

## Family Differentiated Case Management (DCM) Plan

This Family<sup>1</sup> DCM Plan is established in accordance with Md. Rule 16-302(b) which requires the County Administrative Judge to develop and, upon approval by the Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, implement and monitor a case management plan for the prompt and efficient scheduling and disposition of an action in the Circuit Court.

### Statement of Purpose

From the commencement of litigation to its resolution, whether by trial or settlement, any elapsed time other than reasonably required for pleadings, discovery, and court events, is unacceptable and should be eliminated. To enable just and efficient resolution of cases, the Court, not the lawyers or litigants, should control the pace of litigation. A strong judicial commitment is essential to reducing delay and once achieved, maintaining a current docket. (Standard 250, ABA Standards Relating to Court Delay Reduction)

It is the purpose of this DCM Plan to provide an effective case management system which will assure:

1. Equal treatment of all litigants by the Court;
2. Timely disposition consistent with the circumstances of the individual case;
3. Enhancement of the quality of the litigation process; and
4. Public confidence in the Court as an institution.

Consistent with the Case Time Standards adopted by the Judicial Council, Constitutional requirements and applicable Maryland Rules, it is the goal of this Plan to ensure that 98% of family cases, with the exception of limited divorces, be concluded within 12 months (365 days) of the filing date; and that 98% of limited divorce cases be concluded within 24 months (730 days) of the filing date. A concluded disposition is considered by judgment or dismissal. In order to achieve this goal, the Circuit Court is committed to resolving different categories of family cases, referred to as case subtypes, within a regular and predictable time frame warranted by the needs of those cases. For simpler cases, the warranted time frame may be shorter than 12 months.

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<sup>1</sup> Family cases have historically been called Civil Domestic cases.

The DCM Plan for family case types does not include general civil (i.e. non-domestic relations case types).<sup>2</sup> Family cases are the exclusive jurisdiction of the Circuit Court.

### **Case Management**

The policies and procedures outlined in this Plan shall be implemented by the County Administrative Judge, the Associate Judge, Family Law Magistrates assigned to hear family law and child support cases, and their respective staff. The Associate Judge and the Family Law Magistrates report to the County Administrative Judge. The County Administrative Judge supervises all aspects of family case management and is ultimately responsible for the implementation and monitoring of this DCM Plan, pursuant to Md. Rule 16-302(b). Upon the filing of a case, the Clerk's Office assigns judicial designation of the case alternating every other case between the two judges. The County Administrative Judge, however, makes final decisions about whether and to whom a case should be assigned, when necessary.

All judges and Family Law magistrates are responsible to comply with and implement in their rulings the provisions of this Plan. Individual judges are responsible for the effective management of cases assigned to them; however, the scheduling of assigned cases must always be coordinated with the Assignment Office. Assigned cases should be managed to the extent possible consistent with the provisions of this Plan, including adherence to the Case Time Standards.

### **Family Division Services**

Family Division Services includes programs that are designed to facilitate conflict resolution and improve outcomes in family cases. Some family services and programs are mandatory and will be ordered by the Court during the case. Other services and programs are discretionary by referral of the Court during a case, or they may be requested by either or both parties. Descriptions of family services and programs are provided after the basic case management tracks are described below.

### **Family Tracks**

A family case may follow four potential tracks to resolution. Tracks are defined based on the case subtype. Tracks define expected case processing events, the timing of events, assignment, and the expectations for case duration. The caseflow time standard for Circuit Court family cases, with the exception of limited divorce cases, is 12 months [365 days] for 98% of cases and 24 months (730

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<sup>2</sup> See Civil DCM template for all general civil case types.

days) for 98% of limited divorce cases; but expected case duration is based on needed time to reach resolution, which may be less or more than the time standard.

