

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**(Court-Designated Practitioner Alternative Dispute Resolution Fees)**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-105(b)(12), the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland (“Circuit Court”) is responsible for the overall administration of the Circuit Court, including taking necessary measures to ensure the effective management of the Court and the prompt disposition of all matters before it; and

**WHEREAS**, the Court has undertaken a review of the fee schedule currently applicable to court-designated alternative dispute resolution (“ADR”) practitioners in civil law matters, including domestic property matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the current hourly rate in the Circuit Court for these matters is two hundred dollars and zero cents (\$200.00); and

**WHEREAS**, the current fee schedule has been in effect without revision since 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, the passage of time and change in economic conditions warrant a review of the fee schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Maryland Rule 17-208, on August 12, 2026, the Honorable Chief Justice Matthew J. Fader of the Supreme Court of Maryland reviewed and approved of an increase in the hourly fee to three hundred twenty-five dollars and zero cents (\$325.00) for court-designated ADR practitioners in civil law matters; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, upon consideration of the foregoing, it is this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026 hereby:

**ORDERED**, that the hourly rate for all Circuit Court appointments of court-designated practitioners conducting ADR in civil law matters, including domestic property matters, made on or after September 1, 2026, shall be and hereby is three hundred twenty-five dollars and zero cents (\$325.00).



Karla N. Smith, Administrative Judge  
Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland