

# SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice Loretta H. Rush  
Indiana Supreme Court  
311 State House  
200 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2732



# OF INDIANA

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March 16, 2020

Dear Judges,

Additional steps must now be taken reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our state. We must think not only of where the virus is now, but where it could be next. That means each county must take action.

Today the Supreme Court [issued an order](#) directing you to implement necessary and relevant aspects of your Continuity of Operations Plans. The order includes areas of focus and priorities for you to consider, but please coordinate these actions with your local emergency management and health departments. Now is the time.

Please familiarize yourself with the Indiana Supreme Court [public webpage](#). We have included guidance on Administrative Rule 17 as well as orders granting those petitions. Our Office of Communication, Education, and Outreach plans to update this site with additional postings twice each workday at about 9 a.m. (EDT) and 3 p.m. (EDT).

At this time, the physical facilities of the Indiana Supreme Court will be open for essential functions; however, many staff members will begin working from home until April 6. A number of employees will continue to come to the office over the next three weeks, but their risk will be minimized by the absence of other staff. All staff will be available to answer your calls and questions. Providing assistance with Administrative Rule 17 petitions and answering COOP questions are IOCS's top priority. Contact [Chief Justice Rush](#) at 317-232-2548, [Justice David](#) at 317-232-2547, [Justin Forkner](#) at 317-234-8809, or [Mary Kay Hudson](#) at 317-234-0106 if you need help.

We know this situation creates stress on you, your staffs, and your communities. But we are confident in your leadership to handle the situation. Together we will play a role in making sure public trust and confidence in the Judicial Branch remain intact as essential court operations continue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Loretta H. Rush in black ink.

Chief Justice Loretta H. Rush

Handwritten signature of Justin P. Forkner in black ink.

Justin P. Forkner  
Chief Administrative Officer