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Legal Authorization

Pa. Constitution Article V, § 10(c)
42 Pa. C.S., § 1722

About the Committee

The principle function of the Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee is to make recommendations to the Supreme Court for refining and updating the Rules of Appellate Procedure in light of experience, developing case law and new legislation.

Appellate

Court

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Committee

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2006 Activities

The following recommendations were promulgated by the Supreme Court in 2006:

Recommendation 2 of 2006: Amendment of Rule 124(a)(4) to conform to Pa.R.C.P. 204.1 and Pa.R.Crim.P. 575 by changing the allowable **font size** from 11-point to 12-point. Adopted 9-15-06, effective immediately.

Recommendation 3 of 2006: Amendment to the Note to Rule 341 to incorporate the principles of *Nationwide Mut. Ins. Co. v. Wickett*, 563 Pa. 595, 604, 763 A.2d 813, 818 (2000) and explain that, under the Declaratory Judgment Act, **orders based on pre-trial motions or petitions** are considered “final” if they affirmatively or negatively declare the rights and duties of the parties. Adopted 10-13-06, effective 12-12-06.

The following recommendations were submitted to the Supreme Court in 2006:

Recommendation 1 of 2006: Proposed amendments of Pennsylvania Rules of Appellate

Procedure 2140 and 2544 to clarify that there is a **single page limit for all briefs**, whether prepared on a typewriter or by a computer word-processing program. Submitted 7-28-06.

Recommendation 4 of 2006: Proposed amendments of Rules 108, 301, and 903 to conform them to the proposed amendments to Pa.R.Crim.P. 462, 720 and 721 and their Notes. The Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee and the Criminal Procedural Rules Committee have made these recommendations because of the lack of clarity as to when the **time for appeal** begins in a criminal matter in which no post-sentence motions are filed. This ambiguity was pointed out in *Commonwealth v. Green*, 862 A.2d 613 (Pa. Super. 2004) (*en banc*), allocatur denied, 584 Pa. 692, 882 A.2d 477 (filed August 17, 2005). Submitted 9-6-06.

2007 Plans

The committee anticipates examining Rule 903 and the rules governing collateral orders to determine whether amendments or clarifications are needed. **AOPC**