

## **RULE 48. COMMERCIAL DOCKET**

### **A) Establishment of a Commercial Docket**

Effective March 1, 2024, the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, General Division, established a commercial docket pursuant to Sup.R. 49 through 49.12.

### **B) Judges**

**(1) Judges Designated.** There will be a minimum of 2 judges designated to hear all cases assigned to the commercial docket and will be referred to as the commercial docket judges.

**(2) Terms of Commercial Docket Judges.** The term of the commercial docket judges will be no less than 3 years.

Cases assigned to a commercial docket judge will remain on that judge's docket after expiration of the judge's term.

**(3) Designation of Commercial Docket Judges.** Pursuant to Sup. R. 49.02 (A) (1) (a)(b), Judges meeting the minimum requirements to participate as a commercial docket judge, will be chosen by a majority vote of the judges of the general division of the court

### **C) Adjustment of Other Case Assignments**

To promote fair and equal distribution of cases, when establishing a commercial docket with sitting judges of the general division, for each commercial docket case assigned to a commercial docket judge, a similar non-commercial docket civil case shall be assigned by lot from the docket of the commercial judge to a non-commercial docket judge of the court.

### **D) Reduced Assigned Case Workload of Commercial Docket Judges**

The assigned number of cases rolled to each commercial docket judge shall be reduced as follows:

(1) Each commercial docket judge receives no fourth or fifth degree felony cases.

### **E) Review of Transfer to Commercial Docket**

1) Ruling or decision on transfer

(a) A non-commercial docket judge shall rule on a party's motion for transfer of a case to the commercial docket no later than two days after the filing of the motion. A party to the case may appeal the non-commercial docket judge's decision to the administrative judge within three days of the non-commercial docket judge's decision. The administrative judge shall decide the appeal no later than two days after the filing of the appeal.

(b) An administrative judge shall decide the sua sponte request of a non-commercial docket judge for transfer of a case to the commercial docket no later than two days after the request is made.

(2) Review of transfer

(a) The factors set forth in Sup.R. 49.05 and 49.06 shall be dispositive in determining whether a case shall be transferred to or removed from the commercial docket.

(b) The ruling or decision of the administrative judge as to the transfer of a case is final and not appealable.

**F) Local Rules Apply.**

Unless otherwise ordered in a specific case, or contrary to the within rules and/or Sup R 49-49.12, the general local rules of the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas apply in all commercial docket cases.