

**IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE**  
**ORDER AMENDING RULE 400, ADDING RULES 402 THROUGH 408,**  
**AND AMENDING RULE 212**  
**OF THE FAMILY COURT RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE**

This 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025, **IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

**1. Rule 400 shall be amended as follows:**

**Rule 400. Hearings.**

Except as provided in Rule 405(a), All all Protection from Abuse hearings and trials shall be conducted publicly unless in the Court's discretion there is sufficient reason to close the hearing.

**2. Rules 402 through 408 shall be added as follows:**

**Rule 402. Parties, Filing and Service.**

- (a) Parties. There is only one petitioner and one respondent per petition. If petitioner and respondent are within the protected class, the petition may allege abuse against the petitioner or the petitioner's minor child or children, and protection may be afforded to either or both. If jurisdiction is based solely upon the relationship of a minor child and the respondent, then protection of the minor child must be sought as provided in Rule 408.
- (b) Pleading. Each petition shall allege sufficient facts to provide reasonable notice of the abuse alleged to have been committed including when and where the abuse occurred, and the full name, date of birth, and address of the respondent except as provided in subparagraph (c)(3).
- (c) Service. Service shall occur as provided in Rule 5. Actual or remote appearance either for case review or any hearing, or the filing of a responsive pleading (including but not limited to requests for continuance or to participate remotely) or the filing of a counter-petition shall constitute a voluntary appearance.
  - (1) Multiple methods of service authorized. If respondent does not voluntarily appear, and has not been served either personally or by any form of mail addressed to the person to be served and requiring a signed receipt, and there is no other evidence satisfactory to the Court of actual receipt, then notice of the proceedings transmitted by regular mail and publication may be deemed sufficient.

- (2) Regular Mail. Initial service by regular mail alone may include any mailing address provided by the petitioner, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS), and the most recent address provided by the respondent to the Family Court or confirmed by personal service or return receipt of mail in the context of other Family Court litigation.
  - (3) Publication. A case may proceed by publication alone if all addresses, if any, listed in paragraph 2 have been attempted and petitioner has diligently attempted to provide respondent's whereabouts. The petitioner shall establish through sworn testimony or affidavit their reasonably diligent efforts to ascertain the respondent's actual whereabouts.
  - (4) Nonresident Respondents. If the respondent is not a resident of Delaware, the petition shall allege with particularity the respondent's contacts, if any, with Delaware and how those contacts may relate to the alleged abuse. The absence of contacts is not a ground for dismissal but may limit the scope of available relief.
- (d) Amended Petitions. Notwithstanding Rule 15(a), PFA petitions may be amended without leave of court until the day prior to case review even if the opposing party has been served or has appeared in the action. Subsequent amendments shall be governed by Rule 15.
- (e) Counter-Petitions. A counter-petition is a PFA petition filed by a respondent to a pending PFA petition against the original petitioner. If service of the original petition on the counter-petitioner does not appear to have been previously accomplished, the Court shall mail the original service packet to the respondent at the address provided in their counter-petition. Furthermore:
- (1) Service and Timeliness. Notwithstanding Rule 13, a counterclaim must be pursued by separate counter-petition. A timely counter-petition will be served by the Court by regular mail to the most recent address provided to the Court by the original petitioner, or to their attorney of record. A counter-petition is timely if it is filed before or within seven (7) days after the first case review at which personal jurisdiction over the respondent is confirmed, or the day preceding trial, whichever first occurs.
  - (2) Consolidation. A timely counter-petition filed before case review will be presumptively consolidated for trial with the original petition. Unless the parties stipulate to a consolidated trial, a counter-petition filed after case review will be reviewed by the Court to determine whether consolidation can be reasonably accommodated. If a counter-petition alleges only new transactions or occurrences, the original petition may be freely amended with any allegations of abuse that correspond with the counter-petition.
  - (3) Compulsory Counterclaims. Except in the context of a timely counter-petition, abuse arising out of the same transactions or occurrences that were alleged in a previous petition cannot constitute the factual basis for a protective order unless the previous petition was dismissed without prejudice as determined under Rule 41.

