

Rule 5.02 Civil Dockets

(A) Timing of Assignment

All civil cases shall be randomly assigned to a Judge as provided in Rule 5.01 when a complaint or petition is filed with the Clerk.

(B) Re-filed Cases

In instances where a previously filed and dismissed case is re-filed, the case shall be reassigned to the original Assigned Judge unless, for good cause shown, the original Assigned Judge is precluded from hearing the case.

(C) Consolidated Cases

Pursuant to Civ.R. 42, the court, on its own motion or that of a party to a civil case, may consolidate cases, including cases filed under R.C. 2903.214: Petition for protection order in menacing by stalking cases. If made by a party, the motion shall be filed in each case for which consolidation is sought. The decision of whether to consolidate cases shall initially be decided by the Assigned Judge with the lowest case number, or, in the case of petitions filed under R.C. 2903.214, the Magistrate assigned to the case with the lowest case number. If an entry is signed granting consolidation in the lowest case number, the party seeking consolidation shall then file a proposed entry in each additional case sought to be consolidated. If consolidation is ordered, the consolidated cases will be placed on the docket of the Assigned Judge with the lowest case number, unless otherwise ordered by the Administrative Judge. If cases are consolidated pursuant to this Rule, all subsequent filings shall identify all the case numbers in the caption and shall be entered on the docket for each case.

(D) Records

All changes in case assignments shall be noted in the records of the court's case management system and of the Clerk.

Amended, effective July 1, 2025, regarding consolidated cases.