**Table 1.1 – Family Tracks Case Types and Outcomes**

<i>Track</i>	<i>Case Subtypes</i>	<i>Expected Case Duration and Notes</i>
<b>Track 1 Family Expedited</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Uncontested Divorce</li> <li>2. Uncontested or Minor Child Support Issues</li> <li>3. Uncontested or Minor Child Access Issues</li> <li>4. Annulment</li> <li>5. Defaults</li> <li>6. Modifications</li> </ol>	Answer + 90 days = 120 days
<b>Track 2 Family Standard</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contested Divorce, with or without custody and child support</li> <li>2. Contested Child Support</li> <li>3. Contested Child Access</li> <li>4. Contested Adoption</li> <li>5. Guardianship</li> <li>6. Paternity</li> </ol>	Answer + 240 days = 270 days
<b>Track 3 Family Complex</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contested Divorce, with business property, 3<sup>rd</sup> party custody, or alimony</li> </ol>	270-330 days 3-5% of caseload; specially assigned and custom managed
<b>Track 4 Limited Divorce</b>	Limited Divorce	730 days

**Track Designations Set after First Answer**

After receipt by the Court of an Answer to the complaint, the Family Services Coordinator (FSC) will review the file. If appropriate, the FSC will make arrangements for services to be provided to the parties. Services range from mediation, family counseling, psychological examinations, or any other services that may be Court ordered. Thereafter, the file is forwarded to the Family Law Magistrate’s office for scheduling of matters authorized by MD. Rule 2-541(b)(1) and MD. Rule 9-208(a)(1)(A-K). A copy of the Administrative Order authorizing the Family Law Magistrate to hear these cases is attached hereto. If the case requires a hearing before a judge, the file is forwarded to the Assignment Office for the purposes of scheduling. In many instances, a case may have a hearing scheduled before the magistrate and the Court.

Table 1.2 and Diagrams 1.1-1.4 on the following pages illustrate the events and times required for family case processing tracks.

**Table 1.2 – Family DCM Track Guidelines**

Track	Family Casetypes Tracks	Filing	Answer Filed	Mediation	Other Hearing Types	Discovery Motions Filed	Pretrial Settlement Conference	Exhibit List	Merits Hearing
Track 1	Expedited	0 days	30 days	-	90 days	90 days	-	-	120 days
Track 2	Standard	0 days	30 days	120 days	180 days	180 days	210 days	210 days	270 days
Track 3	Complex	0 days	30 days	120 days	240 days	240 days	270 days	270 days	365 days
Track 4	Limited Divorce	0 days	30 days	-	90 days	90 days	-	-	730 days

