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# NEWS RELEASE



## Commercial Docket Judges

**Cleveland:** When the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Commercial Docket resumes in January, four judges will preside over the cases.

Judge Nancy A. Fuerst and Judge Joseph D. Russo will finish the three-year terms they were serving when the docket was disbanded in January of 2015.

Judge Cassandra Collier-Williams will officially begin the three-year term she was appointed to in late 2014. Judge Maureen Clancy will begin her three-year term after being selected and approved by the Bench at today's Judges' Meeting.

The Bench voted to end the Commercial Docket in 2015 after the Ohio Supreme Court changed the eligibility guidelines for judges to be on the docket. After revisions were made to the Rules of Superintendence by the Ohio Supreme Court, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judges voted in September of this year to reinstate the docket in January of 2018.

Under revised Rule 49.02, a Judge on the Commercial Docket would need to meet one of two qualifications: 1) Within the previous six years, the judge has served on the general division of the court for at least three consecutive years, or 2) the judge has at least seven years of substantial practice as a commercial or business related litigator.