

Actions in Domestic Relations

Any rules not set forth in the following are repealed.

1900 Domestic Relations Action.

1. All actions for Protection From Abuse commenced pursuant to 1901.3 Pa.R.C.P., actions for Support commenced pursuant to 1910.4 Pa.R.C.P., actions for Custody or Visitation commenced pursuant to Pa.R.C.P.1915.3 Pa.R.C.P., and actions for Divorce commenced pursuant to 1920.3 Pa.R.C.P. shall be captioned as follows:

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONROE COUNTY
43RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| MARY DOE, | : | NO. ____ Domestic Relations 200__ |
| Plaintiff | : | |
| vs. | : | |
| JOHN DOE, | : | IN DIVORCE (or Custody) |
| Defendant | : | (or Support) (or P.F.A.) |

2. Any party or attorney commencing a new action of the type hereinabove enumerated between the same parties involved in other pending actions governed by this Rule shall notify the Prothonotary of the number of such pending action. The new action shall be filed to the same number as the other pending actions involving the same parties.

Rule 1900.1 Procedure to Recover Exhibits

If no Exceptions or Appeal follow a Master's Hearing or Report, within forty-five (45) days of the filing of the Master's Report or the resolution of Exceptions, the parties shall recover their hearing exhibits from the Prothonotary or Court Reporter. If a party has not recovered hearing exhibits within sixty (60) days, the Prothonotary or Court Reporter shall notify Counsel to the parties or the parties themselves if they do not have Counsel, in writing by U.S. mail, first class, at their addresses of record that the exhibits will be destroyed thirty (30) days from the date of such notice. Any exhibits not retrieved timely shall thereafter be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the Prothonotary or Court Reporter.

Rule 1910.1 Support and Alimony Pendente Lite

These Support Rules shall control all actions or proceedings for support or alimony pendente lite.

Rule 1910.4 Commencement of Action

An action shall be commenced by filing a Complaint in the Monroe County Domestic Relations Office. Thereafter the original and one copy of all pleadings, petitions, briefs and Exceptions shall be filed in the Monroe County Domestic Relations Office which office shall promptly forward all original pleadings, petitions, briefs and Exceptions to the Monroe County Prothonotary.

Rule 1910.10 Alternative Hearing Procedure

Hearings shall follow the procedure set out in Pa.R.Civ.P. 1910.12. The Support Master shall serve as the Monroe County Hearing Officer.

Rule 1910.12 Hearings, Continuances and Exceptions

(a) Any requests for continuance of the office conference or of the Master's Hearing shall be made in writing to Monroe County Domestic Relations Office. Requests for continuance shall:

1. Bear the signature of both parties or both attorneys, or include any written agreement of the parties to the continuance, or set out the reason for the request for continuance if there is no agreement between the parties or their counsel.

(b) The Monroe County Domestic Relations Office shall have the discretion to grant or deny any continuances of office conferences. Master's Hearings shall only be continued upon good cause shown after review by the assigned Judge.

(c) Following hearing, the Support Master shall retain possession of any exhibits admitted at hearing. Upon the filing of the Support Master's Report, the Support Master shall return the exhibits to the Court Reporter. When the Court Reporter files the original transcript of hearing in the Office of the Prothonotary, the Court Reporter shall file the exhibits with the transcript.

(d) Within ten days after the date of the Support Master's Report, any party may file Exceptions to the report or any part thereof, to rulings on objections to evidence, to statements or findings of facts, to conclusions of law, or to any other matters occurring during the hearing. Each Exception shall set forth a separate objection precisely and without discussion. Matters not covered by Exceptions are deemed waived unless, prior to entry of the final order, leave is granted to file Exceptions raising those matters. If Exceptions are filed, any other party may file Exceptions within ten days of the date of service of the original Exceptions. All Exceptions shall

be filed in the Monroe County Domestic Relations Office.

Exceptions shall be accompanied by the following:

1. Attorney's check, certified check or money order payable to Domestic Relations for \$50.00, or \$50.00 in cash;
2. Attorney's check, certified check or money order payable to the Office of the Prothonotary for \$60.00, or \$60.00 in cash;
3. A Praeceptum for Argument listed on the first argument date occurring more than thirty days following the filing of Exceptions; in the form set out at 43 J.D.R.C.P. 211;
4. The Order of Court set out at Rule 1910.12-A
5. Briefs shall be filed in accordance with Monroe County Rules of Civil Procedure, 43 J.D.R.C.P. 210. Failure to timely file Briefs or to appear at Argument may constitute a default for which the exceptions may be stricken or denied, as the Court may deem just and proper.
6. A Certificate of Service on opposing counsel or on opposing non represented parties certifying service of the Exceptions and the Praeceptum for Argument.
7. The form order shall be attached to the Exceptions and the Praeceptum for Argument shall be presented as a separate document.