**Diagram 1.1 – Family DCM Track Diagram**

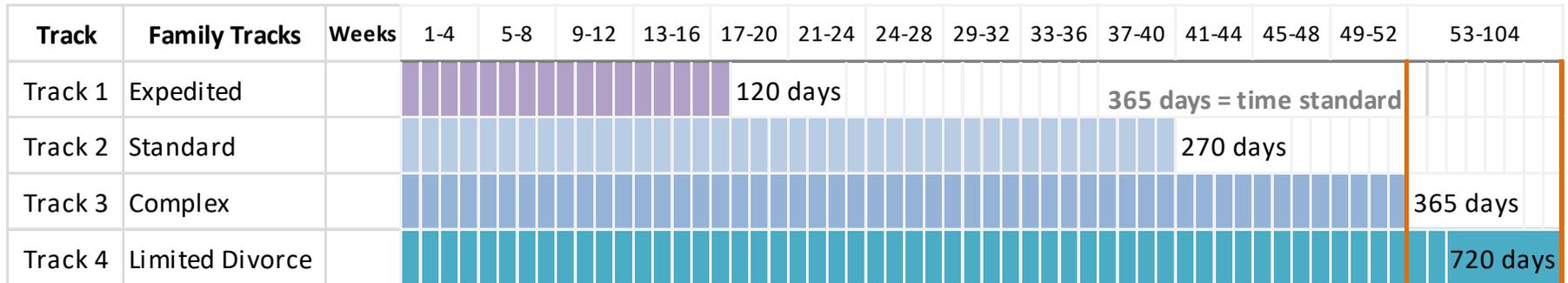
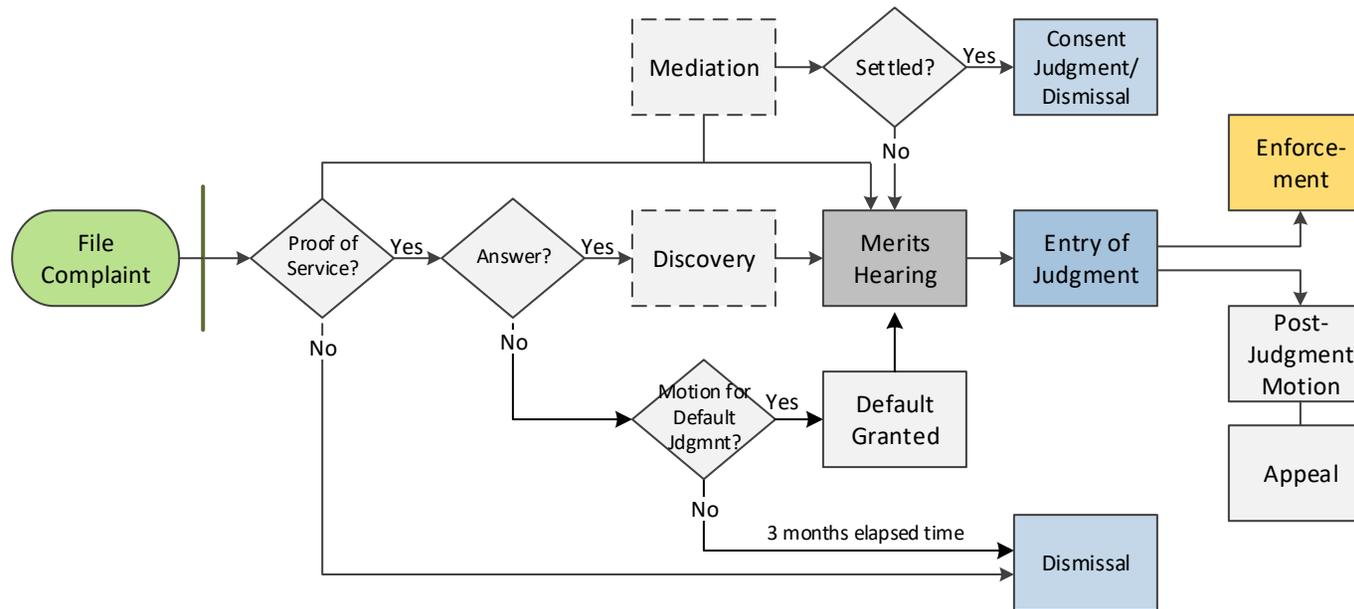
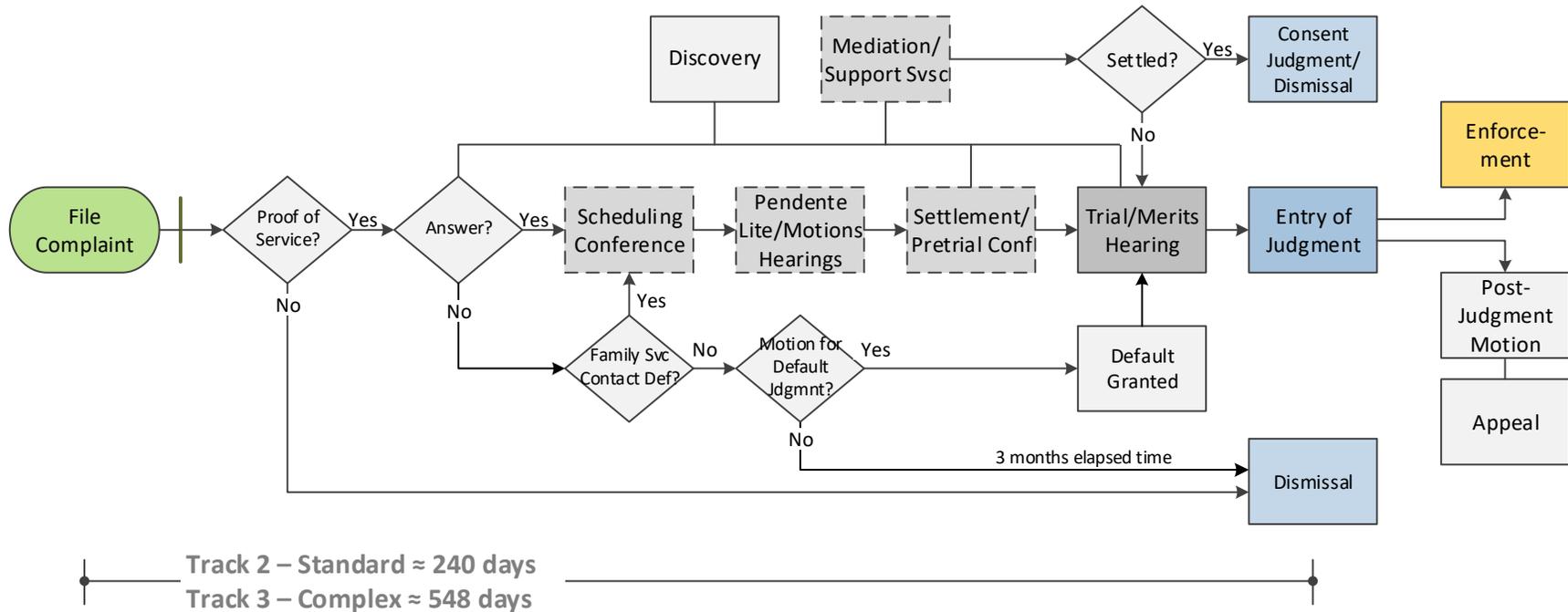


Diagram 1.2 – Family Track 1 Expedited Case Processing



**Diagram 1.3 – Family Track 2 Standard, and Track 3, Complex Case Processing**



## Case Processing Events – All Family Case Types

The following are the major events for family cases.

### File a Case

The following steps are required to file a family case:

(a) **File a complaint** with the Court (Md. Rule 2-111) at the Circuit Court Clerk's office. Most family cases are required to attach a completed [Domestic Case Information Report](#) (CC-DCM-001), with the complaint. Family case subtypes exempt from filing the Domestic Case Information Form include the following:

- Contempt for failure to pay child support, when filed by a government agency
- Domestic violence relief under Code, Family Law Article, §§ 4-501 through 4-516, including Rule 3-326(c) transfer
- Guardianship, other than action to terminate parental rights (Rules 10-201 through 10-305)
- Paternity, when filed by government agency (Code, Family Law Article, §§ 5-1001)

(b) **Pay filing fee.** Refer to the [Summary of Charges, Costs, and Fees of the Clerks of the Circuit Court](#) for fees. The filing fee for divorce cases is \$165.00. (See *Divorce, Complaint for Limited or Absolute.*) Filing fees may be waived by the Court, based on the following conditions:

- ✓ Filing by the plaintiff of the [Request for Waiver of Prepaid Costs](#) (CC-DC-089); and/or
- ✓ Representation by a civil legal aid lawyer; and/or
- ✓ Other determination by the Court.

If the Court does not grant the request to waive prepaid costs, the plaintiff has 10 days to pay the filing and other required fees.

(c) **Notify the other party (Defendant).** The plaintiff is required to attempt to notify the defendant that a complaint (lawsuit) has been filed against the defendant. The clerk will issue a summons to officially notify the defendant that a suit has been filed (Md. Rule 2-112). The summons has to be served on the defendant within 60 days. After the time limit has expired, the summons is no longer valid, unless renewed by motion of the plaintiff. The original complaint and summons must be delivered to the defendant. There are four legal ways to deliver these documents to the defendant: 1) Certified Mail, 2) Private Process; 3) Constable (not available in Allegany County); and 4) Sheriff.

- (d) **Proof of Service.** The Court requires that the plaintiff fill out an [Affidavit of Service \(Private Process\)](#) (CC-DR-55) or [Affidavit of Service \(Certified Mail\)](#) (CC-DR-56) form to prove that the other side has been notified, or served. If the Court does not receive proof of service within the time allotted for the defendant to file an Answer, the plaintiff may not be able to present their case on the trial date.
- (e) **Lack of Jurisdiction.** Between the filing of the complaint and service, the Court may dismiss cases for lack of jurisdiction, following service for lack of prosecution, or the cases are withdrawn. If the defendant has not been served after 120 days, the Clerk's Office sends notices to the parties that they have 30 days to file a motion to vacate or defer the order of dismissal, or the case will be dismissed without prejudice. After the 30-day expiration, the Clerk's Office reviews the case, and presents it to a judge who signs an order dismissing the case. A motion docket entry is made that the case is dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

## **Answer**

The defendant must file an Answer, typically within 30 days after they have received a summons, for most Circuit Court civil case subtypes (Md. Rule 2-321).<sup>3</sup> See exceptions in 1(a) above. If a contested Answer is filed, the Court considers these cases to be at issue, and the case shall proceed (Md. Rule 2-323). In addition, if the defendant seeks to modify any information on the original case information report, or expects to file a counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim, he or she is required to file with the Answer a defendant's Domestic Case Information Report.

**Lack of Prosecution.** Following service, the Court actively dismisses cases for lack of prosecution after one year under Md. Rule 2-507. The majority of dismissals occur after the answers have been filed. See *Answer* above. Following service, if an Answer has not been filed or, following Answer, no other action has been taken on the case after one year, the Clerk's Office sends notices to the parties that they have 30 days to file a motion to vacate or defer the order of dismissal, or the case will be dismissed without prejudice. After the 30 day expiration, the Clerk's Office reviews and dismisses the case. A motion docket entry is made that the case is dismissed without prejudice for lack of prosecution.

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<sup>3</sup> Exceptions include defendants who live outside the State of Maryland, resident agents, officers or agencies of the U.S. government, among others. See MD. Rule 2-321.

## **Track1 – Family Expedited Cases**

After the Answer has been filed, and both parties agree that the case is primarily uncontested or an expedited matter, the Assignment Office will set the case for a final merits hearing with a magistrate or a judge, typically within 60 days of the Answer. The anticipated length of the hearing should be ½ day or less. If no Answer has been filed, a default order is issued, and a final merits hearing also is automatically set within 60 days.

### **Uncontested Final Merits Hearings**

All uncontested divorce proceedings are scheduled in the Courthouse before a magistrate if a waiver of the filing fee has been granted. If a party or attorney has a conflict on the date of the scheduled hearing before a magistrate, a written request for postponement must be filed and a copy of the request must be sent to the defendant. The magistrate will make a ruling as to the requested postponement and reschedule the matter if granted.

If the filing fee was paid by the plaintiff, testimony must be scheduled before a Standing Examiner of the Court. The scheduling of the testimony must be done by the plaintiff and the fee for the Standing Examiner is paid by the plaintiff directly to the Standing Examiner.

## **Tracks 2 and 3 – Family Standard and Complex Cases**

### **Family Services and Programs**

The following are some of the services that may be ordered as part of an ongoing contested family case. A judge may order, or a magistrate may recommend, any of these services at any time in the case process.

- (a) Co-parenting classes
- (b) Intensive services parenting workshop
- (c) Supervised visitation and monitored exchange
- (d) Mediation and intensive services mediation
- (e) Family support services
- (f) Child access investigations
- (g) Psychiatric evaluations
- (h) Child access evaluations

### **Emergency Hearings**

If there is some immediate substantial injury that will result to the party or the party's child or children before a regularly scheduled hearing can be held, an emergency or temporary hearing may be considered in a domestic case. These types of hearings may occur at any time during a case, but may be filed early in the case by either party. In order to request an emergency hearing, a motion must be filed requesting an emergency hearing. The motion should contain all of the relevant facts including the reason why the matter needs immediate Court attention. It is helpful to include with the motion a statement regarding the time estimates to hear the motion and whether medical experts may or may not be called. Motions for emergency hearings should be sent to the opposing counsel/party.

An affidavit and certificate of service must accompany the motion for an emergency hearing detailing the facts that give rise to the emergency. In certain instances, where the party does not have the personal knowledge to support all of the facts in the motion, additional affidavits should be used. All affidavits are to be attached to motions for mailing and/or service and must be signed by the party not by counsel, unless the attorney has personal knowledge. The request for an emergency hearing will be reviewed by an assigned magistrate or judge, depending on the issues, and if approved, it will be scheduled before an assigned judge or magistrate in an expedited fashion.

### **Temporary *Ex Parte* and Restraining Orders**

**Temporary *Ex Parte*:** Temporary *ex parte* orders for domestic violence cases are to be presented to a judge for ruling. The judge may conduct an *ex parte* hearing before making a ruling. The original request for *ex parte* relief must be filed with the Clerk's Office before the matter is heard by a judge. *Ex parte* requests may be denied without a hearing if the request does not sufficiently state a claim that may warrant *ex parte* relief. If the *ex parte* protective order is approved, a domestic violence protective order hearing will be set within seven days before an assigned judge. (See generally, Family Law Ann. Code of MD. 4-504 through 4-506.)

**Temporary Restraining Orders:** Temporary restraining orders for domestic matters not pertaining to domestic violence are to be presented to a judge for ruling. The original temporary restraining order request must be filed with the Clerk's Office before the matter is heard by a judge. *Ex parte* requests may be denied without a hearing if the request does not sufficiently state a claim that may warrant *ex parte* relief or if proper notice is not given to the opposing side. Maryland Rule

15-504 requires that any *ex parte* request be accompanied by certification of notice, or alternatively, of specified efforts commensurate with the circumstances to attempt to provide notice to the opposing side or their counsel.

If a temporary restraining order is granted, the party affected by the order may apply for modification or dissolution of the order on two days' notice to the party who obtained the temporary restraining order. If notice is given, a hearing before the assigned judge will be scheduled at the earliest possible time. (See generally, Md. Rule 15-501 through Md. Rule 15-505.)

### **Discovery**

Procedural and discovery motions should be filed as outlined in the Scheduling Order issued by the Assignment Office. Dispositive motions may be filed at any time. If necessary, a motions hearing will be scheduled by the Assignment Office prior to the date of the merits hearing.

### **Pretrial Settlement Conference**

A Pretrial Settlement Conference shall be conducted in accordance with Md. Rule 2-504.2. The purpose of the Pretrial Settlement Conference is to reach a settlement on a case, or to confirm that a case is ready to go to trial. Counsel or the parties shall be directed to prepare and file, no later than five business days prior to the Pretrial Settlement Conference, a written statement, in accordance with Md. Rule 2-504.2. All parties and their counsel must be prepared to discuss all aspects of the case in anticipation of settlement. The settlement judge will not be the same judge as the trial judge.

Counsel of record, who will try the case if it goes to trial, must appear at the Pretrial Settlement Conference unless excused by the judge who is conducting the Pretrial Settlement Conference. For those cases that go to trial, a pretrial order governing the further handling and trial shall be prepared using the Civil Pretrial Order form. If the case is not ready for trial, it is within the discretion of the settlement judge to resolve any open issues or re-set the Pretrial Settlement Conference with any appropriate directions or orders regarding the completion of such matters as will make the case ready for trial. Some complex or specially assigned cases may require a more extensive and lengthy Pretrial Settlement Conference, either for settlement purposes or for consideration of other Pretrial matters. Any such special assignment shall be made with the approval of the County Administrative Judge.

If a settlement is reached, the settlement judge will enter a corresponding order, or the agreement will be placed on the record that day by the settlement judge. Counsel will be instructed, if necessary, to file an order or line of dismissal and pay any open costs within a specified time.

Counsel who are designated to prepare any such final order must comply within the timeframe established by the judge. Any disagreements between counsel regarding the language of the order must be resolved timely between counsel or by prompt notification to the Court. Any failure to comply with this provision may result in sanctions being imposed by the Court, including but not limited to monetary sanctions and/or counsel fees. Counsel for the parties, all representatives with full authority, and all parties may be required to appear in Court on a date to be determined solely in the discretion of the Court to explain the failure to timely file the appropriate order.

Cases that do not settle at the Pretrial Settlement Conference, will proceed to trial as outlined in the Scheduling Order issued in the matter.

### **Required Documentation**

**Marital property:** In advance of any Pretrial Settlement Conference, counsel is required to prepare and exchange initial drafts of a Md. Rule 9-207 Joint Statement of Parties Concerning Marital and Non-Marital Property in all cases with contested issues involving marital property. Although a finalized Joint Statement is not required at the Pretrial Settlement Conference, the initial drafts must be provided to the settlement judge for use in the Pretrial Settlement Conference.

**Child support:** Also, in advance of any Pretrial Settlement Conference, counsel is required to prepare and exchange proposed Child Support Guidelines in all cases with contested child support issues. The draft guidelines must be provided to the settlement judge for use in the Pretrial Settlement Conference.

### **Postponement or Cancellation of a Settlement Conference**

Any request to postpone or re-schedule a Pretrial Settlement Conference must be made in writing for ruling by the senior judge. If a case settles in advance of the Pretrial Settlement Conference, parties or their counsel must notify the settlement judge so the matter can be removed from the settlement schedule.

### **Pretrial Order**

If a case is not settled at the Pretrial Settlement Conference, the Court shall enter an order that

recites the decisions made at the Pretrial Settlement Conference.

### **Final Merits Hearing/Trial**

Trials, and all Court events, are set on a date certain by scheduling order when the answer is filed. At trial, all parties should be prepared to present any witnesses, evidence or exhibits to prove or defend against a claim. If the trial date is postponed for good cause, a new trial date will be assigned by the Assignment Office after consultation with counsel to determine a date certain. The procedures for seeking a postponement are below.

## **All Tracks – Family Cases**

### **Final Order/Judgment**

The final order/judgment is entered by the clerk following a trial. The order of the Court is signed by the judge who heard the case. The date of the judgment is the date the clerk enters the judgment on the electronic case management system docket (Md. Rule 2-601).

### **Post-Judgment**

The parties have 10 days to file a motion to alter or amend a judgment (Md. Rule 2-534), and 30 days to file an appeal. On appeal, a Circuit Court case will be reviewed in the Court of Special Appeals.

### **Enforcement**

After the Court issues a judgment and it is entered into the record by the Clerk's Office, both parties will receive a copy of the judgment by mail or by placing a copy in the attorney's mailbox located in the Clerk's Office. If a money judgment was awarded, it should be noted that the Court will not collect the money owed to the prevailing party. To begin an enforcement action, the prevailing party will have to complete and file more forms with the Court, pay the required filing fees and appear in Court for additional hearings. The prevailing party usually must wait 10 days before he or she can take further legal action to enforce the judgment. Once the waiting period passes, there are three different ways a creditor can collect on the judgment:

1. Garnishing the other person's wages;
2. Garnishing the other person's bank account; or
3. Seizing the other person's personal property or real estate.

The prevailing party must file documents with the Court and provide the other party with copies of all motions or correspondence filed with the Court in order to garnish or seize money or property. If the other person does not have a job, a bank account, real estate or other significant property, it may be difficult to collect on the judgment.

## **Family Assignment and Scheduling**

At the time of the filing of the action, the case will be assigned to a judge by the Clerk's Office as outlined earlier in this plan. That judge will handle all aspects of the case, unless certain matters are referred to the magistrate. The magistrate will hear matters assigned to both judges.

## **Postponements**

It is the policy of this Court to resolve family disputes without unnecessary delay or undue waste of the time and resources of the Court, the litigants, and other case participants. Although it may be necessary or appropriate to postpone a hearing or Court event, such requests should be based upon a showing of good cause, and should be done well in advance of any scheduled Court deadline or event. Requests for postponement are particularly disfavored on the day of a hearing or trial. The Court also views with disfavor any request for postponement or for modification of a scheduling order that delays the resolution of the matter beyond 12 months from the date of filing, which is the case time standard that applies to family cases other than complaints for limited divorce.

### **Modification of Scheduling Order and Postponement of a Settlement Conference or Final**

**Merits Hearing:** All requests for modification of a scheduling order, merits hearing, or trial shall be in writing in the form of a motion for postponement. If all parties consent to the modification or postponement, the motion for postponement must be signed by all counsel. It is not sufficient to simply note in the motion that opposing counsel does not oppose the request. All requests must set forth the basis for the modification or postponement. A motion for postponement must be made in a timely fashion to allow for responses to the motion to be filed. (See Md. Rule 2-311(b)).

**Good Cause Requirement:** The following shall generally be considered good cause for postponement, but are not inclusive. The Court will consider each request on its own merit:

- (a) Trial date conflict. The first case set takes precedence;

(b) Serious illness of, or death in the family of a party, counsel, or necessary witness;  
(c) Vacation(s) scheduled prior to any assigned trial or hearing date;  
(d) Counsel is in trial in another matter that carries over to cause a conflict;  
(e) A party did not receive notice of the hearing or trial, through no fault of the party or their counsel.

(f) Facts or circumstances arising or becoming apparent too late in the proceedings to be corrected in advance of the hearing, and which, in the view of the Court, would likely cause undue hardship or a possible miscarriage of justice if the hearing or trial proceeded as scheduled.

