

Notice of Proposed Local Rule Amendments

August 12, 2026

All new text is shown by underlining and deleted text is shown ~~striketrough~~.

This notice is being provided on behalf of the Judges and Magistrate of Howard County.

/s/
Lynn Murray, Judge
Howard Circuit Court

LR34-ARI-2 ASSIGNMENT OF CASE FILINGS

A. HOWARD CIRCUIT COURT: All juvenile matters, paternity cases, adoptions, county tax sale matters, and other cases required by law to be filed in the Howard Circuit Court shall be filed in the Howard Circuit Court.

B. HOWARD SUPERIOR COURTS II AND IV: Mental health matters shall be filed in the Howard Superior Court II or the Howard Superior Court IV. The court of filing shall be determined by random selection made by the Clerk.

C. HOWARD SUPERIOR COURT III: Small Claims and Petitions for Specialized Driving Privileges pursuant to IC 9-30-16 shall be filed in the Howard Superior Court III. The Court shall also maintain a Plenary Docket for the purpose of accepting transfer cases. This shall include any civil case transferred from the other Howard County Courts or cases in which the Judge of Howard Superior Court III has been selected as a special judge pursuant to Sections (D)(H) or (K) of Trial Rule 79. All small claims which are transferred to the Plenary Docket as a result of a jury request or because a party seeks to pursue a claim that exceeds the jurisdictional amount allowed shall be transferred to the Plenary Docket of Howard Superior Court III.

D. OTHER CIVIL FILINGS: All other civil cases shall be filed in Howard Circuit Court, Howard Superior Court I, Howard Superior Court II, or Howard Superior Court IV. The court of filing shall be determined by random selection made by the Clerk, using a method which will result in ~~nineteen percent (19%)~~ ten percent (10%) being filed in Howard Circuit Court, ~~twenty-seven (27%)~~ twenty-eight percent (28%) being filed in Howard Superior Court I, ~~twenty-seven percent (27%)~~ twenty-eight percent (28%) being filed in Howard Superior Court II, and ~~twenty-seven percent (27%)~~ thirty-four percent (34%) being filed in Howard Superior Court IV.

E. CRIMINAL CASES: All criminal cases shall be filed pursuant to LR34-CR2.2-29.