



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND FOR BALTIMORE CITY (DISTRICT 1)

Administrative Order No. 2023-3
(MDEC Go Live – May 6, 2024)

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Maryland issued its *Administrative Order on the Administration and Expansion of the Maryland Electronic Courts Statewide* on April 27, 2022,¹ acknowledging that implementation of Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) is approaching completion, with Baltimore City currently undertaking the transition;

WHEREAS, the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City (District 1) is set to “Go Live” with MDEC on Monday, May 6, 2024;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Maryland Rule 16-201(a)(2), having found good cause, District 1 will be closed to the public on Monday, May 6, 2024, except for the exceptions noted herein, to ensure that the implementation of MDEC goes as seamlessly and smoothly as possible and guarantee that the judges and staff are prepared to serve the public after implementation;

WHEREAS, judges and staff will be in the courthouses on May 6, 2024, unless on preapproved leave, managing the transition and preparing for operations on May 7, 2024, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Audrey J.S. Carrión, Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, issued a consistent administrative order regarding operations and closures on May 6, 2024, for the Circuit Court for Baltimore City,

NOW, THEREFORE, it is this 4th day of October 2023 hereby:

ORDERED, that the Civil Court Building, 501 East Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (Civil), will be closed to the public on May 6, 2024;

ORDERED, that the Eastside Court Building, 1400 E. North Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21213 (Eastside), will be closed to the public on May 6, 2024;

¹ At the November 8, 2022, general election, the voters of Maryland ratified a constitutional amendment changing the name of the Court of Appeals of Maryland to the Supreme Court of Maryland. The name change took effect on December 14, 2022.

ORDERED, that the John R. Hargrove, Sr. District Court Building, 700 East Patapsco Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21225 (Hargrove), will be closed to the public on May 6, 2024;

ORDERED, that the Edward F. Borgerding Court Building, 5800 Wabash Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215 (Wabash), will be closed to the public on May 6, 2024;

ORDERED, that the District 1 Court Commissioner's Office located at 1 North Charles Street, 14th floor, Suite 1410, Baltimore, MD 21201, 410-878-8990 (Commissioner's Office), will remain open on May 6, 2024, and have the authority to issue interim peace and protective orders and process applications for statement of charges;

ORDERED, that the Commissioner's Office will remain open on May 6, 2024, and will contact District Court judges during normal working hours assigned to hear remote petitions for emergency evaluations (noting that a Circuit Court judge is assigned after-hours duty on May 6, 2024);

ORDERED, law enforcement may contact District 1 at 410-878-8107 or 410-878-8029 during normal working hours on May 6, 2024, to have assigned District Court judges review search and seizure warrants (noting that a Circuit Court judge is assigned after-hours duty on May 6, 2024);

ORDERED, that on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, all dockets remain closed except for bail reviews at Wabash, bail reviews at Hargrove, and civil peace and protective orders at Eastside, which will operate at full capacity;

ORDERED, that on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, Civil will be open for emergency motions to stay evictions;

ORDERED, that on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, the District Court Help Center located at Civil will be open to the public;

ORDERED, that on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, all petitions for emergency evaluations filed during normal working hours may be heard at Civil, Eastside, Hargrove, and Wabash (noting that a Circuit Court judge is assigned after-hours duty on May 7, 2024);

ORDERED, that from Wednesday, May 8, 2024, through Friday, May 10, 2024, all dockets will operate at 25% capacity except for bail reviews at Wabash, bail reviews at Hargrove, and civil peace and protective orders at Eastside, which will operate at full capacity;

ORDERED, that from Monday, May 13, 2024, through Friday, May 17, 2024, all dockets will operate at 50% capacity except for bail reviews at Wabash, bail reviews at Hargrove, and civil peace and protective orders at Eastside, which will operate at full capacity;

ORDERED, that from Monday, May 20, 2024, through Friday, May 24, 2024, all dockets will operate at 75% capacity except for bail reviews at Wabash, bail reviews at Hargrove, and civil peace and protective orders at Eastside, which will operate at full capacity; and

ORDERED, that on Tuesday, May 28, 2024, and moving forward, all District 1 dockets will operate at full capacity.

This Order may be revised by the undersigned as circumstances warrant.

Geoffrey G. Hengerer

Geoffrey G. Hengerer, Administrative Judge
District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City

CC:

Chief Judge John P. Morrissey, District Court of Maryland
Hon. Audrey J.S. Carrión, Chief Judge for the Circuit Court for Baltimore City
Mary Abrams, Administrative Clerk, District 1
Linda Lewis, Administrative Commissioner, District 1
Judges and Staff for District 1
Senior Judges for District 1
Terrence Young, District Court Help Center - Baltimore City
Sheriff Samuel L. Cogen, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office
Marguerite Lanoux, Esq., Office of the Public Defender
Alycia Capozello, Esq., Office of the Public Defender
Gregg Solomon, Esq., Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City
Justin Dickman, Esq., Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City
Michelle Wirzberger, Baltimore Police Department
Robert Weisengoff, Executive Director, Pretrial Release Service Program
Rosalyn McDuffie, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Kelsey Swann, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Felicia Horton, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Bradley Tanner, Office of Governmental Relations and Public Affairs
Terri Charles, Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs
Toba Owonubi, MDEC Project Manager
Maryland Legal Aid
Maryland State Bar Association
Bar Association of Baltimore City

Monumental City Bar Association
Women's Bar Association
Alliance of Black Women Attorneys of Maryland
LGBTQ Bar Association
The Women's Law Center of Maryland
Maryland Hispanic Bar Association
Simon E. Sobeloff Law Society
South Asian Bar Association
Maryland Criminal Defense Bar
Maryland Association for Justice
Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc.