

THE COURTS

Title 204—JUDICIAL SYSTEM GENERAL PROVISIONS

PART IV. ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW

[204 PA. CODE CH. 71]

Standards for Passing the Pennsylvania Bar Examination and Amendment of Bar Admission Rule 206; No. 972 Supreme Court Rules Docket

Order

Per Curiam

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, pursuant to Article V, Section 10 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, *It Is Ordered* that:

Beginning with the February 2024 administration of the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE), the minimum scaled score required to constitute satisfactory completion of the UBE for purposes of Pennsylvania bar admission shall be 270.

For applications that rely upon administrations of the UBE in any jurisdiction prior to the February 2024 administration, the minimum scaled score for purposes of Pennsylvania bar admission shall remain 272.

Rule 206 of the Pennsylvania Bar Admission Rules, “Admission by Bar Examination Score Transfer,” is amended in the attached form. To the extent that notice of proposed rulemaking would otherwise be required by Pa.R.J.A. 103, the immediate promulgation of the amended and adopted rule is found to be in the interest of efficient administration.

The prior order of this Court dated January 4, 2022, regarding standards for passing the Pennsylvania bar examination, is rescinded to the extent it is inconsistent with this Order.

This *Order* shall be processed in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. No. 103(b), and shall be effective immediately.

Additions are bolded and are underlined.

Deletions are bolded and are bracketed.

Annex A

TITLE 204. JUDICIAL SYSTEM GENERAL PROVISIONS

PART IV. ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW

CHAPTER 71. PENNSYLVANIA BAR ADMISSION RULES

Subchapter B. ADMISSION TO THE BAR GENERALLY

IN GENERAL

Rule 206. Admission by Bar Examination Score Transfer.

Applicants may apply for admission to the bar of the courts of this Commonwealth using a Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) score earned in another jurisdiction provided that the applicant meets the requirements below.

(a) *Score Requirements.*

1. The UBE score must meet or exceed that established by the Court as the minimum passing score for applicants

sitting for the bar exam at the time **of the UBE that resulted in the score** the applicant **[files an] seeks to transfer [application for admission under this rule]**; and

2. No more than 30 months have passed from the first day of the UBE that resulted in the score the applicant seeks to transfer.

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[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-30. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 231—RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

PART I. GENERAL

[231 PA. CODE CH. 200]

Damages for Delay

Annex A

TITLE 231. RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

PART I. GENERAL

CHAPTER 200. BUSINESS OF COURTS

Rule 238. Damages for Delay in an Action for Bodily Injury, Death or Property Damage.

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Addendum to Explanatory Comment (2024)

The prime rate as set forth in the first edition of the *Wall Street Journal* for a particular year is the basis for calculating damages for delay under Pa.R.Civ.P. 238 as revised November 7, 1988. The prime rate published in the first edition of the *Wall Street Journal* for each of the years specified is as follows:

<i>Date of Publication</i>	<i>Prime Rate Percentage</i>
January 2, 2024	8 1/2
January 3, 2023	7 1/2
January 3, 2022	3 1/4
January 4, 2021	3 1/4
January 2, 2020	4 3/4
January 2, 2019	5 1/2
January 2, 2018	4 1/2
January 3, 2017	3 3/4
January 4, 2016	3 1/2
January 2, 2015	3 1/4
January 2, 2014	3 1/4
January 2, 2013	3 1/4
January 3, 2012	3 1/4
January 3, 2011	3 1/4
January 4, 2010	3 1/4
January 2, 2009	3 1/4
January 2, 2008	7 1/4

<i>Date of Publication</i>	<i>Prime Rate Percentage</i>
January 2, 2007	8 1/4
January 3, 2006	7 1/4
January 3, 2005	5 1/4
January 2, 2004	4
January 2, 2003	4 1/4
January 2, 2002	4 3/4
January 2, 2001	9 1/2
January 3, 2000	8 1/2
January 4, 1999	7 3/4
January 2, 1998	8 1/2

Comment:

