

**SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DOMESTIC RELATIONS PROCEDURAL RULES COMMITTEE**

**REPUBLICATION REPORT**

**RECOMMENDATION 155**

The Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee (Committee) is proposing a revision to Pa.R.C.P. No. Rule 1915.11-1. Parenting Coordination and the addition of two new rules/forms: Pa.R.C.P. No. 1915.22. Form of Order Appointing Parenting Coordinator and Pa.R.C.P. No. 1915.23. Form of the Summary and Recommendation of the Parenting Coordinator.

The Committee previously published Recommendation 155 in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, 46 Pa.B. 6107 (October 1, 2016), with a comment period ending February 24, 2017. After considering the comments, the Committee has made the following revisions to the proposal.

- Proposed Pa.R.C.P. No. 1915.11-1(a)(2) - The Recommendation has been revised by expanding the domestic violence exceptions to the appointment of a parenting coordinator. The expansion of the revised recommendation includes an exception for victims of a personal injury crime, as defined in 23 Pa.C.S. §3103, and requiring that the court conducts a hearing if a party objects to the appointment of a parenting coordinator alleging a history of domestic violence. In making its determination on the alleged domestic violence, the court may consider allegations of abuse occurring beyond the 36 months (24 months in the original recommendation).
- Proposed Pa.R.C.P. No. 1915.11-1(b) - The Recommendation has been revised in two ways as it relates to parenting coordinator qualifications. First, an attorney seeking appointment as a parenting coordinator shall attest by affidavit to meeting the qualifications of a parenting coordinator and providing the affidavit to the judicial district prior to appointment as a parenting coordinator. This provision is similar to the certification of a juvenile master in Pa.R.J.C.P. No. 1182. Second, consistent with the support, custody, and divorce rules regarding attorneys appointed or serving as conference or hearing officers and divorce masters, the revised recommendation proposes that parenting coordinators shall not practice family law in the judicial districts in which the parenting coordinator is appointed.

- Proposed Pa.R.C.P. Nos. 1915.11-1(f), 1915.22, and 1915.23 have been revised by shortening the time for a party to object to the parenting coordinator's recommendation from ten days to five days. Also, the revised recommendation provides the court with the additional option of approving a recommendation in part and conducting a hearing on any issues not approved.

The Committee invites comment on these revisions.