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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.

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2005 Activities

The following recommendations were adopted by the Supreme Court in 2005:

Joint recommendation with the Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee to amend Pa.R.A.P. 311 and 342, addressing important issues regarding the **appealability of orphans' court orders**. Adopted 6-29-05, effective 8-29-05.

Amendments to **Pa.R.A.P. 1702(d) and 3316**, regarding **stays of execution**. Adopted 10-7-05, effective 2-1-06.

The following recommendation was published for comment in 2005:

Amendments to the **Note to Pa.R.A.P. 341** to incorporate the principles of *Nationwide Mut. Ins. Co. v. Wickett* 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.

2006 Plans

Among the subjects on the committee's agenda for 2006 are the following:

- proposed amendments to Pa.R.A.P. 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

- proposed amendment to Pa.R.A.P. 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
- proposed amendment to Pa.R.A.P. 108, 301 and 903 to conform them to the proposed amendments to Pa.R.Crim.P. 462, 720 and 721 and their notes
- proposed revisions to Pa.R.A.P. 311 (interlocutory appeals)
- proposed revisions to Pa.R.A.P. 102, 121, 122, 123, 905, 909, 911, 1101, 1102, 1112, 1116, 1123, 1311, 1314, 1321, 1514, 2172, 2185, 2186, 2542, 2545, 2571, 2742, 3102, 3191, 3307 and 3309
- thorough subcommittee examination Pa.R.A.P. 1925 (Opinion on Support of Order)
- study of *Vaccone v. Syken*, dealing with the proper procedure for seeking Supreme Court review of an intermediate appellate court's quashal of an appeal
- subcommittee examination of whether electronic filing and commercial copying of reproduced records is feasible and/or advisable
- study of the possible use of commercial courier services for filing papers with appellate courts.

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