

In the
Indiana Supreme Court

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

Supreme Court Case No.
23S-MS-329



Order Approving Amended Local Rule

The Judges of the Orange Circuit and Superior Courts request the approval of an amended local rule for caseload allocation in accordance with Indiana Administrative Rule 1(E). Attached to this Order is the proposed amended local rule.

Upon examination of the proposed rule amendments requested by the Orange Circuit and Superior Courts, this Court finds that the proposed rule amendments to LR59-AR00-1 comply with the requirements of Indiana Administrative Rule 1(E), and, accordingly, should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by this Court that amended local rule, LR59-AR00-1, for the Orange Circuit and Superior Courts, set forth as an attachment to this Order, is approved effective January 1, 2024.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 11/20/2023.



Loretta H. Rush
Chief Justice of Indiana

LR59-AR00-1
CASELOADS

The Courts of Orange County, Indiana adopt the following local rule in regard to caseloads pursuant to Administrative Rule 1(E) after reviewing the 2019 Weighted Caseload Measures and determining that the same complies with the 0.40 utilization Caseload Variance.

1. Unless precluded by state statute or state court rule, the following types of causes shall be filed exclusively in the Orange Superior Court:
 - a. Infractions ("IF" cause numbers),
 - b. Ordinance Violations ("OV" and "OE" cause numbers),
 - c. Criminal Misdemeanors ("CM" cause numbers),
 - d. Criminal Level 6 Felonies ("F6" cause numbers),
 - e. Protective Orders ("PO" cause numbers),
 - f. Small Claims in which the debt or damage claimed, or value of the property sought does not exceed the jurisdictional amount of \$10,000.00 ("SC" cause numbers),
 - g. Civil Plenary Cases in which the debt or damage claimed, or value of the property sought does not exceed \$10,000.00 ("PL" cause numbers),
 - h. Civil Collection Cases in which the debt or damage claimed, or value of the property sought does not exceed \$10,000.00 ("CC" cause numbers),
 - i. Domestic Relations cases filed between July 1st and September 30th inclusive ("DC" and "DN" cause numbers),
 - j. Miscellaneous Civil cases in which the debt or damage claimed, or the value of the property sought does not exceed \$10,000.00, and which do not seek injunctive relief ("MI" cause numbers), and
 - k. Eviction ("EV" cause number) inclusive of cases placed on small claims docket and civil collection docket.
2. Unless precluded by state statute or state court rule, Miscellaneous Criminal cases ("MC" cause numbers) including but not limited to Search Warrants may be filed in either the Orange Circuit or Superior Courts.
3. Unless precluded by state statute or state court rule, Red Flag cases ("RF" cause numbers) will be assigned to Judges configured to hear "MC" cases and may be filed in either the Orange Circuit or Superior Courts.
4. Unless precluded by state statute or state court rule, Petitions to Expunge Convictions, Petitions to Seal Criminal Records, and Petitions for Specialized Driving Privileges ("MI" cause numbers) shall be filed in that Court that entered the conviction or license suspension at issue. Petitions for Specialized Driving Privileges in regard to license suspensions imposed by the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles ("MI" cause numbers) may be filed in either the Orange Circuit or Superior Courts.
5. Petitions for Post Conviction Relief ("PC" cause numbers) seeking relief from a prior Judgment of the Orange Circuit Court shall be filed in the Orange Circuit Court. Petitions for Post Conviction Relief ("PC" cause numbers) seeking relief from a prior Judgment of

the Orange Superior Court or Orange County Court shall be filed in the Orange Superior Court.

6. Unless precluded by state statute or state court rule, all other causes shall be filed exclusively in the Orange Circuit Court.
7. This rule does not preclude the following filings in the Orange Circuit Court:
 - a. Petitions for Protective Orders (“PO” cause numbers, when litigation between the same parties is pending in the Orange Circuit Court, or when the Respondent in the Protective Order is a juvenile.
 - b. Criminal Level 6 Felonies and Misdemeanors filed as counts to a more serious criminal charge filed in the Orange Circuit Court (“MR”, “F1”, “F2”, “F3”, “F4”, and “F5” cause numbers), and
 - c. Criminal Level 6 Felonies (“F6” cause numbers) and Criminal Misdemeanors (“CM” cause numbers) filed when the same Defendant has more serious criminal charges pending in the Orange Circuit Court.