### **Rule 403. Emergency Orders and Expedited Scheduling.**

- (a) Application. A petitioner may file a verified application for an emergency order or expedited scheduling reciting an immediate and present danger of domestic violence. If a hearing officer declines to enter an emergency order, that hearing officer shall determine whether scheduling should be expedited.
- (b) The emergency shall proceed as follows:
- (1) Emergency hearing. The emergency hearing will be conducted ex parte by direct examination by the Court or counsel. Hearsay evidence may be considered as well as information readily available to the judicial officer including, but not limited to the content of the pleadings, criminal records, DFS records, and past or pending Family Court litigation records pertaining to either party. If the respondent is physically present in the courthouse at the time of the hearing, the assigned Commissioner will determine whether the respondent should be advised of the hearing and be permitted to participate. Children should not attend the hearing unless the abuse precipitating the application is against a child aged 14 or over.
  - (2) Emergency Order. Every emergency protective order:
    - (A) Shall include an expiration date of not later than 30 days after filing unless later extended upon stipulation of the parties, or as ordered by the Court upon a delay in the proceedings attributable to the respondent, including but not limited to requests for continuance and evading service.
    - (B) If parties have a minor child in common, shall explicitly state whether interim contact with the respondent is contemplated.
    - (C) May be modified or terminated for good cause shown, is terminated upon the dismissal of the petition, and is superseded upon the issuance of a permanent order in favor of the petitioner. A modification of an emergency order that adds conditions or further restricts conduct must be served as described in subsection (3), but the order shall otherwise continue in force uninterrupted until terminated or superseded.
  - (3) Service. If issued in conjunction with the original filing, a copy of the emergency order will be included with the original service packet. Furthermore: the following shall presumptively constitute reliable proof of receipt of the contents, including notice of case review and trial, ex parte and permanent PFA orders, and modifications thereof:
    - (A) Regular mail to the most recent address:
      1. Confirmed during the pendency of the petition by personal service;
      2. Confirmed during the pendency of the petition by return receipt (paper or electronic) showing personal delivery by certified mail or its equivalent; or
      3. Personally provided by the party to the Court.

- (B) Electronic transmission of emergency or permanent PFA orders and modifications thereof following a hearing or case review at which a party participated remotely shall be the equivalent of hand delivery. Courtesy copies of orders shall also be mailed in accordance with subsection (A).
- (4) Summary Dismissal. Any petition that fails to establish the parties as members of the protected class or fails to state a claim for which relief can be granted may be summarily dismissed without prejudice at any stage in the proceedings.
- (c) Reassignment. If a PFA petition seeks placement of, protection for, or contact with a child about whom other civil litigation is also pending in Family Court, the judicial officer to whom the other litigation has been assigned may, upon motion of a party or sua sponte, assume assignment of the PFA petition. A party who requests reassignment waives any objections to any delay caused by the reassignment.

#### **Rule 404. Case Review.**

- (a) Timing and Objectives. A case review will be scheduled within 15 days of the granting of an ex parte order or expedited scheduling and, otherwise, within 22 days after the filing of the petition. The parties shall be kept entirely separate and apart with any and all communication to occur through a mediator or legal counsel. The purpose of case review is to determine whether the:
- (1) Petitioner or counter-petitioner wishes to proceed with their petition,
  - (2) Personal jurisdiction over the respondent has been established,
  - (3) Parties have received copies of all petitions, amended petitions, and cross-petitions,  
and
  - (4) Parties agree to resolve the petition under negotiated terms.
- (b) Remote participation. Unless otherwise instructed by the Court, parties and their attorneys will participate in case review remotely by use of video technology although anyone may elect to personally appear and should personally appear if they lack access to or familiarity with video technology. Remote participation implies consent to receive electronically documents that are distributed incident to a case review or hearing.
- (c) Nonappearance. Failure of a petitioner to participate in case review will result in the dismissal of the petition. Failure of a respondent who has been served to appear will result in a forthwith evidentiary hearing the same day. Absence from case review of a respondent who has not been served will result in the rescheduling of the case review.
- (d) Forthwith hearing. If the parties agree to enter into a consent order, if the respondent requests to be heard in regard to an ex parte order, if the respondent fails to appear despite proper notice, or if issues arise beyond the capacity of the mediator to address, the case will proceed forthwith to a hearing before a judicial officer with limited testimony from the parties or the attorneys consistent with Rule 403(b)(1).