The prime rate for the years 1980 through 1997 may be found in the Addendum to the Explanatory Comment published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, 33 Pa.B. 634 (February 1, 2003), and on the web site of the Civil Procedural Rules Committee at <https://www.pacourts.us>.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-31. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES**CARBON COUNTY****Amendment of Fee Schedule for Counsel Appointed by the Court; 23-CV-2848; 23-RW-0484; CP-13-AD-000018-2023****Administrative Order No. 14-2023**

And Now, this 28th day of December, 2023, in order to establish a reasonable rate for counsel appointed by the Court, it is hereby

Ordered and Decreed that, effective January 1st, 2024, Carbon County *Amends*¹ the fee schedule for court appointed counsel in all types of cases except homicide cases to the rate of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per hour for time expended in-Court and Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) per hour for time expended out-of-Court. Homicide cases shall be established at the rate of One Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$125.00) per hour for time expended in-Court and One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per hour for time expended out-of-Court. All compensation payments shall be approved by the Court.

The Carbon County District Court Administrator is *Ordered and Directed* to do the following with the Administrative Order and Rule:

1. E-mail one (1) copy to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts at adminrules@pacourts.us.

2. Mail one (1) copy to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* to PA Code and Bulletin, Legislative Reference Bureau, 647 Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120 and e-mail one (1) copy in Microsoft Word format to bulletin@palrb.us.

¹ Replaces Administrative Order # 18-2008 (# 06-2715, # 06-9278 & # CP-13-AD-000006-2006).

3. Publish this local rule on the www.carboncourts.com website within 30 days after the publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

4. File one (1) copy in the Carbon County Clerk of Court's Office, Prothonotary's Office, Juvenile Court Office and Orphan's Court Office.

5. E-mail one (1) copy for publication in the *Carbon County Law Journal*.

6. Forward one (1) copy to the Carbon County Law Library.

By the Court

ROGER N. NANOVIC,
President Judge

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-32. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES**CARBON COUNTY****Attorney Fees in Court Appointed Cases; No. 23-CV-2847; 23-RW-0483; CP-13-AD-000017-2023****Administrative Order No. 13-2023**

And Now, this 28th day of December, 2023, in order to provide compensation for court appointed counsel, it is hereby

Ordered and Decreed, effective January 1st, 2024, that the following fee schedule is hereby *Amended*¹ for attorney's fees in the following court appointed cases and will remain in effect until further Order of Court:

Guardians Ad Litem in Dependency Cases

\$75.00 per hour for time expended out-of-Court.

\$100.00 per hour for time expended in-Court.

*Auditors in Estate Cases—\$100.00 per hour**Trustees and Masters in Partition*

\$75.00 per hour for time expended out-of-Court.

\$100.00 per hour for time expended in-Court.

The Carbon County District Court Administrator is *Ordered and Directed* to do the following with the Administrative Order:

1. E-mail one (1) copy to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts at adminrules@pacourts.us.

2. Mail one (1) copy to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* to PA Code and Bulletin, Legislative Reference Bureau, 647 Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120 and e-mail one (1) copy in Microsoft Word format to bulletin@palrb.us.

3. Publish this local rule on the www.carboncourts.com website within 30 days after the publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

4. File one (1) copy in the Carbon County Clerk of Court's Office, Prothonotary's Office, Orphans Court Office and Juvenile Court Office.

¹ Replaces Administrative Order # 17-2008 (# 08-1454, # 08-9202 & # CP-13-AD-000003-2008).

5. E-mail one (1) copy for publication in the *Carbon County Law Journal*.

6. Forward one (1) copy to the Carbon County Law Library.

By the Court

ROGER N. NANOVIC,
President Judge

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-33. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

INDIANA COUNTY

Administrative Order; MD-459-2022

Order of Court

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, in compliance with Rule 103(c) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Judicial Administration, it is Hereby Ordered that the Court adopts the following Administrative Order regarding the Crime Victim Services and Compensation Act 77 of 2022 which becomes effective March 1, 2024.

