THE COURTS

Title 204—JUDICIAL SYSTEM GENERAL **PROVISIONS**

PART II. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION [204 PA. CODE CH. 29]

Promulgation of Financial Regulation under 42 Pa.C.S. § 3502(a); No. 177; Doc. No. 1

Order

Per Curiam:

And now, this 9th day of September, 1996, it is Ordered pursuant to Article V, Section 10(c) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and Section 3502(a) of the Judicial Code, 42 Pa.C.Š. § 3502(a), that the Court Administrator of Pennsylvania is authorized to promulgate the following Financial Regulation.

To the extent that notice of proposed rulemaking may be required by Pa.R.J.A. 103, the immediate promulgation of the regulation is hereby found to be in the interests of efficient administration.

This Order is to be processed in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. 103(b) and is effective immediately.

Annex A

TITLE 204. JUDICIAL SYSTEM GENERAL **PROVISIONS**

PART II. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION **CHAPTER 29. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS** Subchapter K. COSTS, FINES AND FEES § 29.401. Scope.

- (a) The Pennsylvania Supreme Court, pursuant to Art. 5, § 10 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, and 42 Pa.C.S. § 1721, has authorized the Court Administrator of Pennsylvania to promulgate regulations relating to the accounting methods to be utilized in connection with the collection of fees and costs charged and collected by prothonotaries, clerks of courts of all courts of common pleas and recorders of deeds, or by any officials designated to perform the functions thereof, as well as by the minor judiciary, including district justices, Philadelphia Municipal Court, Philadelphia Traffic Court and Pittsburgh Magistrates Court.
- (b) Under authority of said Administrative Order and pursuant to the authority vested in the governing authority under Section 3502(a) of the Judicial Code, 42 Pa.C.S. \S 3502(a), the following regulations are adopted to implement Act 167 of 1992, 15 Pa.C.S. \S 153(a)(8)(vii), 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 1725.1(f) and 3571(c)(4) (as amended).

§ 29.402. Costs under 42 Pa.C.S. § 1725.1.

- (a) Civil cases.—In calendar year [1996] 1997, the costs to be charged by district justices in every civil case, except as otherwise provided in this section, shall be as
 - (1) Actions involving \$500 or less.... **[\$33.00] \$33.50**
- (2) Actions involving more than \$500 but not more

- (3) Actions involving more than \$2,000 but not more
- (4) Actions involving more than \$4,000 but not more
- (5) Landlord-tenant actions involving less than \$2,000 **[\$49.00] \$50.50**
- (6) Landlord-tenant actions involving more than \$2,000 but not more than \$4,000 [\$60.00] \$61.50
- (7) Landlord-tenant actions involving more than \$4,000 but not more than \$8,000 [\$81.50] \$83.50
- (8) Order of execution...... [\$24.50] \$25.50
- (10) Reinstatement of complaint [\$5.50] \$6.00
- (11) Entering Transcript on Appeal or Certiorari. \$3.00
- (b) Criminal cases.—In calendar year [1996] 1997 the costs to be charged by the minor judiciary or by the court of common pleas where appropriate in every criminal case, except as otherwise provided in this section, shall be as follows:
- (1) Summary conviction, except motor vehicle
- (2) Summary conviction, motor vehicle cases, other
- (3) Summary conviction, motor vehicle cases, hearing
- (c) Unclassified costs or charges.—In calendar year [1996] 1997, the costs to be charged by the minor judiciary in the following instances not readily classifiable shall be as follows:
- (1) Entering transcript of judgment from another mem-
- (2) Marrying each couple, making record thereof, and certificate to the parties...... [**\$27.50**] **\$28.00**
- (3) Granting emergency relief pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to protection from
- (4) Issuing a search warrant (except as provided in
- (5) Any other issuance not otherwise provided in this

§ 29.403. Fines under 42 Pa.C.S. § 3571.