- (1) Consent. The judicial officer will review the terms of the agreement and make necessary adjustments to the order to assure it reflects the consensus of the parties and the parties are entering into the agreement knowingly and voluntarily.
  - (2) Default. If the requirements of Rule 402(c) are satisfied and the Court finds the respondent committed abuse, except as provided herein, the Court may award the same relief as it could have awarded after a contested trial. Furthermore:
    - i. If the petitioner believes they cannot adequately present their case under the parameters of the forthwith hearing, then they may make an offer of proof and, instead, be scheduled for a contested trial of which respondent would receive notice and be permitted to fully participate.
    - ii. Child support may only be awarded by default if personal jurisdiction over respondent was established in a manner sufficient for the issuance of a child support order under Chapter 5 or 6 of Title 13.
    - iii. If respondent is a nonresident and personal jurisdiction has not been established as provided in Section 3104 of Title 10, the award shall be limited to protective relief pursuant to Rule 405(c), and custody pursuant to Rule 406(a) if otherwise permissible under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). In the alternative, the Court may direct further efforts at service of process.
  - (3) Interim Order. If an interim order has issued ex parte, the respondent may request to be heard on the continuation or terms of the interim order. A respondent who is granted a continuance of the case review is deemed to have waived their right to demand to be heard on the ex parte order.
- (e) Waiver of Time Limits. A party who is granted a continuance of case review or trial, or whose availability or the availability of their legal counsel inhibits timely scheduling, waives their right to a timely trial, and the right to object to the extension of the interim order.

#### **Rule 405. Trial.**

- (a) Attendance. A spectator who causes a disturbance in the courtroom, in the courthouse, or the vicinity of the courthouse may be excluded even if they are a potential witness. Unless they are a witness, any nonparty who is subject to a current no-contact order in regard to a party or potential witness may be excluded from the proceedings.
- (b) Subpoenas. Both parties following case review may obtain subpoenas to compel the presence of witnesses. If a hearing is rescheduled, the subpoena's mandate shall transfer to the new date and time.
- (c) Protective Relief. All protective relief may be awarded for up to two years and in excess of two years pursuant to statute. Protective relief includes but is not limited to prohibitions

against further abuse, contact, communication, and proximity to the petitioner's person, residence, workplace, and minor children. Orders exceeding two years may be in force:

- (1) For a specific duration, or
  - (2) Until terminated upon motion and hearing establishing that continuation of the order constitutes a manifest injustice, or
  - (3) Until terminated upon motion establishing satisfaction of a condition such as completion of domestic violence intervention treatment or payment of past due financial support or damages.
- (d) Limits of Ancillary Relief. Relief beyond that available in subsection (c) may not be awarded or extended beyond one year. However, orders against nonresidents where there is an absence of actual notice or minimum contacts shall be limited to protective relief. Any such lack of personal jurisdiction shall be clearly recited in the order.
- (e) Compliance Calendars. On its own motion, the Court may compel the respondent to appear and provide proof of compliance or good cause why he or she should not be held in contempt of court for noncompliance for any term for which written confirmation should reasonably be available. In addition to the relief recited in Rule 407(c), an order may be extended indefinitely until the respondent provides proof of compliance.
- (f) Court discretion. Custody, child support, exclusive use of a home, and temporary possession of personal property of significant value may only be awarded if requested in the pleadings, upon an amendment to conform the pleadings to the evidence pursuant to Rule 15(b), or by agreement of the parties. Except when proceeding by default pursuant to Rule 404(d)(2), the Court is not otherwise limited by the pleadings and may award any appropriate relief authorized by statute.
- (g) Findings of fact. If the parties have minor children together and the youngest has not reached his or her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday, then any order or dismissal issuing after a full evidentiary hearing shall be supplemented with a brief summary of the findings.
- (h) Service of orders after trial. Orders issued after trial shall be given directly to each party present. If a party leaves the courthouse without receiving a copy, the order shall be mailed as provided in Rule 403(b)(3)(A) and deemed served for all purposes. If a party against whom an order is issued was not present for the hearing, then the order may also be mailed as provided in Rule 403(b)(3)(A) but if returned undelivered by postal authorities, then other forms of service shall be utilized until actual receipt is confirmed.

