

**RULES OF PRACTICE
OF THE
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Delay in criminal and civil cases in the Courts of Common Pleas throughout the state of Ohio is a serious problem in the administration of justice. Constitutional courts were created to serve the litigants and the interest of the public at large, not for the convenience or benefit of judges and lawyers. Unnecessary delay erodes the public's confidence in the judicial system.

It is the obligation of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Franklin County, Ohio, to operate the Court in a manner that is lawful, fair, just, and efficient for the benefit of the citizens of Franklin County and all other litigants that come before it. To that end, the following rules are designed (1) to expedite the disposition of both criminal and civil cases in this Court, while at the same time safeguarding the rights of litigants to the just processing of their cases; (2) to expedite and make consistent the disposition of cases in the general branch of the Court; and (3) to serve the public interest which mandates the prompt disposition of all cases before this Court.

RULE 53 - DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS

53.01. All motions, including but not limited to summary judgment, judgment on the pleadings, and to dismiss, which seek to determine the merits of any claim or defense as to any or all parties shall be considered a dispositive motion. A voluntary dismissal under Civ. R. 41 is not a dispositive motion. All dispositive motions shall be filed no later than the date specified in the Case Schedule. Pursuant to Civ. R. 56(A), leave is hereby granted in all civil cases to file summary judgment motions between the time of filing and the dispositive motion date, unless the Trial Judge decides otherwise by setting a different date. Counsel shall file their summary judgment motions at the earliest practical date in the course of litigation.