

**IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY
Administrative Order No. 2023-07**

WHEREAS, scientific research has demonstrated that smoke, emissions, and aerosols from tobacco and/or cannabis-based cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, water pipes, vaporizers and other smoking apparatuses including, but not limited to, electronic smoking devices are harmful to the health both of individuals who do not smoke and those who do; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Indoor Air Act of 2007 was implemented to protect the public and employees from involuntary exposure to environmental smoke in indoor areas open to the public, indoor places of employment, and certain designated private areas; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Judicial Branch of the State Government, including the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, to promote a healthy and safe environment for all persons, including judicial officials and employees who work in, or members of the public who conduct business in or visit, State-owned, leased, or occupied Judicial Branch facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Maryland¹ has issued an Administrative Order dated August 29, 2019, pertaining to smoking in judicial branch facilities which creates a smoke-free environment in all Maryland Courthouse buildings and campuses; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Circuit Court for Baltimore City to adopt and implement restrictions put into place by the Administrative Order of the Supreme Court dated August 29, 2019 and to, therefore, issue an Order to include both tobacco and cannabis-related smoking devices that pose similar health risks in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

¹ At the November 8, 2022 general election, the voters of Maryland ratified a constitutional amendment changing the name of the Court of Appeals of Maryland to the Supreme Court of Maryland. The name change took effect on December 14, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED this 12th day of July 2023, that

To promote a healthful environment in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City for employees, attorneys, and all members of the public who may enter the Mitchell Courthouse, Cummings Courthouse, the Judiciary section of the Juvenile Justice Center, and its surrounding grounds (the “Courthouses”):

- (a) All officials, personnel, and contractors, whether they are compensated by the State or local government, as well as all individuals doing business at or visiting the Circuit Court for Baltimore City are prohibited from the following activities, unless in designated areas, while within or in the vicinity of the entrances and exits of the Courthouses, including steps or ramps leading thereto:
 - (1) Consuming tobacco or cannabis via smoking, using, or carrying any activated or lighted cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, water pipes, vaporizers, or other smoking apparatuses including, but not limited to, electronic smoking devices or products that use a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce vapor or smoke from a solution or other substance.
- (b) The Court Administrator shall develop procedures for informing judicial officials, employees, and other affected individuals of this Order, including posting of signage in appropriate locations and on the Circuit Court for Baltimore City website.
- (c) Any employee of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City who is found to have violated this Order shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- (d) Any member of the public who is found to have violated this Order is subject to expulsion from the Courthouses by members of the Baltimore City Sheriff’s Office.

(e) To the extent local laws, shared facility policies, or lease requirements are more stringent than this policy, they shall govern.

_____/s/_____
Audrey J.S. Carrión
Administrative Judge
Circuit Court for Baltimore City