

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON ACCESS TO THE
ROBERT C. MURPHY COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING

WHEREAS, the safety of all people who enter the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building, including staff and visitors, is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, increasing levels of violence, including toward members of the judiciary, have heightened the importance of following best practices in security for sensitive places like courthouses,

I, Matthew J. Fader, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and administrative head of the Judicial Branch, pursuant to the authority conferred by Article IV, § 18 of the Maryland Constitution, do this 8th day of July, 2022, order as follows:

(1) All individuals who enter the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building during normal business hours, whether through the front entrance or the employee/delivery entrance, shall be subject to security screening protocols established by the Office of Security Administration of the Administrative Office of the Courts. Individuals who do not comply with screening protocols shall be denied entrance to the courthouse.

(2) The Office of Security Administration shall coordinate with the Clerks of the Court of Appeals and the Court of Special Appeals and the Director of the Thurgood Marshall State Law Library to ensure that adequate security personnel are assigned to the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building, based on expected volume of visitors, so that security screening does not unduly delay entrance to the building.

(3) Firearms or other weapons of any kind are not permitted within the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building unless carried by law enforcement officers entering the building in performance of their official duties. Any weapons identified during screening or at any other time, except those carried by a law enforcement officer in the exercise of their official duties, shall be impounded and retained for use as evidence, and may be forfeited, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of in accordance with law. Any person unlawfully carrying weapons within the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeals Building is subject to criminal prosecution.

/s/ Matthew J. Fader
Matthew J. Fader
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland

Filed: July 8, 2022

/s/ Suzanne C. Johnson
Suzanne C. Johnson
Clerk
Court of Appeals of Maryland

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



Suzanne C. Johnson, Clerk