

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
(Motions for Default Judgment)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-105(b)(12), the Administrative Judge for 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 Circuit Court is committed to ensuring that motions for default judgment are considered in a manner consistent with the Maryland Rules and the due process rights of all parties; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Rule 2-311(b) and Maryland Rule 1-203(c) provide a party with eighteen (18) days after the filing of a motion to file a response, unless otherwise ordered by the Court; and

WHEREAS, a Motion for Default Judgment filed pursuant to Maryland Rule 2-613 is not ripe for judicial determination until the applicable response period has expired;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is this 22nd day of September 2026, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland,

ORDERED, that a Default Judgment shall not be entered before the Motion for Default Judgment is ripe for judicial determination under the Maryland Rules; and it is further

ORDERED, that if a Motion for Default Judgment is not ripe prior to a scheduled Ex-Parte/Damages hearing, the hearing shall proceed as scheduled, and the defaulting party may appear and contest damages in accordance with the Maryland Rules; and it is further

ORDERED, that if the defaulting party fails to appear at the Ex Parte/Damages hearing, the Court may enter a Default Judgment.



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