



**FILED**

OCT 3 2016

*Stephen Brack*  
AUDITOR, FRANKLIN COUNTY

**ORDINANCE 16-29**  
**FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE**  
**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**  
**(COURTHOUSE GROUNDS USE)**  
**AMENDMENT TO**  
**ORDINANCE 15-02**

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners ("the County") adopts this Amendment to Ordinance 15-02, Franklin County Courthouse Policies and Procedures (Courthouse Grounds Use), for the purpose of closing the previously-created designated public forum.

In 2015, the County adopted Ordinance 15-02 to officially codify the historical designation of the Courthouse Lawn as a designated public forum for expressive activities, including both free-standing, unattended displays and other events. After the adoption of Ordinance 15-02, there was a significant increase in applications for free-standing, unattended displays in a substantially overlapping time-frame that placed an unexpected undue burden upon the resources of the County to process the applications and coordinate the specific locations and times of the displays. Further, the numerous simultaneous displays interfere with the Franklin County Courthouse operations. The burden upon County and the interference with the Courthouse operations renders the continued designation of the Courthouse Lawn as a public forum unsustainable.

Therefore, Ordinance 15-02 is hereby wholly amended and replaced by the following:

**1. CLOSURE OF DESIGNATED PUBLIC FORUM**

- 1.1. The Franklin County Courthouse lawn is hereby no longer open as a designated public forum.
- 1.2. All free-standing, unattended displays by private citizens, and all events sponsored by private citizens, are hereby prohibited from erection on the courthouse lawn.
- 1.3. Free-standing, unattended displays and events that are sponsored by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners or other County officials are permitted as government speech. Such official displays or events will not constitute the re-opening of the designated public forum.

**Franklin County Indiana, Board of Commissioners**

*Tom Wilson* 10-3-16  
Tom Wilson

*Tom Linkel* 10-3-16  
Tom Linkel

*Eric Roberts* 10-3-16  
Eric Roberts

Attest:

*Steve Brack* 10-3-16  
Steve Brack, Auditor  
Franklin County Indiana