

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

The following amendments to the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio (Sup.R. 14 and new Sup.R. 14.01 and 14.02) were adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The history of these amendments is as follows:

February 17, 2014	Initial publication for comment
September 9, 2014	Final adoption by conference
January 1, 2015	Effective date of amendments

RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE FOR THE COURTS OF OHIO

RULE 14. Declaration of Judicial Emergency.

(A) Issuance of order

In the event of a natural or man-made disaster, civil disorder, or any extraordinary circumstance that interrupts or threatens to interrupt the orderly operation of a court or a division of a court, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may issue an order declaring a judicial emergency for the affected court or division. The order shall include each of the following:

- (1) The name of the affected court or division;
- (2) A description of the circumstances necessitating the declaration of the judicial emergency;
- (3) The duration of the judicial emergency. The duration of the judicial emergency shall be limited to an initial period of not more than thirty days, provided at the end of that period the Chief Justice may issue additional orders extending the duration of the judicial emergency for additional periods of time as determined by the Chief Justice in consultation with the administrative judge of the affected court or division of the court. The Chief Justice may withdraw, cancel, or rescind an order at any time after its issuance.
- (4) Any other information relevant to the declaration of the judicial emergency.

(B) Filing of order

The Chief Justice shall file an order declaring or extending a judicial emergency with the clerk of the Supreme Court. If possible given the circumstances of the judicial emergency, the Chief Justice shall file a copy of the order with the clerk of the affected court or division.

(C) Authority

The authority of the Chief Justice to declare a judicial emergency pursuant to this rule shall be independent of the authority of the administrative judge of a court or division of a court to issue an order authorizing the court or division to operate at a temporary location pursuant to R.C. 1901.0211(A), 1907.0111(A), 2301.011(A), or 2501.04(A).

RULE 14.01. Authority of Chief Justice During Judicial Emergency.

During a judicial emergency declared pursuant to Sup.R. 14, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may do any of the following:

- (A) Suspend or modify the operation of any local rule of the affected court or division;
- (B) Adopt temporary local rules for the affected court or division;
- (C) Suspend or modify the operation of any rule or requirement of the Supreme Court for the affected court or division;
- (D) Adopt temporary rules of the Supreme Court for the affected court or division;
- (E) Authorize the use of any audiovisual devices for actions and proceedings of the affected court or division;
- (F) Assign and transfer any sitting or retired judge to emergency judicial duty at the affected court or division;
- (G) Do and direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice for the duration of the judicial emergency.

RULE 14.02. Consultation with Affected Court or Division and Notification of Justices During Judicial Emergency.

During a judicial emergency declared pursuant to Sup.R. 14, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, whenever possible under the circumstances, shall do both of the following:

- (A) Consult with the administrative judge and court administrator of the affected court or division prior to taking any actions in accordance with Sup.R. 14.01;
- (B) Report to the Justices of the Supreme Court any actions taken in accordance with Sup.R. 14.01.

RULE 99. Effective Date.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(LLL) The amendments to Sup.R. 14 and new Sup.R. 14.01 and 14.02, adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio on September 9, 2014, shall take effect on January 1, 2015.