

**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY**

GENERAL COURT REGULATION No. 2010-01

In Re: *Amendment of Philadelphia Civil Rules *212.1 and *212.3*

ORDER

AND NOW, this 2nd day of June, 2010, the Board of Judges of Philadelphia County having voted at the Board of Judges' meeting held on May 20, 2010 to amend Philadelphia Civil Rules *212.1 and *212.3, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Philadelphia Civil Rules *212.1 and *212.3 are amended as attached.

This General Court Regulation is issued in accordance with Pa.R.C.P. No. 239 and the above-referenced rule changes shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. The original General Court Regulation shall be filed with the Prothonotary in a Docket maintained for General Court Regulations issued by the President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, shall be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, and copies shall be submitted to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, and the Civil Procedural Rules Committee. Copies of the General Court Regulation shall also be submitted to American Lawyer Media, *The Legal Intelligencer*, Jenkins Memorial Law Library, and the Law Library for the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, and shall be posted on the website of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania: <http://courts.phila.gov/regs>.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Honorable Pamela Pryor Dembe

HONORABLE PAMELA PRYOR DEMBE
President Judge, Court of Common Pleas

AMENDMENTS TO PHILADELPHIA LOCAL CIVIL RULES

*Deletions are bracketed []; additions are **highlighted** and underlined*

Philadelphia Civil Rule * 212. 1. [Pretrial and Settlement Conferences] Filing Pre-Trial Statements

[(A) The scheduling of settlement and pretrial conferences and the filing of the pretrial memoranda shall be in accord with the applicable Program Case Management Order. The pretrial memorandum shall include that information required by the Pretrial Scheduling Order.] **Rescinded**

(B) As authorized by Pa.R.Civ.P. No. 212.1 (c), pre-trial statements shall be filed as required in a case’s applicable Program Case Management Order.

Adopted by the Board of Judges of the Court of Common Pleas on May 20, 2010.
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Philadelphia Civil Rule * 212. 3. [Settlement Conferences --Non-Jury Cases] Pre-Trial and Settlement Conferences

(A) The court, in its Program Case Management Orders scheduling pre-trial or settlement conferences pursuant to Pa.R.Civ.P. No. 212.3, may order anyone with a financial interest in the outcome of a case to be personally present at the pre-trial or settlement conference. Failure of anyone with a financial interest in the outcome of a case to appear may result in the imposition of sanctions against such party, or other entity. The court, upon appropriate request of counsel, may for good cause permit a party or representative to appear by telephone rather than in person.

[(A)] **(B)** In non-jury cases, the Trial Judge shall not enter into settlement negotiations without the consent of the parties and may refuse to enter into settlement negotiations even if the parties consent to such participation. In such a case, if the parties wish to pursue settlement negotiations with a judge, arrangements shall be made to find a judge agreeable to all parties to serve as a settlement conference judge.

[(B) Non-jury cases shall not be assigned for trial to the judge who acted as settlement conference judge unless both the parties and the judge agree to such an assignment.]

Adopted by the Board of Judges of the Court of Common Pleas on May 20, 2010.