The following are generally NOT considered good cause for postponement:

(a) Vacations(s) scheduled after establishing a trial or motion date;  
(b) Consent of counsel without compelling reason or a substantive basis;  
(c) The matter has not previously been postponed (no peremptory postponements);  
(d) Any matter known or which should have been known when the trial date became firm;  
(e) New counsel has entered an appearance or a party wishes to change counsel;  
(f) Discovery is incomplete or was just provided;  
(g) A party wishes to conduct further investigation;  
(h) A party or counsel is unprepared to try to the case for reasons including, but not limited to, the party's failure to cooperate with or maintain necessary contact with counsel.

Requests for postponement of trial/hearing dates will be ruled upon by the judge or magistrate who is scheduled to hear the case.

## **Interpreters**

Interpreters are available at no cost to a party or witness involved in a case.

If a party or a witness in a case requests an interpreter, the file is forwarded to the Interpreter Coordinator for the purposes of securing the appearance of an interpreter at all court proceedings. In addition to Courtroom proceedings, individuals who may need the assistance of an interpreter in settings other than the Courtroom, the Interpreter Coordinator is authorized to obtain interpreting services for any of the following Court-ordered and Court-offered services: ADR/mediations conducted by Court appointed mediators; and, free of charge events conducted by the Court to assist the public to access Court services such as workshops, walk-in clinics, self-help centers, etc.

The Court is an authorized State of Maryland Judiciary user of Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) services. VRI services are limited emergency, or any short and non-complex hearing where limited testimony will be given. In some instances, it may be used in the event the Court is unable to secure the physical presence of an interpreter. All VRI services are coordinated through the Court Interpreter Office.

In addition, interpreter assistance in the Clerk's Office at the counter and information desks is available via telephone with Language Line. Additional information about Language Line can be found in the Clerk's Office or in the Interpreter Coordinator's Office.

## Forms

The following forms may be required to be attached a complaint in family cases, or to complete a filing and service.

- CC-DCM 001      [Domestic Case Information Form](#)
- CC-DR-55      [Affidavit of Service \(Private Process\)](#)
- [CC-DR-56](#)      [Affidavit of Service \(Certified Mail\)](#)
- CC-DC-089      [Request for Waiver of Prepaid Costs](#)

The following form can be used to request a change in a scheduled hearing or trial at the Circuit Court:

- CC-DC-070      [Motion for Postponement](#)

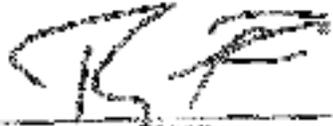
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to Md. Rule 2-521-(b)(1); and Md. Rule 9-208 (a)(1)(A-E), it is this 12 day of December, 2016, ORDERED that the Family Magistrate perform the following services in Family Law matters when a hearing has been requested or is otherwise referred by a judge of this Court:

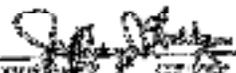
- (A) uncontested divorce, annulment, or alimony;
- (B) alimony pendente lite;
- (C) child support pendente lite;
- (D) support of dependent;
- (E) preliminary or pendente lite possession or use of the family home or family-use personal property;
- (F) subject to RULE 9-208, pendente lite custody of or visitation with children or modification of an existing order or judgment as to custody or visitation;
- (G) subject to Rule 9-208 as to child access disputes, constructive civil contempt by reason of noncompliance with an order or judgment relating to custody of or visitation with a minor child, the payment of alimony or support, or the possession or use of the family home or family-use personal property, following service of a show cause order upon the person alleged to be in contempt;
- (H) modification of an existing order or judgment as to the payment of alimony or support or as to the possession or use of the family home or family-use property;
- (I) counsel fees and assessment of court costs in any matter referred to a magistrate;
- (J) stay of or setting aside/setting aside;
- (K) such other matters arising under Chapter 9 of the Maryland Rules and set forth in the court's case management plan filed pursuant to Rule 16-202 b;

- (L) by agreement of the parties; any other orders or issues existing under Chapter 9 of the Maryland Rules may be referred to the magistrate by order of the court; and
- (M) mandated custody or visitation.



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W. TIMOTHY REED  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE



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JEFFREY S. CLARK  
JUDGE