ANNOUNCEMENT April 3, 2017

Supreme Court Announces New Procedures to Assist Self-Represented Litigants File Appeals

Starting today, people without attorneys who wish to file, in person, appeals to the Delaware Supreme Court in New Castle County should go to the law library, Suite 2500, in the Leonard Williams Justice Center.

This marks what will be the first step in creating a new Resource Center – also sometimes called a Self-Help Center – at the Leonard Williams Justice Center as was called for by the Delaware Access to Justice Commission in its September report to the Delaware Supreme Court. A person who does not retain an attorney and appears on his or her own behalf before a Court is said to be "self-represented" or "pro se."

The report, available at https://courts.delaware.gov/forms/download.aspx?id=98718, calls for the courthouse law libraries in all three counties to be converted into resource centers for litigants as part of a larger plan to improve access to justice for all citizens of Delaware. The conversion process is underway.

The law librarian at the Leonard Williams Justice Center will not be able to provide legal advice on appeals (and indeed is prohibited from providing legal advice), but will be able to provide guidance on the proper procedures for litigants, as well as direct them to the proper forms and documents needed to file an appeal.

Self-represented individuals may file an appeal to the Supreme Court <u>in person</u> at any of these locations:

- New Castle County In the Law Library (2nd floor, Suite 2500) at the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center, 500 King Street, in Wilmington
- Kent County At the Supreme Court of Delaware, 55 The Green, in Dover
- Sussex County At the Court of Chancery Courthouse, 34 the Circle, in Georgetown

Self-represented individuals may also file an appeal to the Supreme Court by First Class mail using the following mailing addresses in the appropriate county:

Supreme Court of Delaware The Renaissance Centre 405 North King Street, Suite 509 Wilmington, DE 19801

Supreme Court of Delaware Clerk of the Supreme Court 55 The Green Dover, DE 19901

Supreme Court of Delaware Court of Chancery Courthouse 34 The Circle Georgetown, DE 19947

For more information, please refer to see "Filing an Appeal in the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware, A Citizen's Guide"

https://courts.delaware.gov/help/appeals/supremecitizensguide.aspx#terms

For more information, please contact William Montgomery, Supreme Court Administrator 302-651-3906 or William.Montgomery@state.de.us

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