- (2) Amounts payable to the Commonwealth:
- (i) Summary conviction, except motor vehicle
- (ii) Summary conviction, motor vehicle cases other than

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(iii) Summary conviction, motor vehicle cases, hearing demand
(iv) Misdemeanor
(v) Felony
(vi) Assumpsit or trespass involving:
(A) \$500 or less [\$13.75] \$13.96
(B) More than \$500 but not more than \$2,000 [\$21.76] \$22.50
(C) More than \$2,000 but not more than \$4,000 [\$32.70] \$33.60
(D) More than \$4,000 but not more than \$8,000 [\$54.33] \$55.66
(vii) Landlord-tenant proceeding involving:
(A) \$2,000 or less
(B) More than \$2,000 but not more than \$4,000 [\$27.27] \$27.96
(C) More than \$4,000 but not more than \$8,000 [\$38.04] \$38.97
(viii) Objection to levy
(ix) Order of execution
(x) Issuing a search warrant (except as provided in section 1725.1(d) (relating to costs)
(<i>Editor's Note</i> : Ellipses refer to the text of 42 Pa.C.S. \S 3571).
§ 29.404. Fee schedule under 15 Pa.C.S. § 153.

§ 29.404. Fee schedule under 15 Pa.C.S. § 153.

(a) General rule.—The fees of the Corporation Bureau of the Department of State, including fees for the public acts and transactions of the Secretary of the Commonwealth administered through the bureau, and of county filing officers under Title 13 (relating to commercial code), shall be as follows:

(A) Fee charged by Department of State \$12.00

(B) Fee charged by County...... [\$52.50] \$53.50

Amount payable to Commonwealth .. [\$39.35] \$40.10

Amount payable to County [\$13.15] \$13.40

- (iv) Additional fee for each financing statement found and for each statement of assignment reported therein:
 - (A) Fee charged by Department of State\$1.00
- (B) Fee charged by County.......\$4.50

 Amount payable to Commonwealth\$3.35

 Amount payable to County\$1.15
- (v) For each financing statement or ancillary transaction not filed on standard forms approved by the Department of State, in addition to the fee provided above, there shall be charged a per filing fee of:
 - (A) Fee charged by Department of State \$28.00
 - (B) Fee charged by County...... [\$122.00] \$125.00 Amount payable to Commonwealth ... [\$91.50] \$93.75

Amount payable to County [\$30.50] \$31.25

(Editor's Note: Ellipses refer to text of 15 Pa.C.S. § 153.)

 $[Pa.B.\ Doc.\ No.\ 96\text{-}1624.\ Filed\ for\ public\ inspection\ September\ 27,\ 1996,\ 9:00\ a.m.]$

PART IV. ADMISSION TO PRACTICE OF LAW [204 PA. CODE CH. 71]

Amendment of the Pennsylvania Bar Admission Rules: Hearings Before the Board; No. 163; Doc. No. 1

Order

Per Curiam:

And Now, this 9th day of September, 1996, Rule 213 of the Pennsylvania Bar Admission Rules is amended to read as follows.

To the extent that notice of proposed rulemaking would be required by Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration No. 103 or otherwise, the immediate amendment of Rule 213 is hereby found to be required in the interest of justice and efficient administration.

This Order shall be processed in accordance with Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration No. 103(b) and shall be effective immediately.

Annex A

TITLE 204. JUDICIAL SYSTEM GENERAL PROVISIONS

PART IV. ADMISSION TO PRACTICE OF LAW CHAPTER 71. PENNSYLVANIA BAR ADMISSION RULES

Subchapter B. ADMISSION TO THE BAR GENERALLY

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE BOARD

Rule 213. Hearings before the Board.

(a) General Rule. If, upon an initial review of an application filed under these rules and of any other related information available to the Board, the Board, through the Executive Director, finds that the applicant does not appear to possess the fitness and general

qualifications (other than scholastic) requisite for a member of the bar of the Commonwealth, the Executive Director shall forthwith give the applicant notice of such finding in the manner prescribed by Board rule, and of the right of the applicant to request in writing, within thirty (30) days of the denial, a hearing before the Board.

(b) Hearing. Within 30 days after receipt of the request of an applicant for a hearing under this Rule the Board shall hold a hearing at which the applicant shall be present. The applicant may be represented by counsel at the hearing. The applicant and Counsel of the Board may subpoena and examine witnesses and offer The Board shall not be bound by the formal rules of evidence and such relevant evidence may be introduced at the hearing as may be necessary for the Board to make a final determination upon the application. The burden of proof shall be on the applicant to establish that he or she possesses the character, fitness and general qualifications that are compatible with the standards expected to be observed by a member of the Bar of this Commonwealth. The applicant may call and examine witnesses, crossexamine adverse witnesses and present such evidence as is relevant to the issue before the Board. At any such hearing | Counsel of the Board shall present in full the facts upon which the initial adverse finding was based and shall make available to the applicant and his or her counsel shall be **permitted** [for inspection] to inspect such portion of the record of the applicant bearing upon the issues before the Board as does not constitute confidential information. or work product of the Executive Director or Counsel of the Board. If requested by the appli**cant,** A stenographic or other verbatim record shall be made of any such hearing, but hearings before the Board shall not be open to the public. The Board shall have the power to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and for the production of documentary evidence at the hearing.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 96-1625. Filed for public inspection September 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m.]

