

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS OF MARYLAND

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

As authorized by Maryland Rule 8-502(a)(9), effective August 1, 2020, informal briefing is permitted, but not required, for any appeal in which no appellant is represented (or is required to be represented¹) by an attorney in the following categories of cases:

- cases filed by incarcerated individuals;
- foreclosure cases; and
- family law cases (including issues involving custody, visitation, child support, alimony, marital property, and domestic violence).

On motion filed by any party or on its own initiative, the Court may authorize informal briefing in other cases in which one or more parties is not represented by an attorney.

Informal briefs shall comply substantially with the Guidelines for Informal Briefs and the form informal briefs appended to this Administrative Order. The Clerk shall post this Order and the attached Guidelines and forms on the Court of Special Appeals' website and make copies available in the Office of the Clerk. In any case to which this Order applies, the Clerk shall send a copy of this Order and the attached Guidelines and forms to all parties, along with the briefing notice required by Maryland Rule 8-412(c). In any case in which the Court determines that formal briefing is required to decide the issues raised, regardless of whether an informal brief has been filed, the Court may

¹ Pursuant to Maryland Rule 8-402(a)(2), "a person other than an individual may enter an appearance only by an attorney."

require formal briefing in compliance with Maryland Rules 8-501 through 8-504. If the Court requires formal briefing, the Clerk shall issue a notice to the appellant to file a formal brief and provide the date that the formal brief is due.

It is so ordered this 9th day of March 2021.²



**Chief Judge's Signature Appears on
the Original of this Document**

Matthew J. Fader, Chief Judge

² This Administrative Order replaces the prior order dated July 28, 2020, which is hereby repealed.