

**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 79 - CONTINUANCES**

**79.01** Any motion for continuance of a trial must be in writing unless such is waived by the Trial Judge. Any entry continuing a case shall be signed by the Prosecutor and counsel for defendant, and specific reasons for the continuance shall be set forth in this entry. Upon a continuance being granted, the party requesting the continuance shall cause the entry to be prepared and timely filed. Any order granting a continuance shall contain the date to which trial is continued. If the defendant is incarcerated at the time a continuance is granted, the defendant's signature is to be obtained if there is a waiver of speedy trial rights.