

DISTRICT 12 GOVERNANCE PLAN

Special Judge Plan

The Trial Rule 79 special judge plans for each county have been reviewed, and each is current and allows for the efficient assignment of judges for civil cases within the District. The District will use judges from within the district.

Criminal Rule 2.2 Plans

The Criminal Rule 2.2 Plans established by each county within the district have been reviewed and are consistent with the needs of each individual county and the requirements of Criminal Rules 2.2, 12 and 13.

Leadership

The District Judges shall elect two co-equal “Administrative Judges” for the District. Each shall be from a different county within the District and each shall be entitled to cast one vote on the Judicial Conference of Indiana Board of Directors. The term of office shall be two years. Term limits are not imposed and an Administrative Judge elected in any election may succeed herself or himself. Both Administrative Judges shall serve jointly as the District’s representatives to the Board of Directors of the Indiana Judicial Conference and may vote the two votes to which the District is entitled, either jointly or separately.

An Administrative Judge may be removed by a “no confidence” resolution signed by a three quarter (3/4) majority of the district judges and ratified by a three quarter (3/4) majority of the district judges by open vote at a meeting convened for this purpose. No vote by proxy will be permitted for removal at such meeting.

Selection Process for Leadership

Nomination Procedures

Any elected Judge within the District may be nominated for consideration as a District 12 Administrative Judge. Any Judge in the District may nominate any other Judge and a Judge may nominate himself or herself. Nominations shall be made in writing and be submitted by mailing or e-mailing such nomination to both of the Administrative Judges prior to the deadline set jointly by them. The Administrative Judges will then advise all district judges of the candidates who have been nominated and set a date by which all votes must be received.

Voting Procedures

Each elected Judge within the District shall be entitled to cast two votes in the election process for Administrative Judge. Ballots will be prepared and forwarded to each judge in the district after the close of nominations. Voting will be by secret ballot and instructions will be included with the ballot for the return of the ballot. Since this is a secret ballot process, procedures will be employed to insure that the secrecy of each Judge's ballot is maintained.

Because the decision has been made that no more than one Administrative Judge may be from a single county, the judge with the highest vote count shall be elected as one Administrative Judge and the nominee receiving the next highest number of votes who is from a county other than that of the nominee receiving the highest number of votes will be the second Administrative Judge elected in this process.

Number of Meetings

The District will hold at least one meeting per year and will be organized by the Administrative Judges. Notice of any meeting will be sent electronically at least five days prior to the meeting. A majority of the judges in the District will constitute a quorum to conduct business. Proxy votes at the meeting can be cast providing that at least one of the Administrative Judges receives written notice prior to the start of the commencement of the meeting signed by the absent judge and designating his/her proxy. Attendance may be in person, telephonically or electronically as determined by the needs of the District and of the District's judges.

District Activities:

To be determined.

District Local Rules

There are no District local rules at this time.

Compliance

This plan complies with the minimum requirements for district governance contemplated by Administrative Rule 3(B). The judges of the District agreed to this plan unanimously on the 6th day of day of February, 2013. It shall remain in effect until further order.