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March 18, 2022

**VIA CM/ECF Only**

**The Honorable Lydia Kay Griggsby**

*District Judge*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

**DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

**RE:** *Baltimore County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, et al., v. Baltimore County, Maryland, et al.*

**Case No.:** 21-cv-03232-LKG

Dear Judge Griggsby,

I write on behalf of Defendant Baltimore County Board of Elections to provide Your Honor with an update on pertinent filing deadlines regarding Maryland state elections. On March 15, 2022, Chief Judge Getty of the Maryland Court of Appeals issued an Order (the "Order") further extending election-related deadlines. In pertinent part, the Order extends the candidate filing deadline from March 22, 2022 to April 15, 2022 and moves the 2022 Primary for the Gubernatorial Elections from June 28, 2022 to July 19, 2022. Judge Getty's Order is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

At the hearing held on March 11, 2022, the parties and Your Honor discussed the process by which election deadlines are extended. To correct the comments I made at the end of the hearing, and as noted in the Order, it is the Maryland Court of Appeals, pursuant to Article III, § 5 of the Constitution of Maryland, that possess "original jurisdiction" to grant "appropriate relief" in the event of challenges made regarding districting issues. Neither the Baltimore County Board of Elections or the Maryland State Board of Elections possess the authority to change election filing deadlines or election dates.

March 18, 2022

Page 2

Should Your Honor have any additional questions on this subject, undersigned counsel will be prepared to address the same at the hearing scheduled for March, 21, 2022.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Harry S. Johnson*

Harry S. Johnson

*cc: All Counsel of Record via CM/ECF*

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# **EXHIBIT A**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
2022 LEGISLATIVE  
DISTRICTING OF THE STATE**

**\* IN THE  
\* COURT OF APPEALS  
\* OF MARYLAND  
\* MISC. NOS.  
\* 21, 24, 25, 26, 27  
\* SEPTEMBER TERM, 2021**

**ORDER**

The Court of Appeals of Maryland, pursuant to the provisions of Article III, § 5 of the Constitution of Maryland, is vested with original jurisdiction to review the legislative districting plan upon petition of any registered voter, and has received timely-filed petitions challenging the validity of the 2022 legislative districting plan enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland as Senate Joint Resolution 2.

Special Magistrate Alan M. Wilner, appointed by Order of this Court on January 28, 2022, has scheduled a hearing on the merits in the above-captioned cases to commence on March 23, 2022 and extend, if necessary, through March 25, 2022, which accordingly will occur after the current primary election candidate filing deadline of March 22, 2022.

The Special Magistrate intends to produce and file a report with the Court on April 5, 2022. After the issuance of the Special Magistrate's report, the parties may wish to file exceptions and/or request a hearing concerning the Special Magistrate's report, which would require extension of various dates in the Election Calendar for the efficient conduct of an election after the determination of whether the legislative districting plan satisfies constitutional standards.

Now, therefore, it is this 15th day of March, 2022, ORDERED, by the Court of Appeals of Maryland, that

(1) The 2022 Primary for Gubernatorial Elections, scheduled for June 28, 2022, is moved to July 19, 2022.

(2) The following deadlines are amended for the 2022 Primary for the Gubernatorial Elections:

(a) The deadline for filing certificates of candidacy, established pursuant to Maryland Code, (1957, 2017 Repl. Vol., 2021 Supp.), Election Law Article ("EL") § 5-303 as Tuesday, February 22, 2022

and extended by Order of this Court on February 11, 2022 (the “February 11 Order”) to Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 9:00 p.m., is extended to Friday, April 15, 2022 at 9:00 p.m.;

(b) The deadline for candidates to withdraw a certificate of candidacy, established pursuant to EL § 5-502(a) as Friday, March 4, 2022 and extended by this Court’s February 11 Order to Thursday, March 24, 2022, is extended to Monday, April 18, 2022;

(c) The deadline to fill a vacancy in candidacy for a primary election, established pursuant to EL § 5-901 as Tuesday, March 8, 2022 and extended by this Court’s February 11 Order to Monday, March 28, 2022, is extended to Wednesday, April 20, 2022;

(d) The deadline to challenge a candidate’s residency, established pursuant to EL § 5-305 as Wednesday, March 9, 2022 and extended by this Court’s February 11 Order to Tuesday, March 29, 2022, is extended to Thursday, April 21, 2022;

(e) Pursuant to EL § 9-207, the Maryland State Board of Elections is authorized to adjust any deadlines related to certifying, displaying, and printing ballots.

/s/ Joseph M. Getty  
Joseph M. Getty  
Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals of Maryland

Filed: March 15, 2022

/s/ Suzanne C. Johnson  
Suzanne C. Johnson  
Clerk  
Court of Appeals of Maryland

Pursuant to Maryland Uniform Electronic Legal  
Materials Act  
(§§ 10-1601 et seq. of the State Government Article) this document is authentic.



2022-03-15 16:20-04:00

Suzanne C. Johnson, Clerk