PART VII. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COURTS [204 PA. CODE CH. 211]

Promulgation of Consumer Price Index under 15 Pa.C.S. § 153(a)(8)(vii), 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 1725.1(f) and 3571(c)(4); No. 176; Doc. No. 1

Order

Per Curiam:

And now, this 9th day of September, 1996, it is Ordered pursuant to Article V, Section 10(c) of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and Section 3502(a) of the Judicial Code, 42 Pa.C.S. § 3502(a), that the Court Administrator of Pennsylvania is authorized to obtain and publish in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on or before November 30 the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for the immediately preceding calendar year as required by

Act 167 of 1992, 15 Pa.C.S. § 153(a)(8)(vii), 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 1725.1(f) and 3571(c)(4) (as amended).

Annex A

TITLE 204. JUDICIAL SYSTEM PROVISIONS

PART VII. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

CHAPTER 211. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

§ 211.1. Consumer Price Index.

- (a) Pursuant to Article 5, Section 10 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, and 42 Pa.C.S. § 1721, the Supreme Court has authorized the Court Administrator of Pennsylvania to obtain and publish in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on or before November 30 the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for the immediate preceding calendar year as required by Act 167 of 1992, 15 Pa.C.S. § 153(a)(8)(vii), 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 1725.1(f) and 3571(c)(4) (as amended). See, No. 176 Judicial Administrative Docket No. 1
- (b) The Court Administrator of Pennsylvania reports that the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index, All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, for calendar year 1995, was 2.5 percent. (See, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Series CUUROOOOSAO, Thursday, February 1, 1996.)

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 96-1626. Filed for public inspection September 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 231—RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

PART I. GENERAL

[231 PA. CODE CH. 2950]

Amendment of Rules Governing Confession of Judgment for Money; No. 256; Doc. No. 5

Amendatory Order

Per Curiam:

And Now, this 13th day of September, 1996, Order No. 256, Civil Procedural Rules Docket No. 5, dated April 1, 1996 is amended to read as follows.

This Order shall be effective immediately and shall be processed in accordance with Rule of Judicial Administration 103(b).

Annex A

TITLE 231. RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE PART I. GENERAL

CHAPTER 2950. CONFESSION OF JUDGMENT FOR MONEY

I. The second sentence of the second paragraph of the note to Rule 2956.1(c)(2) is revised to read as follows:

Rule 2956.1. Execution upon a judgment entered by confession.

(c) ***

(2) ***

Official Note: ***

Notice prior to execution under Rule 2958.1 may be given in all cases. However, the notice served with the notice of sale of real property under Rule 2958.2 is limited to execution upon real property or real property and personal property subject to Section 9501(d) of the **[Judicial Code] Uniform Commercial Code**. The notice served with the writ of execution under Rule 2958.3 is limited to an execution upon personal property or personal and real property.

* * * * *

II. Clauses (c) and (d) of the certification set forth in Rule 2963 are revised to read as follows:

Rule 2963. Praecipe for Writ of Execution. Certification. Form.

Certification

I certify that

* * * *

- (c) Notice will be served [with the writ of execution] at least thirty days prior to the date of the sheriff's sale of real property pursuant to Rule 2958.2.
- (d) Notice will be served [at least thirty days prior to the date of the sheriff's sale of real property] with the writ of execution pursuant to Rule 2958.3.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 96-1627. Filed for public inspection September 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

BEAVER COUNTY

Amended Rule of Civil Procedure: Argument List— Procedure and Briefs; No. 951R000066

Order

Now, this 20th day of May, 1996, the court hereby adopts the following Beaver County Rule of Civil Procedure, to be effective thirty (30) days after the date of publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

It is further ordered that the District Court Administrator shall file seven (7) certified copies of this Rule with the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts, two (2) certified copies to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, one (1) certified copy to the Civil Procedure Rules Committee and one (1) copy to the *Beaver County Law Journal* for publication in the next issue of the *Beaver County Law Journal*.

It is further ordered that this local rule shall be kept continuously available for public inspection and copying in the Prothonotary's Office.

By the Court

ROBERT C. REED, President Judge

Rule L211C. Argument List—Procedure and Briefs.

- (1) Argument lists shall include all matters to be argued before the court. Such matters shall be placed on the argument list by praecipe filed with the Prothonotary and the Court Administrator at least one (1) month before the requested argument court date, with notice in writing to the opposing party or counsel and to all other parties of record or their counsel. In addition, the Court Administrator will place on the argument list without praecipe any matters continued from previous argument lists.
- (2) Where a moving party files a praccipe for argument, that party shall, at the same time, file a brief with the Court Administrator and serve it. The case will not be listed for argument until the moving party's brief has been filed.

When the moving party's brief has been filed and the case listed, any responding party shall file a reply brief at least ten (10) days before the argument date. The court, in its discretion, may prohibit a responding party which has not filed a timely brief from presenting oral argument, or it may impose other sanctions.

Any issue which has not been raised and discussed in a timely-filed brief may be deemed absolutely to have been waived.

(3) Where a responding party files a praecipe for argument, or if the court places a matter on the argument list, the moving party shall file a brief with the Court Administrator and serve it at least twenty (20) days before the argument date. If the moving party fails to file a timely brief, the court may, on its own motion, deny the relief which the moving party has sought or impose other sanctions.

Where the responding party has listed the case and the moving party has filed and served a timely brief, the responding party shall file a reply brief with the Court Administrator, and serve it, at least ten (10) days before the argument date. If the responding party fails to file a timely brief, the court in its discretion may prohibit that party from presenting oral argument on the date of argument or it may impose other sanctions.

- (4) The Court Administrator shall, immediately after the last day for filing a praecipe for the next argument list, prepare a list of all cases to be included on the next argument list. The Court Administrator shall schedule all cases for argument and cause the list and schedule to be published in the Beaver County Legal Journal. Copies of the list and schedule shall be made available to counsel and any unrepresented parties.
- (5) Two (2) copies of any brief shall be filed with the Court Administrator, unless the case is before the court en banc, in which four (4) copies shall be filed.
- (6) Each party will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes to present oral argument. The time allowed for-argument shall be subject to extension or limitation in the discretion of the court.
- (7) No argument will be continued except by order of court for cause shown, after notice and motion pursuant to Local Rule L206.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 96-1628. Filed for public inspection September 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m.]

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Amendment to Rule of Civil Procedure: Seminar for Separated and Divorced Parents; No. 96-00001-3

Order

And Now, this 10th day of September, 1996, the Court approves and adopts the following amendment to Montgomery County Local Rule of Civil Procedure 1915.3*—Seminar for Separated and Divorced Parents. This Amendment shall become effective thirty (30) days from the date of publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

The Court Administrator is directed to publish this Order once in the *Montgomery County Law Reporter* and in the *Legal Intelligencer*. In conformity with Pa.R.C.P. 239, seven (7) certified copies of the within Order shall be filed by the Court Administrator with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts. Two (2) certified copies shall be distributed to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. One (1) certified copy shall be filed with the Domestic Relations Committee. One (1) copy shall be filed with the Prothonotary, one (1) copy with the Clerk of Courts, and (1) copy with the Court Administrator of Montgomery County, one (1) copy with the Law Library of Montgomery County and one (1) copy with each Judge of this Court.

By the Court

WILLIAM T. NICHOLAS, President Judge

Rule 1915.3*. Seminar for Separated and Divorced Parents.

- (a) In an action for custody, partial custody or visitation, if a case is not resolved by the custody conciliator and must therefore proceed to a hearing before a Judge, both parents shall attend an approved education seminar on the general responsibilities of separated and divorced parents.
- (b) Seminars shall be conducted by seminar providers as approved by the President Judge. Seminars shall be conducted in the Montgomery County Courthouse or at such other location as approved by the President Judge. Each parent will be responsible to register for a seminar and for payment of the seminar costs; however, the costs may be waived by the Court for any party qualifying to proceed in forma pauperis.
- (c) Seminar attendance may also be required upon motion of either party, by agreement of the parties, upon recommendation by the Custody Conciliator or upon the Court's own motion, in connection with any petition to modify custody, any petition for contempt of a custody order or any other matter relating to child custody or visitation.
- (d) A Certificate of Attendance shall be filed by the seminar provider with the Prothonotary's Office reflecting that attendance was fulfilled by the parent.
- (e) For good cause shown, the Court may waive the requirement of seminar attendance in a particular case.
- (f) Upon a party's failure to attend a required seminar, the Court may impose sanctions, including but not limited to a finding of contempt. A hearing on a custody petition shall not be delayed by a party's refusal or delay in completing the seminar.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 96-1629. Filed for public inspection September 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m.]

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY Tax Assessment Appeals

And Now, this 11th day of September, 1996 at 1:30 p.m., Schuylkill County Civil Rule of Procedure No. 14A is adopted for use in the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania (21st Judicial District) effective immediately, as per Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas Order, RE: Tax Assessment Appeal, issued September 11th, 1996.

The Prothonotary of Schuylkill County is Ordered and Directed to do the following:

- 1) File ten (10) certified copies of this Order and Rule with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.
- 2) File two (2) certified copies of this Order and Rule with the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.
- 3) File one (1) certified copy of this Order and Rule with the Pennsylvania Civil Procedural Rules Committee.
- 4) Forward one (1) copy to the Schuylkill County Law Library for publication in the Schuylkill Legal Record.
- 5) Keep continuously available for public inspection copies of this Order and Rule.

Order of Court

And Now, this 11th day of September, 1996, at 1:30 p.m., it is hereby *Ordered* that effective immediately, Schuylkill County Civil Rule of Procedure No. 14A is hereby adopted for use in the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania (21st Judicial District).

JOSEPH F. MCCLOSKEY,

President Judge

Rule 14A. Tax Assessment Appeals.

- I. Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal
- (a) An appeal from a decision of the Schuylkill County Board of Assessment Appeals ("Board") shall be captioned "Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal" and shall be filed with the Prothonotary within the time prescribed by statute.
- (b) The Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal shall contain the following:
- (1) Caption designating the named party taking the appeal as Appellant, the Board as Appellee, and if Appellant is a taxing authority it shall join the owner of the real estate involved as of course as a party in the assessment appeal by designating such named owner in the caption as Respondent ("Respondent").
- (2) A brief description of the subject real estate, its location, the name and address of the owner and the municipality and the school district wherein the real estate is located.
 - (3) The nature of and reasons for the appeal.
- (4) A copy of the Board's Notice of Final Determination and Order shall be attached as an exhibit.
 - (5) A verification.
- (c) Appellant shall serve a copy of the Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal by certified mail upon the Board addressed to 401 North Second Street, Pottsville, Pennsylvania, 17901 and upon the Respondent at such person's last known mailing address.
- (d) Appellant shall file a Certificate of Service with the Prothonotary within five (5) days of the filing of the Real

Estate Tax Assessment Appeal, certifying that the appeal was served in accordance with the provisions of (c) above.

(e) No response to the appeal need be made by either the Appellee or the Respondent.

II. Intervention

- (a) The County of Schuylkill and the municipality and school district wherein the real estate is located may intervene as of course during pendency of the appeal by filing a Notice of Intervention with the Prothonotary.
- (b) Notice of Intervention shall contain the name of the intervening party as an additional party designated as Intervenor in the caption, and shall set forth that such identified party is intervening.
- (c) Intervenor shall serve copies of the Notice of Intervention by certified mail upon Appellant, Appellee, and Respondent and any other intervening parties of record.
- (d) Intervenor shall file a Certificate of Service with the Prothonotary within five (5) days of the filing of Notice of Intervention, certifying that the Notice of Intervention was served in accordance with (c) above.
- (e) No response is required to be made by any party served with a copy of a Notice of Intervention.

III. Discovery

(a) Depositions and Discovery shall be applicable to real estate tax assessment appeals only as permitted by the Court

IV. Pretrial Conference

- (a) The Court, upon application of a party, may schedule a pretrial conference.
- (b) The attorney attending a pretrial conference shall be the trial attorney, and such attorney, or a party in attendance without counsel, shall be prepared to discuss the status of the case as well as any stipulations that may be reasonably agreed to by the parties.
- (c) In the event of unexcused failure of trial counsel or a party without counsel to attend a pretrial conference, the conference may nevertheless be held and the presiding judge may impose such sanctions as deemed appropriate.

V. Class Actions

(a) Pa.R.C.P. 1701, et seq. and Sch.R.C.P. 1703, et seq. shall be applicable to real estate tax assessment appeals.

VI. Post-Trial Relief

(a) Post-trial motions shall not be filed in Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals. The decision of the trial court in all such cases is a final, appealable order.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 96-1630. Filed for public inspection September 27, 1996, 9:00 a.m.]