

### **Rule 23. Reliance on Advisory Opinions (NEW)**

The Ethics and Professionalism Committee of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania and the Ethics Committee of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges are designated as the approved bodies to render advisory opinions regarding ethical concerns involving magisterial district judges and judges of the Traffic Court of the City of Philadelphia. Although such opinions are not per se binding upon the Judicial Conduct Board, the Court of Judicial Discipline, or the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, actions taken in reliance upon these opinions shall be taken into account in determining whether discipline should be recommended or imposed.

*Note:* See Judicial Conduct Board Rules of Procedure No. 29, "Reliance on Advisory Opinions," which directs judicial officers to either the Ethics Committee of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges or the Ethics and Professionalism Committee of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania. *Compare with* "Reliance on Advisory Opinions" within the Code of Judicial Conduct. It is anticipated that ethical concerns directed to the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges would be limited to matters more appropriately before that body, e.g., campaigning for election to the court of common pleas or an appellate court.

Adopted February 18, 2010, effective March 20, 2010.