

**Orphans'
Court
Procedural
Rules
Committee**

1996 Membership:

Honorable Robert A. Kelly, *Chairman*
Honorable I. Martin Wekselman
Honorable Kathryn Streeter Lewis
Honorable John M. Cleland
Henry G. Beamer, III, Esq.
Samuel Y. Stroh, Esq.
Honorable Judith Jamison

Staff:

Dean R. Phillips, Esq., *Counsel*

Legal Authorization:

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

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History/Background

The Orphans' Court Rules Committee was established under Article V, § 10(c) of the 1968 Pennsylvania Constitution and 42 Pa. C.S., § 1772. It responds to developments in orphans' court procedure and reviews current rules governing statewide practice and procedure in the orphans' court, recommending new rules as necessary. The committee also responds to questions and comments received from the Judiciary, lawyers, the public and various agencies.

1996 Activities

The committee met three times in 1996, in February, July and December.

Among the action taken in 1996, the committee reviewed and submitted to the Supreme Court proposals regarding **notice to intestate heirs**, Rule 5.6 and proposed Rule 5.7, and **incapacitated persons**.

1997 Plans

The committee continues to address whether a rule of statewide application should

govern exceptions. It is also addressing issues related to finality and appealability of orphans' court orders.

Contact Persons

Questions about the committee and its work may be directed to either of the following individuals:

Honorable Robert A. Kelly, Chairman
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