#### **Rule 406. Custody and Child Support.**

- (a) Continuing jurisdiction over custody. Service of a PFA petition upon a respondent that would be sufficient for an independent petition for custody shall establish continuing jurisdiction over both parties as long as:
- (1) The PFA petition is pending and includes prayers for custody, or
  - (2) A permanent PFA order has issued that has active custody terms.

In this context, initial service of an independent petition for custody may be accomplished by regular mail as provided in Rule 403(b)(3)(A). Each party shall have a continuing duty to inform the Court of any change in mailing address while any custody provisions are in effect.

- (b) **Custody Separate Track.** If an award of custody or visitation implicates the interests of another State, then the PFA order shall specify the Court's authority to proceed under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). Any subsequent custody order issued by a court of proper jurisdiction shall supersede the PFA order with regard to custody, placement, and visitation.
  - (1) A visitation schedule within a PFA order is a separate civil order enforceable against both parties outside the operation of Rules 402 et seq.
  - (2) If a custody or visitation petition is pending or is subsequently filed within the period described in subsection (a), then the interim PFA visitation schedule shall be treated as having issued incident to that petition pursuant to Rule 65.2(d).
  - (3) The custody or visitation provisions of the order may be enforced by either party as provided in Rule 407(c) until the date of the first Case Management Conference scheduled pursuant to Rule 16.2(a) after which the provisions are enforceable in the custody or visitation proceeding.
- (c) **Child Support.** Service of a PFA petition upon a respondent that would be sufficient for an independent petition for child support shall establish continuing personal jurisdiction over a respondent for child support as long as:
  - (1) The PFA petition is pending and includes prayers for child support, or
  - (2) A permanent PFA order has issued that has active child support terms.

In this context, initial service of independent petitions for child support may be accomplished by regular mail as provided in Rule 403(b)(3)(A). Child Support obligations assessed within a PFA order should be based upon the general principles of the Delaware Child Support Formula (Rules 500 to 510) and should not issue contrary to the multi-state jurisdictional principles of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA). Each party shall have a continuing duty to inform the Court of any change in mailing address while any custody or support terms are in effect.

- (d) **Paternity.** Incident to any PFA petition that addresses child support, custody, or visitation, the Court may determine parentage pursuant to the Uniform Parentage Act (UPA). With regard to any child, absent consent of the protected party, a PFA order should not award custody or visitation to or require child support from any party who does not appear on the child's birth certificate or who has not otherwise been established as or presumed by law to be the child's parent.
- (e) **Adjustment.** If subsequent orders regarding custody, visitation, or child support issue pursuant to Title 13, the record of the PFA order may be administratively adjusted to be consistent with those orders. Copies of the adjusted orders shall be mailed to the parties.

## **Rule 407. Modification and Enforcement.**

- (a) Modification. Either party may file a motion to modify, extend, enforce, or rescind an active protective order and every motion will be scheduled for a hearing. The Court will facilitate notice as provided in Rule 403(b)(3)(A). Emergency applications may be filed pursuant to Rule 65.2. Furthermore:
- (1) Abatement or mitigation of the protective provisions may only occur upon the knowing and voluntary consent of the petitioner, or clear and convincing evidence that continuation would constitute manifest injustice.
  - (2) Out-of-court agreements to modify the terms of an order are not enforceable until or unless approved by the Court.
  - (3) Modification of custody and visitation may be awarded as necessary to enhance safety and assure compliance.
  - (4) Modification of child support must be pursued by separate petition outside the context of the PFA.
  - (5) Ancillary relief may be modified to the extent necessary to realize its original purpose and terminated if the relief no longer serves its original purpose.
  - (6) An award of damages cannot be modified.
  - (7) No motion is required to recognize that ancillary relief has been superseded by a subsequent order.
- (b) Extension. A protective order can be extended pursuant to statute. A motion to extend an order must be filed before the order expires, and the order will lapse if the motion is not heard prior to expiration. If a motion cannot be scheduled for a hearing before the expiration of the order and it alleges that domestic violence or a substantial violation of the order has occurred since the entry of the order or other immediate and present danger, then an ex parte hearing may be conducted and the order may be provisionally extended to the hearing date but not more than 30 days after the filing of the motion.
- (c) Contempt. A petitioner may file a motion for contempt of court for a respondent's violation of any element of an order. When filing a motion for modification based upon the respondent's violation of the order, a separate contempt motion is not required. Upon a finding of contempt, the Court may do any or all of the following:
- (1) Impose or enhance any protective relief that could have been awarded in the original order.
  - (2) Extend the order as provided in subsection (b).
  - (3) Adjust ancillary relief as necessary to enhance safety and assure compliance.
  - (4) Employ any other remedies available for civil contempt of court including but not limited to fine and imprisonment.

