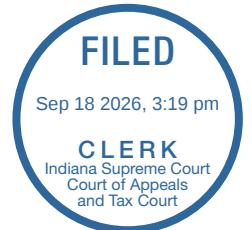


In the
Indiana Supreme Court

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

Supreme Court Case No.
26S-MS-324



Order Approving Amended Local Rule

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

Upon examination of the proposed rule amendments requested by the Howard Circuit and Superior Courts, this Court finds that the proposed amendments to LR34-AR1-2 comply with the requirements of Administrative Rule 1(E), and, accordingly, should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by this Court that amended Local Rule, LR34-AR1-2 , for the Howard Circuit and Superior Courts, set forth as an attachment to this Order, is approved effective October 1, 2026.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 9/18/2026 .

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

Loretta H. Rush

Chief Justice of Indiana

LR34-AR1-2
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 ten percent (10%) being filed in Howard Circuit Court, twenty-eight percent (28%) being filed in Howard Superior Court I, twenty-eight percent (28%) being filed in Howard Superior Court II, and 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.