

UNREPORTED
IN THE APPELLATE COURT
OF MARYLAND

No. 319

September Term, 2025

IN THE MATTER OF DE' MARKIE ALI

Zic,
Ripken,
Wright, Alexander, Jr.
(Senior Judge, Specially Assigned),

JJ.

PER CURIAM

Filed: December 31, 2025

*This is a per curiam opinion. Under Rule 1-104, the opinion is not precedent within the rule of stare decisis nor may it be cited as persuasive authority.

In December 2024, DE MARKIE ALI, appellant, filed a petition in the Circuit Court for Washington County seeking to change his name to De’ Markie Ali. In that petition, appellant further indicated that he wanted to “be exonerated from the STATE name DE MARKIE ALI as a form of civil exoneration under the doctrine of suretyship.” And, at the hearing on the petition, appellant further indicated that he was an “equitable beneficiary of the entire commercial realm[,]” that he “didn’t identify under the State name,” and that he was trying to separate himself from “recognized citizenship to the State of Maryland” and become a “private National American.” The court informed appellant that, absent granting the requested name change, it could not give appellant the other relief he was requesting including “exonerating yourself from sovereignty of Maryland, the United States or anything else.” Appellant indicated that he still wanted the name change to be granted, and the court subsequently entered an order changing his name to De’ Markie Ali. Appellant now appeals from that, claiming that the court erred in not granting the other relief requested in his petition.

Although Maryland Rule 15-901 allows a person to file a petition for change of name, it does not provide the circuit court with the authority to enter an order “exonerating” a person “under the doctrine of suretyship[,]” establish a person as “an equitable beneficiary of the entire commercial realm[,]” change a person’s legal status with the State, or allow a person to renounce their citizenship with Maryland or the United States.

Consequently, the court did not abuse its discretion in denying the additional requests made by appellant in his petition for a name change, and we shall affirm the judgment.

**JUDGMENT OF THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR WASHINGTON
COUNTY AFFIRMED. COSTS
TO BE PAID BY APPELLANT.**