

Circuit Court for Frederick County
Case No. C-10-CV-25-000159

UNREPORTED
IN THE APPELLATE COURT
OF MARYLAND

No. 215

September Term, 2025

BILLY ASEMANI

v.

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Leahy,
Albright,
Kehoe, Christopher B.
(Senior Judge, Specially Assigned),

JJ.

PER CURIAM

Filed: November 10, 2025

*This is a per curiam opinion. Under Rule 1-104, the opinion is not precedent within the rule of stare decisis nor may it be cited as persuasive authority.

Billy Asemani, appellant, filed a petition in the Circuit Court for Frederick County, requesting the court to record and index a judgment of another court pursuant to Maryland Rule 2-623. He attached to the petition, what appears to be, a certified copy of a July 2016 judgment issued in the Circuit Court for Allegany County in favor of appellant, and against the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the sum of \$4,000,000. On February 12, 2025, the court issued an order denying appellant’s request on the ground that it “should be filed in [the] originating County (See MD Rule 2-622).” Appellant filed a motion for reconsideration, asserting that he was seeking to record the judgment pursuant to Maryland Rule 2-623, and therefore Rule 2-622 was inapplicable. The court denied the motion for reconsideration without a hearing. This appeal followed. For the reasons that follow, we shall reverse the judgment.

Maryland Rule 2-623 governs the recording of judgments of another court, including judgments from “another circuit court of this State.” Specifically, it provides that “upon receiving a copy of a judgment of another court, certified or authenticated in accordance with these Rules, or statutes of this State,” the “clerk shall record and index the judgment[.]” Nothing in the Rule requires a person to make their request to record a judgment in the court that the judgment was originally entered. Nor does the Rule indicate that the judgment must be received from the clerk of the court of entry before it can be recorded. Rather, the Rule specifically contemplates that a judgment may be “received from a person other than the clerk of the court of entry,” stating that in such a case “the receiving clerk shall notify the clerk of the court of entry” “[u]pon recording [the] judgment.”

Moreover, the circuit court’s reliance on Rule 2-622 to deny appellant’s request was misplaced. That Rule states that, upon request of a person holding a judgment, “the clerk shall provide that person with a certified copy of the judgment *or* shall transmit a certified copy to the clerk of another circuit court of this State and shall maintain a record of the transmittal” (emphasis added). It does not, however, require the person holding a judgment to request the clerk to transmit that judgment before it can be recorded in another county. Rather, it provides that the person can alternatively obtain a copy of the judgment from the clerk. And, having obtained a certified copy of the judgment, the person can then seek to have the judgment recorded in another county pursuant to Rule 2-623.

Because appellant was not required to file his request to record the judgment in the originating county before it could be recorded in Frederick County, we shall reverse the judgment and remand the case to the circuit court. If, on remand, the court determines that the judgment appellant is seeking to record is “certified or authenticated in accordance with these Rules or statutes of this State, or of the United States,” as required by Rule 2-623, and that no other grounds exist that would prohibit the recording of the judgment, the clerk shall record and index the judgment.

**JUDGMENT REVERSED. CASE
REMANDED TO THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR FREDERICK COUNTY
TO RECONSIDER APPELLANT’S
PETITION TO RECORD JUDGMENT
CONSISTENT WITH THIS OPINION.
COSTS TO BE PAID BY FREDERICK
COUNTY.**