



Montgomery County Probate Court

Judge David D. Brannon

Montgomery County Courts Building
41 N. Perry Street, 2nd Floor
Dayton, Ohio 45422-2155

937-225-4640
Fax 937-496-3181
BrannonD@mcoho.org

Hon. David D. Brannon
Judge

Lynn M. Cooper
Court Administrator

Greetings Legal Community:

I am writing to inform you that a complete version of the revised Local Rules are adopted and posted. Please use the new version moving forward as of December 3, 2021. Here are a few thoughts to keep in mind.

First, because of the amount of revisions, we approached this process in phases. We merged the old Rules and newly-adopted Rules into a single complete document. Importantly, there are adoption and revision dates in the upper-right corner of each Rule so you know which Rules were effective and when.

Second, you will see references to various Montgomery County Probate Court forms cited as follows: Mont. Co. P.C.F. ___. The plan is to review and revise all forms, hyperlinking the forms located on the Court's website directly to the cite in the Rules. You can always expect to find the latest version of the forms on the Court's website. The forms will be revised over time, but I expect the revisions will improve consistency and efficiency which is what our Court is trying to do.

The second phase of the Local Rules revisions (and hopefully final) have started. Although this will take several months for the comment period to start, it is in the works. I anticipate consistent "tweaks" to all of the Rules. If you have suggestions, please do not hesitate to share them with me or my staff. I have seen some of our ideas adopted in other Ohio probate courts and am confident we are on the appropriate path.

Finally, I want to share a brief vision of where the Court has been and where it is headed. The new Rules are being used to guide our case flow in all matters, so the eFiling System may be streamlined. We see the need to make changes in all case types and filings, meaning we have only scratched the surface. We are aware of some of the lingering delays in filings, and are constantly adjusting. Although you may not have seen it yet, internally, since my administration started, we have upgraded the Court's infrastructure by installing new computers, secured funds for a new audio and video recording system in all of the courtrooms, switched our preferred service carrier to Fed Ex Corporation from the USPS, and are upgrading the eFiling System for automation.

Thank you to the legal community for the patience, feedback and courtesy. And a huge thank you to my staff who have invested hundreds of hours (many outside of business hours) for setting the stage for positive changes.

Sincerely,
Judge David Brannon