

Rule 51. Title and Citation of Rules.

These rules shall be known as the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure and may be cited as “Pa.R.Civ.P. [No.] ___.”

[Note] Comment: The previous use of “Pa.R.C.P. No.” to cite the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure may not serve as a basis to invalidate a reference to that authority.

The rules of civil procedure are not applicable in the magisterial district courts. Civil actions and proceedings in magisterial district courts are governed by the Rules of Civil Procedure **[for Governing Actions and Proceedings Before Magisterial District Judges, Pa.R.Civ.P.M.D.J. 201 *et seq.***

Rule 129. Construction of Rules. Titles, Provisos, Exceptions and Headings. Use of [Notes and Explanatory Comments] Commentary.

- (a) The title or heading of a rule may be considered in construing the rule.
- (b) Provisos shall be construed to limit rather than to extend the operation of the clauses to which they refer.
- (c) Exceptions expressed in a rule shall be construed to exclude all others.
- (d) The title or heading prefixed to a chapter of rules shall not be considered to control but may be used in construing the rules.
- (e) **[A note to a rule or an explanatory comment] Commentary** is not a part of the rule text, but may be used in construing the rule text.

Comment: Any statements contained in a publication or adoption report by the Civil Procedural Rules Committee and the Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee are for the benefit of those using the rules, but neither constitute part of the rule nor are adopted by the Supreme Court. See Pa.R.J.A. 103, Comment.

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