

# THE COURTS

## Title 249—PHILADELPHIA RULES

### PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

#### Electronic Filing Fee-Trial Division, Civil; Administrative Order No. 24 of 2022

##### Order

*And Now*, this 19th day of December 2022, as authorized by Act 81 of 2006 and Philadelphia Civil Rule \*205.4(d)(3), *It Is Hereby Ordered*, and *Decreed* that effective January 30, 2023, the Office of Judicial Records shall collect an Electronic Filing Fee in the sum of Twenty-Five (\$25.00) Dollars for each legal paper filed with the Office of Judicial Records in connection with cases filed in the Trial Division—Civil, Court of Common Pleas for which a filing fee is now charged.

This Administrative Order shall be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. The original Administrative Order shall be filed with the Office of Judicial Records in a docket maintained for Administrative Orders issued by the Administrative Judge of the Trial Division, Court of Common Pleas, and copies shall be submitted to the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* for publication. Copies of the order shall be submitted to Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, the American Lawyer Media, *The Legal Intelligencer*, Jenkins Memorial Library and the Law Library for the First Judicial District and shall be posted on the website of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania: <http://courts.phila.gov>.

*By the Court*

HONORABLE IDEE C. FOX,  
*President Judge*  
Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County  
First Judicial District of Pennsylvania

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-2. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

## Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

### BUCKS COUNTY

#### Venue Transfer for Delaware Valley University—All Filings; Administrative Order No. 113

##### Order

*And Now*, this 21st day of December, 2022, it is hereby ordered and directed that venue for all matters, including civil, landlord-tenant, criminal, traffic and non-traffic cases, occurring on the premises of the Delaware Valley University shall lie in Magisterial District Court No. 07-2-02.

This order is entered in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. No. 605 and the Re-establishment Plan for Magisterial District Courts of the 7th Judicial District, which has been approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The previous assignment of venue is ordered to promote the efficient administration of justice in Bucks County, specifically in Magisterial District Courts 07-2-08 (New Britain) and 07-2-02 (Doylestown).

This order shall be effective February 1, 2023.

*By the Court*

WALLACE H. BATEMAN, Jr.,  
*President Judge*

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-3. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

## Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

### BUCKS COUNTY

#### Venue Transfer for Parx Casino Complex—All Filings; Administrative Order No. 112

##### Order

*And Now*, this 21st day of December, 2022, it is hereby ordered and directed that venue for all matters, including civil, landlord-tenant, criminal, traffic and non-traffic cases, occurring on the premises of the Parx Casino Complex shall lie in Magisterial District Court No. 07-1-09.

This order is entered in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. No. 605 and the Re-establishment Plan for Magisterial District Courts of the 7th Judicial District, which has been approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The previous assignment of venue is ordered to promote the efficient administration of justice in Bucks County, specifically in Magisterial District Courts 07-1-12 (Bensalem) and 07-1-09 (Warminster).

This order shall be effective February 1, 2023.

*By the Court*

WALLACE H. BATEMAN, Jr.,  
*President Judge*

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-4. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

## Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

### BUCKS COUNTY

#### Venue Transfer for Pennsylvania State Park Rangers—Criminal, Traffic and Non-Traffic Filings; Administrative Order No. 114

##### Order

*And Now*, this 21st day of December, 2022, it is hereby ordered and directed that venue for all criminal, traffic and non-traffic filings by Pennsylvania State Park Rangers for offenses occurring on the grounds of Neshaminy State Park shall lie in Magisterial District Court No. 07-1-02.

This order is entered in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. No. 605 and the Re-establishment Plan for Magisterial District Courts of the 7th Judicial District, which has been approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The previous assignment of venue is ordered to promote the efficient administration of justice in Bucks County, specifically in Magisterial District Courts 07-1-01 (Bensalem) and 07-1-02 (Bristol).

This order shall be effective February 1, 2023.

*By the Court*

WALLACE H. BATEMAN, Jr.,  
*President Judge*

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-5. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

## Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

### BUCKS COUNTY

#### Venue Transfer for Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Filings—Interstate Route 95 between Philadelphia Boundary and Mile Marker 40, North- and South-Bound; Administrative Order No. 111

#### Order

*And Now*, this 21st day of December, 2022, it is hereby ordered and directed that venue for all criminal cases filed by the Pennsylvania State Police for offenses occurring on the right of way of Interstate Route 95 between the Philadelphia boundary and mile marker 40, both north- and south-bound, shall lie in Magisterial District Court No. 07-1-02.

This order is entered in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. No. 605 and the Re-establishment Plan for Magisterial District Courts of the 7th Judicial District, which has been approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The previous assignment of venue is ordered to promote the efficient administration of justice in Bucks County, specifically in Magisterial District Courts 07-1-01 (Bensalem) and 07-1-02 (Bristol).

This order shall be effective February 1, 2023.

*By the Court*

WALLACE H. BATEMAN, Jr.,  
*President Judge*

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-6. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

## Title 255—LOCAL COURT RULES

### BUTLER COUNTY

#### Guardian Ad Litem Appointments; MsD No. 2022-40226

#### Administrative Order of Court

*And Now*, this 19th day of December, 2022, it is hereby Ordered that the Butler County Guardian Ad Litem Policies in Custody Matters are amended as follows hereto.

These amendments to the Butler County Guardian Ad Litem Policies in Custody Matters are adopted and effective 30 (thirty) days after publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

It is Ordered, in accordance with Pa.R.J.A. 103, that the District Court Administrator shall:

1. File one (1) certified copy of this Administrative Order of Court and the within Guardian Ad Litem Policies in Custody Matters with the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts;

2. File two (2) certified copies of this Administrative Order of Court and the within Guardian Ad Litem Policies in Custody Matters and one (1) diskette, CD-ROM, or other agreed upon alternate format that complies with 1 Pa. Code § 13.11(b), with the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*;

3. Publish this Administrative Order of Court on the Butler County Court of Common Pleas website; and,

4. Incorporate the local rule into the complete set of local rules, and keep continuously available for public inspection copies of this Administrative Order of Court and the within Guardian Ad Litem Policies in Custody Matters in the Office of the Prothonotary of Butler County, Pennsylvania.

*By the Court*

S. MICHAEL YEAGER,  
*President Judge*

#### Butler County Guardian Ad Litem Policies in Custody Matters

The following process and procedures shall be followed when appointing Guardians Ad Litem in custody matters:

#### I. *Qualifications of Guardians Ad Litem*

1. Is a Pennsylvania-licensed attorney or licensed mental health practitioner.

2. Has practiced family law or practiced within the mental health profession for a minimum of one (1) year.

3. Will obtain, and maintain, if necessary, clearances pursuant to Act 34 (Criminal Record Check), Act 151 (Child Abuse Background Checks), and Act 114 (Fingerprinting).

4. Has completed the Pre-Service Training for Guardians Ad Litem video and filed the accompanying Affidavit with Domestic Relations.

5. Maintains professional liability insurance at a minimum coverage of \$100,000.00 per occurrence and \$300,000.00 in the aggregate per year, subject to commercially reasonable deductibles, retention or co-insurance.

6. Licensed attorneys shall complete a minimum of three (3) substantive credit hours per year of continuing legal education (CLE) in an area relevant to custody.

7. Mental health professionals shall complete a minimum of three (3) hours per year of continuing education (CE).

#### II. *Appointments*

1. Appointments may be made after the Court makes a finding that the appointment is necessary, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 1915.11-12.

2. Appointments may be made on the Court's own motion or the motion of a party.

3. Domestic Relations shall maintain a list of qualified Guardians Ad Litem from which appointments shall be made.

4. Each year, no later than January 5, proposed Guardians Ad Litem shall provide the following updated documents to Domestic Relations:

—Professional liability statement (Rider);

—Evidence of having earned three (3) substantive CLE or CE credits in an area relevant to custody during the prior year;

—Current clearances (if prior has expired);

—Letter setting forth their standard hourly rate;

—If, at any time, an attorney or mental health practitioner who has been appointed by the Court in a particular case, or who has requested that Domestic Relations place them on the list to be considered for appointment, no longer meets the qualifications set forth above, then he/she shall be responsible for immediately notifying the Domestic Relations Director and the judge assigned to any case to which the Guardian Ad Litem has been appointed. His/her name shall be removed from the list, and/or appointment, until such time as the qualifications are met.

5. Any attorney or mental health practitioner who meets the above qualifications may submit their name to the judge, to be placed on the list of Guardians Ad Litem.

6. The specific Guardian Ad Litem appointed to a case may be chosen by either mutual consent of the parties, or by the judge. To ensure that no one Guardian Ad Litem is overburdened with responsibility and that there is no other conflict, the Court will confirm the proposed Guardian Ad Litem has appropriate availability to timely meet the responsibilities of such appointment in each case, prior to the issuance of an Order of Court making the appointment.

### III. *Payment*

1. If both parties are determined by the Court to be indigent, the Court may order compensation to be paid from the Court's budget to the Guardian Ad Litem at the hourly rate of \$75.00.

2. Otherwise, costs shall be paid by the parties at that Guardian Ad Litem's standard hourly rate. Pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 1915.11-2(b), the Court may order either or both parties to pay all or part of the costs of the Guardian Ad Litem.

3. As set forth above, each Guardian Ad Litem shall provide to Domestic Relations a letter setting forth his/her standard hourly rate. That rate shall be noted on the list of Guardians Ad Litem kept by Domestic Relations, and shall be made available to counsel for the parties or the parties (if self-represented) for review prior to the appointment of the Guardian Ad Litem.

4. If the costs of the Guardian Ad Litem are to be paid by the parties, the Court may employ its contempt powers to address non-payment of these costs.

5. During the term of his or her appointment, it shall be the responsibility of the Guardian Ad Litem to ensure that adequate funds are being held in escrow by the Prothonotary from which to pay the Guardian Ad Litem's fees.

### IV. *Scope of Appointment*

1. The Guardian Ad Litem shall perform all of his/her duties in conformity with Pa.R.C.P. 1915-11-2, the Code of Civility, the Rules of Professional conduct, and Pennsylvania law.

2. Unless earlier terminated by the Court, the appointment shall terminate upon the entry of a final order resolving the matter for which the appointment was made. In extraordinary circumstances, the Court may, if in the best interest of the child(ren), extend the appointment by separate Order of Court.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-7. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]