

RULE [67] 422. PLEAS IN RESPONSE TO SUMMONS.

Within **[ten (10)]** days after receipt of a summons, the defendant shall notify the issuing authority by mail or in person that the defendant either pleads not guilty or pleads guilty.

COMMENT: **[This rule is derived from previous Rule 57(a).]**

To notify the issuing authority of the plea, the defendant should sign and return the summons. When a defendant fails to sign the summons to indicate the plea, the issuing authority should record the unsigned summons as a guilty plea. See Rule **[53(b)] 403(B)(5)**.

For the consequences of failure to respond as provided in this rule, see Rule **[75(a)] 430(A)**.

NOTE: Previous Rule 67, adopted September 18, 1973, effective January 1, 1974; amended May 26, 1977, effective July 1, 1977; amended April 26, 1979, effective July 1, 1979; *Comment* revised April 24, 1981, effective July 1, 1981; *Comment* revised January 28, 1983, effective July 1, 1983; rescinded July 12, 1985, effective January 1, 1986, and replaced by present Rules **[86] 460, 461, and 462**. Present Rule 67 adopted July 12, 1985, effective January 1, 1986. The January 1, 1986 effective dates all are extended to July 1, 1986; amended February 1, 1989, effective as to cases instituted on or after July 1, 1989 **[.] ; renumbered Rule 422 and amended March 1, 2000, effective April 1, 2001.**

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COMMITTEE EXPLANATORY REPORTS:

Final Report explaining the March 1, 2000 reorganization and renumbering of the rules published with the Court's Order at Pa.B. (_____, 2000).