

**STATE OF INDIANA – COUNTY OF STARKE  
IN THE STARKE CIRCUIT COURT**

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**Notice of Proposed New Rule or Amendment(s) to Local Court Rule(s)**

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In accordance with Trial Rule 81 of the Indiana Court Rules, the Starke Circuit Court hereby gives notice to the bar and the public that the Court proposes to amend the following Local Rules:

**LR75-TR79-7 SPECIAL JUDGES and  
LR75-CR13-3 CASE REASSIGNMENT AND SPECIAL JUDGES**  
effective upon approval by the Supreme Court.

All new text is shown by underlining and deleted text is shown by ~~striketrough~~. Indiana Supreme Court approval is required for these proposed amendments to the Local Rules concerning Special Judges in civil and criminal cases, and the proposed amended rules will not take effect until approved by the Supreme Court.

Notice has been given to the public by posting on the website of the Starke County Clerk and at the Indiana Judiciary webpage for Local Rules (<https://www.in.gov/courts/publications/local-rules/>) and by furnishing a copy to the officers of the Starke County Bar Association. A paper copy of the proposed amended local rules will be made available for viewing in the Clerk of Starke County office, Courthouse, 53 E. Washington, Knox, IN, 46534, during normal business hours.

The time period for the bar and the public to comment shall begin on October 11, 2024, and close on November 12, 2024. The proposed amendments to the rules will be adopted, modified, or rejected before November 15, 2024, and the final version of the rule will be submitted to the Indiana Supreme Court for review and approval.

Comments by the bar and the public should be made in writing to:  
Hon. Kim Hall, Judge of the Starke Circuit Court, Attn: Public Comment on Local Rules, Starke Circuit Court, Courthouse, 53 E. Washington St., Knox, IN, 46534, or by email to Rachel Meadows, Starke Circuit Court Administrator at [rmeadows@starke.in.gov](mailto:rmeadows@starke.in.gov).

DATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_/S/\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge Kim Hall  
Starke Circuit Court

## LR75-TR79-7 SPECIAL JUDGES

1.1 In all civil cases, when the appointment of a special judge is required under Trial Rule 76, or upon disqualification or recusal of the Judge of the Starke Circuit Court under Trial Rule 79 (C), and the parties cannot agree to an eligible special judge under Trial Rule 79 (D), the clerk shall assign the case to the Starke Circuit Court Magistrate.

1.1.2 If the Starke Circuit Court Magistrate is prohibited from hearing the case, the clerk of the court shall select a special judge from the following list of full-time judicial officers, on a rotating basis:

~~Starke Circuit Court Magistrate~~  
Pulaski Circuit ~~Court Judge~~  
~~Pulaski Superior~~  
La-Porte Circuit ~~Court Judge~~  
~~Pulaski Superior Court Judge~~  
~~Starke Circuit Court Magistrate~~  
La-Porte Superior ~~Court #1 Judge~~  
~~LaPorte Superior Court #2 Judge~~  
~~LaPorte Superior Court #3 Judge~~  
~~LaPorte Superior Court #4 Judge~~  
~~LaPorte Circuit Court #1 Magistrate~~  
~~LaPorte Circuit Court #2 Magistrate~~  
~~Pulaski Circuit~~  
~~La-Porte Superior #2~~  
~~Pulaski Superior~~  
~~La-Porte Superior #3~~  
~~Starke Circuit Court Magistrate~~  
La-Porte Superior ~~Court #4 Magistrate~~

1.2.3 If a special judge cannot be selected using the procedure set out above, then the judge in the case shall certify the same to the Indiana Supreme Court for appointment of a special judge.

## LR75-~~CR13AR21-3-2~~ CASE REASSIGNMENT AND SPECIAL JUDGES

1.1 In all criminal cases, whenever the Judge of the Starke Circuit Court grants a change of judge, or disqualifies or recuses himself, the clerk shall assign the case to the Starke Circuit Court magistrate.

1.2 If the Starke Circuit Court magistrate is prohibited from hearing the case, then the clerk of the court shall select a Special Judge from a list of full-time judges-judicial officers with criminal jurisdiction in Pulaski and La-Porte counties. The list shall follow this sequence:

~~The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court~~

The Judge of the Pulaski Circuit Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the La Porte Circuit Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Circuit Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the La Porte Superior Court #1  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Circuit Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the La Porte Superior Court #2  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Circuit Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the La Porte Superior Court #3  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the Pulaski Circuit Court 27  
The Judge of the Pulaski Superior Court  
The Judge of the La Porte Superior Court #4

Pulaski Circuit Court Judge  
LaPorte Circuit Court Judge  
Pulaski Superior Court Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #1 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #2 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #3 Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court #4 Judge  
LaPorte Circuit Court #1 Magistrate  
LaPorte Circuit Court #2 Magistrate  
LaPorte Superior Court #4 Magistrate

1.3 If no full-time judicial officer within District 3 can hear the case, the clerk shall select a full-time judicial officer from the counties contiguous to Starke County on a rotating basis.

1.4 In the event that a special judge appointed pursuant to this procedure is unable to serve, then the clerk shall select the next judge on the list. In the event the Judge presiding in a felony or misdemeanor case concludes that the unique circumstance presented in such proceeding require appointment by the Indiana Supreme Court of a special judge, this presiding judge may request the Indiana Supreme Court for such appointment.