

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE
FOR THE COURTS OF OHIO**

Comments Requested: The Supreme Court of Ohio will accept public comments until October 12, 2016, on the following proposed amendments to the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio.

Comments on the proposed amendments should be submitted in writing to: John VanNorman, Senior Policy and Research Counsel, Supreme Court of Ohio, 65 South Front Street, 7th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3431, or john.vannorman@sc.ohio.gov not later than October 12, 2016. Please include your full name and mailing address in any comments submitted by e-mail.

Key to Proposed Amendment:

1. Existing language appears in regular type. Example: text
2. Existing language to be deleted appears in strikethrough. Example: ~~text~~
3. New language to be added appears in underline. Example: text

1 **RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE FOR THE COURTS OF OHIO**

2
3 **RULE 3. Designation or Election of Presiding Judge.**

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5 **(A) Single-judge courts**

6
7 In a single-judge court of common pleas or a single-judge municipal or county court, the
8 judge shall serve as the presiding judge of the court.

9
10 **(B) Multi-judge courts**

11
12 (1) In a court of appeals, a multi-judge court of common pleas, or a multi-judge
13 municipal or county court, the judges of the court shall elect by a majority vote a presiding
14 judge of the court from the judges of the court.

15
16 (2) If the judges of a court are unable to elect a presiding judge of the court pursuant to
17 division (B)(1) of this rule, the presiding judge shall be determined as follows:

18
19 (a) The judge having the longest total service on the court shall serve as the
20 presiding judge;

21
22 (b) If two or more judges have equal periods of total service on the court, the
23 judge having the longest total service as an Ohio judge shall serve as the presiding
24 judge;

25
26 (c) If two or more judges have equal periods of total service as an Ohio judge,
27 the judge having the earliest date of admittance to the practice of law in Ohio shall
28 serve as the presiding judge;

29
30 (d) If two or more judges were admitted to the practice of law in Ohio on the
31 same date, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall designate one of the judges
32 of the court to serve as the presiding judge.

33
34 **(C) Term**

35
36 ~~The term of a A~~ presiding judge of a court shall ~~be~~ serve a term of not less than one year
37 ~~beginning and not more than three years, as established by local rule of the court. The term~~
38 of a presiding judge shall begin on January 1st of the year immediately following the
39 designation or election of the presiding judge. A presiding judge may serve consecutive
40 terms.

41
42 **(D) Designation or election date**

43
44 The designation or election of a presiding judge of a court shall occur on or before
45 December 31st of the year preceding the term.

46

47 **(E) Notification of designation or election**

48
49 A presiding judge of a court shall notify the Administrative Director of the Supreme Court
50 of judge's designation or election as the presiding judge by January 15th of the year of the
51 term.
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53

54 **RULE 4. Designation or Election of Administrative Judge.**

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56 **(A) Single-judge courts and divisions**

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58 In a single-judge court of common pleas, a single-judge division of a court of common
59 pleas, or a single-judge municipal or county court, the judge shall serve as the
60 administrative judge of the court or division.
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62

63 **(B) Multi-judge courts and divisions**

64

65 (1) In a court of appeals, a multi-judge division of a court of common pleas, or a multi-
66 judge municipal or county court, the judges of the court or division shall elect by a majority
67 vote an administrative judge of the court or division from the judges of the court or division.

68

69 (2) If the judges of a court or division are unable to elect an administrative judge of the
70 court or division pursuant to division (B)(1) of this rule, the administrative judge shall be
71 determined as follows:

72

73 (a) The judge of the court or division having the longest total service on the
74 court or in the division shall serve as the administrative judge;

75

76 (b) If two or more judges have equal periods of total service on the court or in
77 the division, the judge of the court or division having the longest total service as an
78 Ohio judge shall serve as the administrative judge;

79

80 (c) If two or more judges have equal periods of total service as an Ohio judge,
81 the judge of the court or division having the earliest date of admittance to the
82 practice of law in Ohio shall serve as the administrative judge;

83

84 (d) If two or more judges were admitted to the practice of law in Ohio on the
85 same date, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, for courts of appeals or multi-
86 judge municipal and county courts, or the presiding judge of the court of common
87 pleas, for multi-judge divisions of courts of common pleas, shall designate one of
88 the judges of the court or division to serve as the administrative judge.

89

90 **(C) Term**

91

92 The term of an An administrative judge of a court or division shall be serve a term of not less than one year beginning and not more than three years, as established by local rule of

93 the court or division. The term of an administrative judge shall begin on January 1st of the
94 year immediately following the designation or election of the administrative judge. An
95 administrative judge may serve consecutive terms.

96

97 **(D) Designation or election date**

98

99 The designation or election of an administrative judge of a court or division shall occur on
100 or before December 31st of the year preceding the term.

101

102 **(E) Notice of designation or election**

103

104 An administrative judge of a court or division shall notify the Administrative Director of
105 the Supreme Court of the judge's designation or election as the administrative judge by
106 January 15th of the year of the term.