

**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 19 - CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**19.01** Every pleading, motion, brief, memorandum, or argument in writing filed with the Court or a judge shall be served upon all opposing counsel and upon all parties not represented by counsel. Proof of service in writing shall be shown on or attached to the pleading, motion, brief, memorandum, or argument in writing. No paper delivered to the Court or a judge without a certificate of service shall be considered by any judge of this Court except trial briefs where it has been agreed by counsel that they shall not be exchanged.