- (d) Gun Relinquishment. Any order that directs a respondent to relinquish all firearms and to refrain from acquiring or possessing firearms and ammunition shall briefly recite the statutory category of abuse warranting the status.

**Rule 408. Protection of a Child or Incompetent Adult.**

- (a) Guardian ad litem. An adult may sponsor a PFA petition to obtain protection of a child if the child and the respondent are within the protected class. However, a parent or guardian who is also within the protected class with the respondent must proceed under Rule 402(a). Furthermore:
  - (1) A sponsored petition must name the child as the petitioner and should, typically, propose the sponsor as the child’s guardian ad litem (GAL) pursuant to Rule 17(b). Under this rule, there can only be one child per petition. All sponsored petitions will be reviewed by a Family Court judicial officer who shall determine whether the petition mandates a report to the Division of Family Services (DFS).
  - (2) Notwithstanding Rule 17(b)(2), if the sponsor is a parent, guardian, grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling, first cousin, first cousin once removed, or an appointed guardian ad litem, a child petitioner may receive an ex parte order or expedited scheduling. An ex parte order will only issue upon the sponsor’s establishment that the child is at imminent risk of further abuse, the child’s parents or legal guardian are unwilling or unable to take action to prevent the abuse, and the sponsor is an appropriate person to undertake the responsibility of protecting the child. Any other person wanting to facilitate emergency relief would have to proceed pursuant to Rule 65.2 to be named as a temporary guardian.
  - (3) A sponsor may appear and proceed without counsel at a hearing for an emergency order and on the motion for appointment of GAL. Once appointed, a GAL can participate in case review and negotiate a consent order, or other resolution of the petition. However, a GAL cannot personally act as the minor child’s legal representative at trial unless they are either licensed to practice law in the State of Delaware or approved by the Court to proceed without representation pursuant to subsection (e).
- (b) Notice. A hearing on the GAL application will be scheduled in lieu of case review. Notice and a copy of the petition and GAL application will be transmitted to the opposing party and the child’s parents and legal guardian to each individual’s last known address and email address, if known. If age 14 or over, the child petitioner should attend the hearing.
- (c) Hearing. At the GAL motion hearing, the Court will consider:
  - (1) Whether it is in the child’s best interest to proceed with the litigation,
  - (2) If the sponsor is not a parent or guardian, then why the child’s parents or guardians are not pursuing the litigation,
  - (3) The available resources to secure the child professional legal representation, and
  - (4) Whether the sponsor or another individual is an appropriate GAL.

- (d) Grant or Deny. Upon consideration of the motion the Court may:
- (1) Grant the motion and appoint the sponsor as GAL,
  - (2) Grant the motion and appoint another individual as GAL,
  - (3) Deny the motion and allow the child to proceed without a GAL, or
  - (4) Deny the motion and dismiss the petition.

If the petition is not dismissed as per paragraph (4), then the Court may either schedule the petition for case review pursuant to Rule 404, or proceed sua sponte with case review but subsection (b) shall not apply.