The Court Administrator is Hereby Ordered to:

1) File one certified copy of this Order with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to adminrules@pacourt.us;

2) Submit two paper copies of this Order to the Legislative Reference Bureau and one electronic copy in Microsoft Word format only to Bulletin@palrb.us for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*;

3) Provide one copy of this Order to the members of the Indiana County Bar Association;

4) Incorporate the Rule into the set of Local Rules within thirty (30) days of publication of the Local Rule in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and publish the rules on the Court's website at www.IndianaCountyPA.gov;

5) File this Order in the Prothonotary's Office of Indiana County.

Administrative Order of Court

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, it is hereby Ordered and Directed that the Crime Victim Services and Compensation Act 77 of 2022 assessment established at the amount of \$140.00 by Order of this Court dated December 12, 2022, shall be assessed in every criminal case in which a person pleads guilty or nolo contendere, or is convicted of a crime. This includes all such dispositions, regardless of whether the plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or the fining of guilt, is entered by a Court of Common Pleas Judge or a Magisterial District Court Judge.

This Order does not change or alter the December 12, 2022, Order of this Court other than to clarify when the amount is assessed.

Finally, the effective date of this Order shall be March 1, 2024.

By the Court

THOMAS M. BIANCO,
President Judge

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-34. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

INDIANA COUNTY

Local Rule of Civil Procedure 212.7; MD-383-2023

Order of Court

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, in compliance with Rule 103(d) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Judicial Administration, it is Hereby Ordered that the Court adopts the following Rule of Civil Procedure 212.7 regarding Indiana County's new Civil Case Management system which becomes effective March 1, 2024.

The Court Administrator is Hereby Ordered to:

1) File one certified copy of this Order with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to adminrules@pacourt.us;

2) Submit two paper copies of this Order to the Legislative Reference Bureau and one electronic copy in Microsoft Word format only to Bulletin@palrb.us for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*;

3) Provide one copy of this Order to the members of the Indiana County Bar Association;

4) Incorporate the Rule into the set of Local Rules within thirty (30) days of publication of the Local Rule in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and publish the rules on the Court's website at www.IndianaCountyPA.gov;

5) File this Order in the Prothonotary's Office of Indiana County.

Local Rule 212.7. Civil Case Management.

(a) *Purpose.* Indiana County has adopted a civil case management system/process for all civil actions, except those that are excluded by this Local Rule or by Order of Court. The Court may order attorneys and any unrepresented parties to appear for one or more conferences for the purpose of:

(1) Expediting disposition of actions;

(2) Establishing early and continuing control so that the case will not be protracted because of lack of management;

(3) Discouraging wasteful pretrial activities;

(4) Improving the quality of the trial through more thorough preparation; and

(5) Facilitating settlement.

(b) *Applicability.*

(1) The Indiana County civil case management system/process shall include the following civil matters:

(a) Tort claims;

(b) Mass tort claims, including, but not limited to asbestos, tobacco, and toxic tort/waste;

(c) Contract claims;

(d) Professional liability claims;

(e) Actions in replevin;

(f) Declaratory judgments; and

(g) Appeals from money judgments by Magisterial District Judges.

(2) The Indiana County civil case management system/process shall not include the following civil matters:

- (a) Actions for custody, partial custody, and visitation of minor children;
- (b) Actions in Divorce or Annulment of marriage;
- (c) Actions for Support;
- (d) Actions pursuant to the Protection from Abuse Act;
- (e) Non-domestic relations restraining orders;
- (f) Actions involving paternity;
- (g) Change of name (adult and minors);
- (h) Partition actions;
- (i) Real estate assessment appeals; and
- (j) Landlord-tenant actions that involve a claim for possession.

(3) The Indiana County civil case management system/process may include the following civil matters, but only in the event that a defendant enters an appearance and files a responsive pleading:

- (a) Actions in ejectment;
- (b) Quiet title claims;
- (c) Adverse possession claims;
- (d) Mortgage foreclosures;
- (e) Administrative appeals, including, but not limited to, elections, statutory appeals, and zoning hearing board appeals;
- (f) Eminent domain;
- (g) Actions in mandamus;
- (h) Actions in quo warranto; and
- (i) Any other civil action not specifically identified or included in subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this Local Rule.

(c) *Scheduling.* For all new filings in civil actions following the adoption of this Local Rule, the Indiana County civil case management system/process shall be triggered upon the filing of a Complaint and an appearance and filing of a responsive pleading by any defendant (hereinafter "triggering event"). Upon the triggering event, the following shall occur:

(1) The Court Program Manager shall be initially responsible for designating a case track for each matter subject to the Indiana County civil case management system/process. Case tracks shall either be Expedited or Standard. Expedited matters include, but are not limited to, actions that can be disposed of promptly (as determined by the Court), compulsory arbitration cases, and money judgment appeals from decisions of Magisterial District Judges. Standard matters are all actions that are not designated as Expedited. The Court and/or Court Program Manager shall have the ability to re-designate a case track for an action.

(2) For Expedited track matters, the Court Program Manager will submit an Initial Case Management Order, which shall include:

- (a) Whether the action involves a jury trial, nonjury trial, or arbitration;
- (b) The time period for the completion of all fact discovery. All interrogatories, request for the production of documents, depositions, and request for admissions shall

be served within sufficient time to allow responses to be completed prior to the close of fact discovery; and

(c) The scheduling of a case management conference after the time period for the completion of fact discovery has concluded.

(3) For Standard track matters, the Court Program Manager will submit a Scheduling Order for a Case Management Conference, which conference will take place no later than sixty (60) days from the triggering event.

(4) In the event that a party files Preliminary Objections, the party filing such objections shall notify the Court Program Manager in writing of the filing and either the Initial Case Management Order or the Scheduling Order for a Case Management Conference will not be issued or if already entered, the Order will be vacated. Once the Preliminary Objections are resolved and an Answer is subsequently filed, the Court Program Manager will submit either an Initial Case Management Order as set forth above for Expedited track matters or a Scheduling Order for a Case Management Conference for Standard track matters.

(d) *Conferences and Orders.* An attorney representing a party or an unrepresented party shall participate in good faith in all case management conferences and shall have the necessary authority to make decisions and stipulations about all matters that can be reasonably anticipated for discussion at the case management conference.

(1) For Expedited track matters, the Court Program Manager at the case management conference may consider and take appropriate action by Order of Court on the following matters:

- (a) Whether fact discovery is completed;
- (b) The time period for the filing of any dispositive motions and responses thereto;
- (c) The scheduling of oral argument before the Court on any dispositive motions;
- (d) The submission of the matter to mediation, private arbitration, and/or any other form of alternative dispute resolution;
- (e) The submission of the case to compulsory arbitration; and
- (f) Any other matters relevant or deemed necessary to the case, including the scheduling of an additional case management conference.

(2) For Standard track matters and at the first case management conference, the Court Program Manager may consider and take appropriate action by Order of Court on the following matters:

- (a) Whether the action involves a jury trial, nonjury trial, or arbitration;
- (b) The time period for the completion of all fact discovery. All interrogatories, request for the production of documents, depositions, and request for admissions shall be served within sufficient time to allow responses to be completed prior to the close of fact discovery;

(c) The scheduling of a second case management conference after the time period for the completion of fact discovery has concluded; and

(d) Any other matters relevant or deemed necessary to the case, including the scheduling of an additional case management conference.

(3) For Standard track matters and at the second and all subsequent case management conferences, the Court

Program Manager may consider and take appropriate action by Order of Court on the following matters:

- (a) Whether fact discovery is completed;
- (b) The time period for the plaintiff to provide an expert report and curriculum vitae for each expert to the opposing party or parties;
- (c) The time period for the defendant to provide an expert report and curriculum vitae for each expert to the opposing party or parties;
- (d) The time period for the filing of any dispositive motions and responses thereto;
- (e) The scheduling of oral argument before the Court on any dispositive motions;
- (f) The scheduling of a pretrial conference before the Court. A tentative trial date will be given by the Court at the pretrial conference;
- (g) The submission of the matter to mediation, arbitration, and/or any other form of alternative dispute resolution; and
- (h) Any other matters relevant or deemed necessary to the case, including the scheduling of an additional case management conference.
- (e) *Miscellaneous.*
- (1) The parties are encouraged to engage in pretrial discovery at the earliest possible opportunity in accordance with the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure. Nothing in this Local Rule should be construed to prevent

the parties from engaging in discovery prior to the case management conference and/or Order.

- (2) In the event a party and/or an attorney for a party fails to appear for a case management conference, the Court Program Manager is authorized to enter an appropriate Case Management Order.
- (3) A case management conference shall not be continued except:
 - (a) Upon written motion to the Court and for good cause shown; or,
 - (b) Upon agreement of all parties, provided that the agreement is approved by the Court Program Manager.
- (4) The parties may not, individually or by agreement, alter or extend the deadlines of a Case Management Order, or waive any of the provisions of the Order; however, the Court, by motion of any party and upon good cause shown, may grant appropriate relief and/or order the scheduling of a case management conference before the Court Program Manager.
- (5) Upon motion of a party, or sua sponte, the Court may issue any just orders and/or sanctions, including the imposition of fines and reasonable attorney’s fees, for violations of this Local Rule or a Case Management Order.

By the Court

THOMAS M. BIANCO,
President Judge

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-35. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

SUPREME COURT

Duty Assignment Schedule for Emergency Petitions in the Year 2024; No. 604 Judicial Administration Docket

Order

Per Curiam:

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, the emergency duty assignment for the year 2024, is herewith adopted.

January	Justice Christine Donohue	(Eastern District)
	Justice Kevin Dougherty	(Western District)
February	Justice David Wecht	(Eastern District)
	Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy	(Western District)
March	Justice P. Kevin Brobson	(Eastern District)
	Justice Daniel McCaffery	(Western District)
April	Justice Christine Donohue	(Eastern District)
	Justice Kevin Dougherty	(Western District)
May	Justice David Wecht	(Eastern District)
	Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy	(Western District)
June	Justice P. Kevin Brobson	(Eastern District)
	Justice Daniel McCaffery	(Western District)
July	Justice Christine Donohue	(Eastern District)
	Justice Kevin Dougherty	(Western District)
August	Justice David Wecht	(Eastern District)
	Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy	(Western District)
September	Justice P. Kevin Brobson	(Eastern District)
	Justice Daniel McCaffery	(Western District)
October	Justice Christine Donohue	(Eastern District)

	Justice Kevin Dougherty	(Western District)
November	Justice David Wecht	(Eastern District)
	Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy	(Western District)
December	Justice P. Kevin Brobson	(Eastern District)
	Justice Daniel McCaffery	(Western District)

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-36. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

SUPREME COURT

Schedule of Holidays for Year 2025 for Staffs of the Appellate Courts and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts; No. 606 Judicial Administration Docket

Order

Per Curiam:

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, it is hereby ordered that the following paid holidays for calendar year 2025 will be observed on the dates specified below by all employees of the appellate courts and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts:

January 01, 2025	New Year's Day
January 20, 2025	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 17, 2025	Presidents' Day
April 18, 2025	Good Friday
May 26, 2025	Memorial Day
June 19, 2025	Juneteenth
July 04, 2025	Independence Day
September 01, 2025	Labor Day
October 13, 2025	Columbus Day
November 11, 2025	Veterans' Day
November 27, 2025	Thanksgiving Day
November 28, 2025	Day after Thanksgiving
December 25, 2025	Christmas Day

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-37. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

SUPREME COURT

Sessions of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for the Year 2025; No. 605 Judicial Administration Docket

Order

Per Curiam:

And Now, this 27th day of December, 2023, it is ordered that the argument/administrative sessions of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania shall be held in the year 2025 as follows:

Philadelphia (Administrative Session)	January 28th
Philadelphia	March 3rd through March 7th
Harrisburg (Administrative Session)	March 18th
Pittsburgh	April 7th through April 11th
Harrisburg	May 12th through May 16th
Pittsburgh (Administrative Session)	June 3rd

THE COURTS

Philadelphia	September 8th through September 12th
Pittsburgh	October 6th through October 10th
Harrisburg	November 17th through November 21st

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 24-38. Filed for public inspection January 12, 2024, 9:00 a.m.]

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