proceeding deeming himself aggrieved by any order or final judgment therein may remove the same from a justice court to the district court, or from the district court to the supreme court, by appeal, in like case, manner, and effect, as in a civil action.
- Sec. 25. Implied repeals. The purpose of this chapter is to provide a uniform system of garnishment disclosure in all districts, municipal and justice courts, and all statutes or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby amended to conform to this chapter.
- Sec. 26. Miscellaneous procedure. Subdivision 1. Assignment of wages. Any officer or employee of a county, town, city, village, or school district, or any department thereof, has the same right to sell, assign, or transfer his salary or wages as is now possessed by any officer of or person employed by any corporation, firm, or person.
- Subd. 2. Public employees; procedure. The salary or wages of any officer or employee of a county, town, city, village, or school district or by any department thereof, is liable to attachment and execution. In case of such officer, the writ shall be served upon the auditor, treasurer or clerk of such body or department of which he is an officer, and in other cases upon the officer in whose office or head of the department in which such person is employed. If payment is made pursuant to levy, a copy of the execution with certificate of satisfaction shall be delivered to the treasurer as his voucher for such payment.
- Subd. 3. Release of attachment. At any time before entry of judgment any person whose property has been attached may obtain its release by giving bond as provided for release of garnishment in Section 21.
- Sec. 27. Repeal. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Chapter 571, and Laws 1943, Chapter 151, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 28. Effective date. This act shall be in force and effect from and after Sept. 1, 1945.

Approved April 20, 1945.

## CHAPTER 425-S. F. No. 753

An act relating to insane, inebriate, feeble-minded and epileptic persons; amending Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 525.76, and 525.761 as amended by Laws 1943, Chapter 612, Section 11.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 525.76, is amended to read as follows:

- 525.76. Release before commitment. Subdivision 1. Release on conditions; exception. Before the delivery of the warrant of commitment, the court, upon such conditions as it may prescribe, may release an insane or inebriate patient to any person and may require such person to file with the court a bond to the state in such amount as the court may direct, conditioned upon the care and safekeeping of the patient, the payment of all expenses, damages, and other items arising from any act of the patient, and compliance with all conditions imposed by the court; but no person against whom a criminal proceeding is pending or who is dangerous to the public shall be so released.
- Subd. 2. Court may revoke release. The court on its own motion or upon petition of any person, and upon such notice and hearing as it may direct, may revoke any such release and commit the patient, and pending such proceedings may issue a warrant for the arrest and confinement of the patient.
- Subd. 3. Release upon petition; discharge of bond. Upon petition of the person to whom any such patient was released and upon the surrender of the patient to the court or to such custody or confinement as the court shall direct, the court shall revoke the order for release and commit the patient. The person to whom the patient was released and the sureties on his bond shall thereupon be discharged from any subsequent liability thereon.
- Subd. 4. County attorney may bring action. In any case where the court deems that the conditions of the bond have