

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND
AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON THE SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND
SITTING TEMPORARILY OUTSIDE OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS

Whereas, Article IV, § 14 of the Constitution of Maryland provides that the Supreme Court of Maryland “shall hold its sessions in the City of Annapolis at such time or times as it shall from time to time by rule prescribe” but further provides that “it shall be competent for the justices temporarily to transfer their sittings elsewhere upon sufficient cause”; and

Whereas, the Court holding oral arguments at secondary or post-secondary educational institutions within the State of Maryland will promote public understanding of the Supreme Court specifically and the Judiciary as a whole; provide educational benefits to students, faculty, and community members who are able to attend oral arguments; promote positive relationships with communities outside the City of Annapolis; enhance civics education; and generally promote the Judiciary’s mission of providing fair, effective, and efficient justice for all; and

Whereas, for purposes of Article IV, § 14, the benefits described in the previous paragraph constitute “sufficient cause” for the Court to temporarily transfer its sittings to a secondary or post-secondary educational institution within the State up to two days each Term year; and

Whereas, it is appropriate for the Court to hold its temporary sittings at geographically diverse locations throughout the State on a rotating basis; and

Whereas, pursuant to a prior administrative order issued on March 2, 2023, the Court successfully held oral arguments in the Fourth Appellate Judicial Circuit on November 3, 2023, and finds that doing so furthered all of the purposes identified above;

Now, therefore, pursuant to the authority conferred on the Justices of the Supreme Court of Maryland by Article IV, § 14 of the Constitution of Maryland, it is this 16th day of November 2023,

ORDERED that, beginning with the September 2023 Term, the Supreme Court of Maryland may temporarily transfer up to two days of oral arguments per term to a secondary or post-secondary educational institution within the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that the Court shall rotate the location of its temporary sittings, proceeding next with the Fifth Appellate Judicial Circuit and then thereafter in the numerical order of the circuits; and it is further

ORDERED that the selection of the educational institutions to host oral arguments shall be made pursuant to the recommendation of the justice from the host appellate judicial circuit, subject to approval of the full Court; and it is further

ORDERED that the Court may, at its discretion, decline to sit temporarily in a jurisdiction outside the City of Annapolis during a particular Term or revise the order of temporary sittings identified in this administrative order. If it does so, the Court shall adjust the schedule prospectively to attempt to maintain as even an overall distribution of temporary sittings among the respective appellate judicial circuits as reasonably possible; and it is further

ORDERED that the Administrative Order on the Supreme Court of Maryland Sitting Temporarily Outside of the City of Annapolis dated March 2, 2023 is hereby rescinded.

/s/ Matthew J. Fader
Matthew J. Fader, Chief Justice

/s/ Shirley M. Watts
Shirley M. Watts, Justice

/s/ Michele D. Hotten
Michele D. Hotten, Justice

/s/ Brynja M. Booth
Brynja M. Booth, Justice

/s/ Jonathan Biran
Jonathan Biran, Justice

/s/ Steven B. Gould
Steven B. Gould, Justice

/s/ Angela M. Eaves
Angela M. Eaves, Justice

Filed: November 16, 2023

/s/ Gregory Hilton
Gregory Hilton
Clerk
Supreme Court of Maryland

Pursuant to the Maryland Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act (§§ 10-1601 et seq. of the State Government Article) this document is authentic.



Gregory Hilton, Clerk