

# Laser Fax

Modification 5  
Modification 5.101  
January 21, 2011

## **CIVIL AND LANDLORD TENANT CLAIMS INCREASED TO \$12,000**

On November 23, 2010, Act 114 of 2010 (HB 2172) was signed into law, effective January 22, 2011 which increases the jurisdiction in Magisterial District Courts in civil and landlord tenant matters from claims not exceeding \$8,000 to those not exceeding \$12,000. While the Act does not specifically amend 42 Pa.C.S. Section 1725.1(a) to provide a cost in these new matters (those claims involving \$8,001 to \$12,000), it is our understanding that the General Assembly did not intend to create new classes of cases in Magisterial District Courts that could be filed without the prepayment of these statutory costs. Therefore, the Statutory Construction Act provides authority to interpret Act 114 as permitting costs to be charged for the filing of these new matters. Specifically, Magisterial District Courts should charge in these new matters the same costs that are applicable to actions between \$4,001 and \$8,000. Thus, a court should charge in landlord tenant matters involving claims of \$8,001 to \$12,000 a cost of \$117.50 and in civil matters involving claims of \$8,001 to \$12,000 a cost of \$117.50.