

**Juvenile
Court
Procedural
Rules
Committee**

2001 Membership:

F. Barry McCarthy, *Chair*
Honorable Carol K. McGinley, *Vice Chair*
Bruce L. Castor, Esq.
Honorable Robert J. Colville
John P. Delaney, Jr., Esq.
Honorable Thomas J. Doerr
James J. Fowkes, *ex officio*
Jason P. Kutulakis, Esq.
Honorable Abram Frank Reynolds
Honorable Patrick R. Tamilia

Staff:

A. Christine Riscili, Esq., *Staff Counsel*
Tricia D. Remmert, Administrative Assistant

Legal Authorization:

Pa. Constitution, Article V, § 10(c)
42 Pa.C.S., § 1722
Supreme Court Order No. 264 (Docket No. 1, Book No. 2) January 22,
2001

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History/Background

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania established the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee in January 2001 to advise the Court concerning its constitutional and statutory responsibility to prescribe general rules governing juvenile delinquency practice and procedure, and the conduct of all courts and proceedings before the minor judiciary within the Unified Judicial System.

The committee is currently drafting a set of procedural rules for juvenile courts throughout the Commonwealth. Upon completion, these proposed rules will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* for comment from the bench, bar and general public. After considering all comments and making any revisions, the committee will submit the final proposal to the Supreme Court for consideration and possible adoption.

Web Site

The Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee will publish its rule proposals along with explanatory "Reports," which describe the proposals, and the Supreme Court's orders promulgating juvenile court rules on the Supreme Court's home page. These publications may be found under Supreme Court Committees at www.courts.state.pa.us.

Membership and Staff

The Supreme Court appointed nine members to the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee. The terms of these first appointments were one year, two years or three years with a two-term limit set. In 2001 membership included a senior Superior Court judge, four Common Pleas Court judges, one law school professor, two prosecutors, one attorney in private practice and a district court administrator.

Committee staff includes a staff attorney and an administrative assistant. The committee maintains its office at the AOPC's Central Site in Mechanicsburg.

2001 Activities

The committee held three two-day meetings and two one-day meetings in 2001. These meetings were held in Hershey, Mechanicsburg and Pittsburgh. Committee work included developing procedures in the areas of written allegations, arrest procedures, commencement of proceedings, intake/diversion and detention.

The committee communicated regularly with the AOPC and with the Supreme Court's other committees concerning various procedural matters in an ongoing effort to achieve uniformity and consistency among interrelated procedural and administrative matters.

Looking Ahead to 2002

The committee plans to continue the development of juvenile court rules. The areas that will be addressed include: petitions, discovery and motions, transfer, consent decree, summons, preservation of testimony and evidence, general provisions, venue and jurisdiction, counsel, records and masters.

Contact Person

Anyone wanting additional information about the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee or who have questions about the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules may contact the committee through its staff counsel, A. Christine Riscili, at (717) 795-2018, or by writing to Mrs. Riscili at 5035 Ritter Road, Suite 700; Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. **AOPC**