

# MEMORANDUM

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**To:** LLA Membership

**From:** Gary Weber

**Date:** December 28, 2011

**Subject:** Annual Report of the Customs and Rules Committee

The LLA Customs and Rules Committee several times in the Spring of 2011.

## **1. Proposed change to Civil Motion Cover Sheet - Video conferencing use in court proceedings.**

Judge Butts proposed a change to the Civil Motion Cover Sheet to address requests for video conferencing, particularly in criminal cases. The discussions about the request resulted in a full consideration of the use of video testimony in court proceedings. A comprehensive set of rules addressing requests to use video testimony in court, in both civil and criminal proceedings was proposed by the committee, and submitted to the court.

The rules are now pending with the court and with the state Criminal Rules Committee, which must approve such changes. A copy of the proposed rule is posted on the LLA website at [www.lycolaw.org/rules/proposed/2011video\\_conferencing\\_proposal.pdf](http://www.lycolaw.org/rules/proposed/2011video_conferencing_proposal.pdf). The rule should be implemented in early 2012.

## **2. Orphans' