

**From:** [Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor](#)  
**Subject:** Tolling of Case Time Standards and GAL Education Rules  
**Date:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 5:58:46 PM

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Dear Judge,

Yesterday, the Court announced two administrative actions:

1. [Tolling the Case Time Standards](#) under Superintendence Rule 39, and
2. [Waiver of Physical Presence for GAL Education](#) as required by Superintendence Rule 48.

It is the Court's hope that the order waiving the case time standards will help to alleviate the pressures that some of you may be feeling in terms of timely case processing. We will review this order prior to its expiration to determine if an extension is necessary. This order does not, however, remove your responsibility to timely submit monthly case statistics to the Supreme Court's Case Management Section. You should plan to submit those case statistics as required – only the case time standards are tolled. A *Frequently Asked Question* document will be on our website shortly to give guidance. If you have questions regarding case statistics or the time standards, please contact the Case Management Section at [casemgmt@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:casemgmt@sc.ohio.gov).

Additionally, those of you who utilize GALs in your courts, please note that the GAL education order has two functions. First, it waives the physical presence requirement for education as outlined in the Rules of Superintendence. The order also encourages judges to permit GALs, court appointees, and local court staff to participate remotely in Ohio Judicial College courses. For additional information on these Ohio Judicial College courses, please visit the GAL Education webpage: <https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/GAL/default.asp>.

Thank you.



Maureen O'Connor  
Chief Justice