

SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

The Supreme Court of Maryland, on its own initiative, proposes to amend Maryland Rule 16-701, as set forth in the attached proposed amendment to that rule. Interested persons are asked to consider the Court's proposed rule change, and to forward, on or before February 13, 2024, any written comments they wish to make to the Clerk at supremecourtclerk@mdcourts.gov or:

Gregory Hilton, Clerk
Supreme Court of Maryland
361 Rowe Boulevard, 4th Floor
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Court will consider the adoption of this rule change along with the changes proposed in the 220th Report of the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure at an open meeting on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Anyone wishing to testify at the open meeting should notify the Clerk of the Supreme Court by Friday, February 23, 2024 at the email or physical address shown above. In the notice include your name and contact information, including an email address.

Gregory Hilton
Clerk
Supreme Court of Maryland

MARYLAND RULES OF PROCEDURE
TITLE 16 – COURT ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 7 – MISCELLANEOUS JUDICIAL UNITS

AMEND Rule 16-701 by adding language to (d)(1)(D) as follows:

RULE 16-701. RULES COMMITTEE

. . .

(d) Terms.

(1) *Generally.* Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(2) of this Rule, in an Order appointing or reappointing a member of the Rules Committee effective on or after July 1, 2016:

(A) the full term of each member is five years, except that (i) the term of the circuit court clerk is five years or during the incumbency of the individual as a circuit court clerk, whichever is shorter; and (ii) the term of an incumbent judge is five years or during the incumbency of the individual as a judge of the court upon which the individual was serving at the time of appointment, whichever is shorter;

(B) the full terms of the members shall commence on July 1, and, insofar as practicable, the terms shall be staggered;

(C) the term of a member serving a full two- or three-year term on June 30, 2016 shall be extended for an additional period of two years and, subject to subsections (d)(1)(D) and (E) of this Rule, the member may be appointed to a five-year term at the conclusion of the member's extended term;

(D) Unless an additional term or terms are approved by the Court in its discretion, ~~A~~a member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms, regardless of the length of either term; and

(E) if a member is initially appointed to fill the unexpired term of a former member, and the remainder of the unexpired term is one year or less, the period of consecutive service also may include the remainder of the term of the former member. A period greater than one year shall be considered a full term for the purpose of determining terms of consecutive service.