

Rule 202. Definitions

As used in these rules, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise or the particular word or phrase is expressly defined in the chapter in which the particular rule is included:

“adult” means an individual eighteen years of age or older;

“advanced communication technology” is any communication equipment that is used as a link between parties in physically separate locations.

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Adopted Oct. 15, 1969, effective Jan. 1, 1970. Amended April 25, 1979, effective in 30 days, June 30, 1982, effective 30 days after July 17, 1982; Dec. 1, 1983, imd. effective; July 16, 2001, effective Aug. 1, 2001; Sept. 3, 2003, effective Jan. 1, 2004; Jan. 6, 2005; effective Jan. 29, 2005; June 1, 2006, effective Oct. 1, 2006; **Oct. 8, 2008, effective Nov. 1, 2008.**

Rule 215. Advanced Communication Technology **(NEW)**

Magisterial district judges may authorize the use of advanced communication technology during any civil proceeding or action governed by the Rules of Civil Procedure for Magisterial District Judges.

Note: This rule was adopted in 2008 to specify that magisterial district judges may use advanced communication technology in their courtrooms during adversarial proceedings. In an *ex parte* proceeding, such as an action pursuant to the Protection From Abuse Act, 23 Pa.C.S. § 6101 *et seq.*, magisterial district judges also may permit the use of advanced communication technology. Limited technology available in some magisterial district courts may preclude the use of certain advanced communication technology options. *Compare* Pa.R.Crim.P. 119.

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