

**FOR THE BLACKFORD
CIRCUIT AND SUPERIOR COURTS**

REQUEST TO READOPT CURRENT CASELOAD ALLOCATION PLAN

The judges of the courts of record of Blackford County have met and reviewed the 2013 weighted caseload statistics of the courts of record, which review reveals that the difference in utilization between any two courts of record does not exceed .40 based on the 2013 Weighted Caseload Report.

Accordingly, the judges of the courts of record have decided to re-adopt their local rule pertaining to caseload allocation (LR05-AR1 (E)-6) as required by Administrative Rule 1. This local rule had previously been published for public comment as required by Trial Rule 81 and approved by the Supreme Court. We request Supreme Court approval to re-adopt the current caseload allocation plan.

Submitted this 3rd day of June, 2014.

/S/

Dean A. Young, Judge
Blackford Circuit Court

/S/

John N. Barry, Judge
Blackford Superior Court

LR05-AR1 (E)-6 WEIGHTED CASELOAD PLAN

Assignment of civil and juvenile cases to comply with caseload plan.

Subject to the discretion of the presiding Judges of the Blackford Circuit and Superior Courts cases shall be assigned by the Clerk to the respective courts in addition to LR05-CR00-201 as follows:

- (1) PROBATE MATTERS (ES, EU, AD, GU, TR). Probate matters shall be filed in the Blackford Circuit Court.
- (2) MENTAL COMMITMENTS (MH). Petitions for mental health commitments shall be filed in the Blackford Circuit Court.
- (3) JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS (JD, JS, JC, JT, JP, JM). All juvenile proceedings shall be filed in the Blackford Circuit Court.
- (4) SMALL CLAIMS (SC), INFRACTIONS (IF) and ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS (OV). All small claims proceedings, infractions and ordinance violations shall be filed in the Blackford Superior Court.
- (5) PROTECTIVE ORDERS (PO). Except as provided by statute where the parties have a pending dissolution or paternity case in the Blackford Circuit Court all protective order proceedings shall be filed in the Blackford Superior Court.
- (6) ALL OTHER CASES (PL, CT, CC, DR, MF, MJ, RS). All other civil cases shall be assigned by the Clerk of the Courts as requested by the Plaintiff/Petitioner at the time of filing. If no specific court is requested the Clerk shall assign the case to a court in a manner that takes into account the number of filings assigned to each court in order to balance caseload and availability of judicial resources.

This local rule constitutes the Blackford Circuit and Superior Courts weighted caseload plan to insure less than a .40 variance of weighted caseloads between the courts. This rule also takes into consideration both personnel and facility considerations of the courts and Clerk's Office.

LR05-CR00-201 ASSIGNMENT OF CRIMINAL CASES

All criminal cases wherein the most serious charge is either a Class "C" Felony, a Class "B" Felony, a Class "A" Felony, a Level 5, a Level 4, a Level 3, a Level 2, a Level 1, or a Murder Felony shall be assigned to the Blackford Circuit Court. All Class "D" or Level 6 Felony Nonsupport cases shall be assigned to the Blackford Circuit Court. All Child Molesting cases shall be assigned to the Blackford Circuit Court. All other criminal cases, not specifically assigned to the Blackford Circuit Court herein, wherein the most serious charge is a Class "D" or a Level 6 Felony including Misdemeanors shall be assigned to the Blackford Superior Court.