

## CHAPTER 8. SUSPENSIONS

Rule  
800. Suspensions of Acts of Assembly.

**Rule 800. Suspensions of Acts of Assembly.**

This rule provides for the suspension of the following Acts of Assembly that apply to delinquency proceedings only:

- 1) The Act of November 21, 1990, P. L. 588, No. 138, § 1, 42 Pa.C.S. § 8934, which authorizes the sealing of search warrant affidavits, and which is implemented by Pa.R.Crim.P. Rule 211, through Pa.R.J.C.P. Rule 105, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Pa.R.Crim.P. Rules 205, 206 and 211.
- 2) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6335(c), which provides for the issuance of arrest warrants if the juvenile may abscond or may not attend or be brought to a hearing, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rules 124, 140, and 364, which require a summoned person to fail to appear and the court to find that sufficient notice was given.
- 3) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336(c), which provides that if a proceeding is not recorded, full minutes shall be kept by the court, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 127(A), which requires all proceedings to be recorded, except for detention hearings.
- 4) The Public Defender Act, Act of December 2, 1968, P. L. 1144, No. 358, § 1 *et seq.* as amended through Act of December 10, 1974, P. L. 830, No. 277, § 1, 16 P. S. 9960.1 *et seq.*, which requires the Public Defender to represent all juveniles who for lack of sufficient funds are unable to employ counsel is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rules 150 and 151, which require separate counsel if there is a conflict of interest.
- 5) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6337, which provides that counsel must be provided unless the guardian is present and waives counsel for the juvenile, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 152, which does not allow a guardian to waive the juvenile's right to counsel.
- 6) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6305(b), which provides that the court may direct hearings in any case or class or cases be conducted by the juvenile court hearing officer, formerly known as a "master," is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 187, which allows juvenile court hearing officers to hear only specific classes of cases.
- 7) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6321, which provides for commencement of a proceeding by the filing of a petition, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 200, which provides the submission of a written allegation shall commence a proceeding.

8) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6303(b), which provides that a district judge or judge of the minor judiciary may not detain a juvenile, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 210, which allows Magisterial District Judges to issue an arrest warrant, which may lead to detention in limited circumstances.

9) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6334, which provides that any person may bring a petition, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rules 231, 233, and 330, which provide for a person other than a law enforcement officer to submit a private written allegation to the juvenile probation office or an attorney for the Commonwealth, if elected for approval; and that only a juvenile probation officer or attorney for the Commonwealth may file a petition.

10) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6304(a)(2), which provides that juvenile probation officers may receive and examine complaints for the purposes of commencing proceedings, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rules 231 and 330, which provide that the District Attorney may file a certification that requires an attorney for the Commonwealth to initially receive and approve written allegations and petitions.

11) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6331, which provides for the filing of a petition with the court within twenty four hours or the next business day of the admission of the juvenile to detention or shelter care, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with the filing of a petition within twenty-four hours or the next business day from the detention hearing if the juvenile is detained under Rule 242.

12) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336(b), which provides that the district attorney, *upon request of the court*, shall present the evidence in support of the petition and otherwise conduct the proceedings on behalf of the Commonwealth, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rules 242(B)(1)(b), 406(A)(2)(b), and 512(A), which provide the district attorney shall present the evidence in support of the petition and otherwise conduct the proceedings on behalf of the Commonwealth.

13) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6323(a)(2), which provides that a delinquent child may be referred for an informal adjustment by a juvenile probation officer, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 312, which provides that only an *alleged* delinquent child may be referred for an informal adjustment because the filing of informal adjustment shall occur prior to the filing of a petition.

14) Section 5720 of the Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act, Act of October 4, 1978, P. L. 831, No. 164, 18 Pa.C.S. § 5720, is suspended as inconsistent with Rule 340 only insofar as the section may delay disclosure to a juvenile seeking discovery under Rule 340(B)(6); and Section

5721(b) of the Act, 18 Pa.C.S. § 5721(b), is suspended only insofar as the time frame for making a motion to suppress is concerned, as inconsistent with Rules 347 and 350.

15) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6340(c), which provides consent decree shall remain in force for six months unless the child is discharged sooner by probation services with the approval of the court, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with the requirement of Rule 373 that a motion for early discharge is to be made to the court.

16) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6335, which provides for a hearing within ten days of the juvenile's detention unless the exceptions of (a)(1) & (2) or (f) are met, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 391, which provides for an additional ten days of detention if a notice of intent for transfer to criminal proceedings has been filed.

17) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(g), which provides the burden of establishing by a preponderance of evidence that the public interest is served by the transfer of the case to criminal court *and* that a child is not amenable to treatment, supervision, or rehabilitation as a juvenile shall rest with the Commonwealth unless the exceptions of paragraphs (g)(1) and (2) apply, is suspended only insofar as the Act is inconsistent with Rule 394, which provides *only* the burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that the public interest is served by the transfer of the case to criminal court shall rest with the Commonwealth unless the exceptions of paragraph (g)(1) and (2) apply.

18) The Act of July 9, 1976, P. L. 586, No. 142, § 2, 42 Pa.C.S. § 6353(a), which requires dispositional review hearings to be held at least every nine months when a juvenile is removed from the home, is suspended only insofar as it is inconsistent with the requirement of Rule 610, which requires dispositional review hearings to be held at least every six months.

#### Comment

The authority for suspension of Acts of Assembly is granted to the Supreme Court by Article V § 10(c) of the Pennsylvania Constitution. *See* also Rule 102.

The partial suspension of 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(g) in paragraph (17) is due to the redundancy of proving the juvenile is not amenable to treatment, supervision, and rehabilitation, which is a factor already considered by the court in 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(a)(4)(iii)(G). Pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(a)(4)(iii)(G), the court must find that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the public interest is served by the transfer of the case for criminal prosecution while considering whether the juvenile is amenable to treatment, supervision, and rehabilitation among other enumerated factors. Because the court considers amenability to treatment, supervision, and rehabilitation as one of many enumerated factors, the court does not need to hear additional evidence later in the proceedings. As provided in 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(a)(4)(iii)(G), the standard of proof is reasonable grounds.

**Official Note:** Rule 800 adopted April 1, 2005, effective October 1, 2005. Amended December 30, 2005, effective immediately. Amended March 23, 2007, effective August 1, 2007.

## Rule 800

## JUVENILE RULES

Amended February 26, 2008, effective June 1, 2008. Amended March 19, 2009, effective June 1, 2009. Amended February 12, 2010, effective immediately. Amended April 21, 2011, effective July 1, 2011. Amended July 18, 2012, effective October 1, 2012. Amended April 6, 2017, effective September 1, 2017.

### *Committee Explanatory Reports:*

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 36 Pa.B. 186 (January 14, 2006).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 37 Pa.B. 1483 (April 7, 2007).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 38 Pa.B. 1142 (March 8, 2008).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 39 Pa.B. 1614 (April 4, 2009).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 40 Pa.B. 1073 (February 27, 2010).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 41 Pa.B. 2319 (May 7, 2011).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 42 Pa.B. 4909 (August 4, 2012).

Final Report explaining the amendments to Rule 800 published with the Court's Order at 47 Pa.B. 2313 (April 22, 2017).

### **Source**

The provisions of this Rule 800 amended December 30, 2005, effective immediately, 36 Pa.B. 186; amended March 23, 2007, effective August 1, 2007, 37 Pa.B. 1483; amended February 26, 2008, effective June 1, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 1142; amended March 19, 2009, effective June 1, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1614; amended February 12, 2010, effective immediately, 40 Pa.B. 1073; amended April 21, 2011, effective July 1, 2011, 41 Pa.B. 2319; amended July 18, 2012, effective October 1, 2012, 42 Pa.B. 4909; amended April 6, 2017, effective September 1, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 2313. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (363293) to (363296).

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