

**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 23 - TRIAL PROCEDURE

23.01 Trial procedure shall be in accordance with statute or rules of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

23.02 Except by permission of the Trial Judge, only one counsel for each adverse party will be permitted to speak on any interlocutory motion, or upon any question arising in the trial of a case, and only one counsel for each adverse party will be permitted to examine the same witness in any trial or proceeding before the Court. A witness, not a party, when examined, cannot be recalled without permission of the Trial Judge.