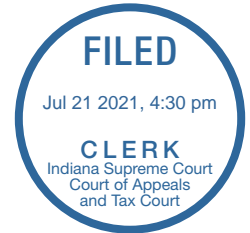


# In the Indiana Supreme Court

In the Matter of the Approval of Local  
Rules for Pulaski County

Supreme Court Case No.  
21S-MS-349



## Order Approving Amended Local Rules

The Judges of the Pulaski Circuit and Superior Courts request the approval of amended local rules for special judge assignments for criminal cases in accordance with Indiana Criminal Procedure Rule 2.2 and special judge assignments for civil cases in accordance with Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure 79. Attached to this Order are the proposed amended local rules.

Upon examination of the proposed rule amendments requested by the Pulaski Circuit and Superior Courts, this Court finds that the proposed rule amendments at LR66-CR2.2-02 comply with the requirements of Indiana Criminal Procedure Rule 2.2, and LR66-TR79-01 comply with the requirements of Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure 79, and, accordingly, should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by this Court that amended Local Rules, LR66-CR2.2-02 and LR66-TR79-01, for Pulaski Circuit and Superior Courts, set forth as an attachment to this Order, are approved effective August 1, 2021.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 7/21/2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loretta H. Rush".

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Loretta H. Rush  
Chief Justice of Indiana

**SELECTION OF SUCCESSOR JUDGES  
IN CRIMINAL CASES**

Upon the granting of a change of Judge, or the disqualification or recusal of the judge in a felony or misdemeanor case in Pulaski Circuit Court, the case shall be assigned to the Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court. If the Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court cannot accept jurisdiction of the case, the case shall be reassigned to the Judges of one of the following courts on rotating basis:

Starke Circuit Court Judge  
Starke Circuit Court Magistrate  
Cass Circuit Court  
Cass Superior Court 1  
Cass Superior Court 2  
Fulton Circuit Court  
Fulton Superior Court  
Jasper Circuit Court  
Jasper Superior Court  
White Circuit Court  
White Superior Court  
LaPorte Circuit Court  
LaPorte Superior Court #1  
LaPorte Superior Court #2  
LaPorte Superior Court #3  
LaPorte Superior Court #4  
LaPorte Circuit Court Magistrate #1  
LaPorte Circuit Court Magistrate #2, and  
LaPorte Superior Court Magistrate.

The same procedure shall be followed if there is a change of Judge, disqualification or recusal of the Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court, and if the Judge of the Pulaski Circuit Court cannot accept jurisdiction, the case shall be reassigned as set forth above.

If a party/defendant has multiple cases to be transferred/reassigned all transferring/reassigned cases shall be transferred to the same special/new judge.

**APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL JUDGE IN CIVIL  
CASES PURSUANT TO TRIAL RULE 79(H)****(a) Cases involving disqualification or recusal**

In the event a judge disqualifies and recuses under Trial Rule 79(C), and a special judge is not selected under Trial Rule 79 (D), then the clerk of the court shall appoint as special judge the other Pulaski County Judge; and if that judge does not qualify as a special judge, the clerk of the court shall appoint on a rotating basis a special judge from the following list of judicial officers:

Starke Circuit Court Judge  
Starke Circuit Court Magistrate  
Jasper Circuit Court Judge  
Jasper Superior Court Judge  
White Circuit Court Judge  
White Superior Court Judge  
Fulton Circuit Court Judge  
Fulton Superior Court Judge  
LaPorte Circuit Court Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #1 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #2 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #3 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #4 Judge  
LaPorte Circuit Court Magistrate #1  
LaPorte Circuit Court Magistrate #2  
LaPorte Superior Court Magistrate

If the judge selected to serve is disqualified, ineligible, or is excused from service, then Clerk of the Court shall appoint the next judge on the list. If no judge on the list is eligible to serve as special judge or the particular circumstances in the case so warrant, the then presiding judge in the case shall certify the matter to the Indiana Supreme Court for the appointment of a special judge pursuant to TR79(H)(3).

**(b) Cases involving a change of judge**

In the event a special judge selected is not selected under Trial Rule 79(D), then the clerk of the court shall appoint as special judge the other Pulaski County Judge; and if that judge does not qualify as a special judge, the clerk of the court shall appoint on a rotating basis a special judge from the following list of judicial officers:

Starke Circuit Court Judge  
Starke Circuit Court Magistrate  
Jasper Circuit Court Judge  
Jasper Superior Court Judge  
White Circuit Court Judge  
White Superior Court Judge  
Fulton Circuit Court Judge  
Fulton Superior Court Judge

LaPorte Circuit Court Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #1 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #2 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #3 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #4 Judge  
LaPorte Circuit Court Magistrate #1  
LaPorte Circuit Court Magistrate #2  
LaPorte Superior Court Magistrate

If the judge selected to serve is disqualified, ineligible, or is excused from service, then clerk of the court shall appoint the next judge on the list. If no judge on the list is eligible to serve as special judge or the particular circumstances in the case so warrant, the then presiding judge in the case shall certify the matter to the Indiana Supreme Court for the appointment of a special judge pursuant to TR79(H)(3).

If a party/defendant has multiple cases to be transferred/reassigned all transferring/reassigned cases shall be transferred to the same special/new judge.