

IN THE MATTER OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF AN
ELECTRONIC FILING PILOT
PROJECT IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

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IN THE
COURT OF APPEALS
OF MARYLAND

ORDER

The Court of Appeals, pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-307 of the Maryland Rules of Practice and Procedure, having considered the plan submitted by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County to implement a pilot project for the electronic filing of pleadings and papers in all cases before the Court; and

Upon further consideration of the recommendation of the State Court Administrator, also pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-307;

The Court hereby approves the pilot project and authorizes its implementation under the following conditions;

1. The pilot project shall include all case types filed in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. This process shall be phased-in over the term of the pilot project and as provided by the Court in its plan.
2. Participation in the pilot project by all parties shall be mandatory. Those parties electing not to subscribe to the fee-based services provided by the Court's contractor shall receive direct assistance at the Court House from the Clerk's Office for purposes of electronic filing and information retrieval.
3. The pilot project shall comply fully with the Maryland Rules. Specifically, the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County and the Clerk's Office shall take particular note of the public access rules to ensure the availability of all digital information for public inquiry and to ensure the redaction of certain shielded electronic information.
4. The pilot project shall integrate electronic filing into the Judiciary's case management system to avoid redundant or additional labor for the Court or the Clerk's Office.
5. The Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County shall make all reasonable efforts to educate the bar and the public to the pilot project. These efforts shall not be limited to Anne Arundel County.
6. The State Court Administrator, in collaboration with the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County and the Clerk's Office, shall facilitate a comprehensive evaluation of this pilot project.

7. The Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County shall provide written status reports on the pilot project on the following dates: March 1, 2007, July 2, 2007, November 1, 2007, March 3, 2008, July 1, 2008, and November 3, 2008.
8. The pilot project shall operate for a period not to exceed two years from the date of this Order unless terminated earlier or extended by a subsequent Order.

/s/ Robert M. Bell
Honorable Robert M. Bell

/s/ Irma S. Raker
Honorable Irma S. Raker

/s/ Alan M. Wilner
Honorable Alan M. Wilner

/s/ Dale R. Cathell
Honorable Dale R. Cathell

/s/ Glenn T. Harrell, Jr.
Honorable Glenn T. Harrell, Jr.

/s/ Lynne A. Battaglia
Honorable Lynne A. Battaglia

/s/ Clayton Greene, Jr.
Honorable Clayton Greene, Jr.

Filed: October 13, 2006

/s/ Alexander L. Cummings
Alexander L. Cummings, Clerk
Court of Appeals