- (e) Self-representation. If the GAL motion is granted, the Court shall also determine whether the child and GAL are required to have professional legal representation or can proceed to trial without counsel. Whether the child and GAL can proceed to trial without legal representation should depend upon the complexity of the case, the maturity and intellect of the child, and the personal abilities of the GAL. Unless dismissed, the petition will proceed to case review or trial at the discretion of the Court.
- (f) Duration of GAL. An appointment as GAL continues until the expiration or termination of any resulting PFA order or the child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, whichever first occurs. At each hearing on a motion to modify or enforce the PFA order, the Court may reassess the GAL appointment. Any such GAL may seek appointment as GAL of the child in any custody or similar petition in the interest of the child pending or filed within the duration of the PFA order.
- (g) Incompetent Adults. In accordance with Rule 17(c), a PFA may be filed on behalf of an incompetent person by the individual's previously appointed representative, such as a legal guardian, trustee, committee, conservator, or other like fiduciary. A PFA petition may also be filed and signed on behalf of an infirm adult by another adult subject to subsequent appointment as GAL. Ex parte relief may only be awarded upon application of a previously appointed representative as defined in Rule 17(c), or a person holding power of attorney authorized to bring and defend legal actions as described in Rule 17(c)(1)(D). Motions for appointment of GAL for an incompetent adult shall also proceed, generally, as provided in this rule and Rule 17(c). However, a previously appointed representative as defined by Rule 17(c) may proceed directly to case review without counsel but must seek approval of the Court to proceed to trial without counsel. If case review does not produce a resolution and the previously appointed representative wishes to proceed to trial without counsel, a forthwith hearing pursuant to Rule 404(d) shall occur.
- (h) DFS/APS. The Division of Family Services (DFS) or Adult Protective Services (APS) may file a petition for the protection of a child or incompetent adult with or without appointment of a GAL, or may file a motion to intervene in any such pending action, or may appear as a friend of the court to report on investigations and available resources.

**3. Rule 212 shall be amended as follows:**

**Rule 212. Emergency removal of a child.**

(a) When emergency removal of a child from the home is sought by DSCYF during court operating hours, after considering the petition and affidavit, a Judge shall order physical or constructive removal of the child from the parent or specified relative and emergency temporary custody to DSCYF, pursuant to 13 *Del. C.* § 2512.

(b) When emergency removal of a child from the home is sought by DSCYF outside court operating hours, DSCYF shall contact the designated on-call Judge and a Judge shall verbally order physical or constructive removal of the child from the parent or specified relative and emergency temporary custody to DSCYF, pursuant to 13 *Del. C.* § 2512. The Court shall thereafter issue a written Order as soon as practical.

(c) When emergency removal of a child from the home is requested, DSCYF shall file a petition and affidavit with the Court no later than noon of the following business day. The Court shall schedule the DSCYF petition as determined appropriate for either a Preliminary Protective Hearing within ten (10) days of ~~the filing~~ the entry of the ex parte order or within ten (10) days of the filing of the petition if an ex parte order is not entered but the Court finds that priority scheduling is warranted, or an Adjudicatory Hearing within thirty (30) days of the filing.

**4. These amendments shall be effective January 5, 2026, which is at least 30 days after notice to members of the Bar.**

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Michael K. Newell 6/23/25  
Michael K. Newell  
Chief Judge

/s/ Mark D. Buckworth 6/20/25  
Mark D. Buckworth  
Judge

/s/ Peter B. Jones 6/23/25  
Peter B. Jones  
Judge

/s/ Mardi F. Pyott 6/12/25  
Mardi F. Pyott  
Judge

/s/ Arlene Minus Coppadge 6/20/25  
Arlene Minus Coppadge  
Judge

/s/ Joelle P. Hitch 6/11/25  
Joelle P. Hitch  
Judge

/s/ Paula T. Ryan 6/16/25  
Paula T. Ryan  
Judge

/s/ Felice G. Kerr 6/13/25  
Felice G. Kerr  
Judge

/s/ Jennifer B. Ranji 6/12/25  
Jennifer B. Ranji  
Judge

/s/ Natalie J. Haskins 6/12/25  
Natalie J. Haskins  
Judge

/s/ Janell S. Ostroski 6/13/25  
Janell S. Ostroski  
Judge

/s/ Louann Vari 6/10/25  
Louann Vari  
Judge

/s/ James G. McGiffin, Jr. 6/10/25  
James G. McGiffin, Jr.  
Judge

/s/ Mary S. Much 6/20/25  
Mary S. Much  
Judge

/s/ Michael W. Arrington 6/11/25  
Michael W. Arrington  
Judge

/s/ Theresa M. Hayes 6/21/25  
Theresa M. Hayes  
Judge

/s/ Eliza M. Hirst 6/18/25  
Eliza M. Hirst  
Judge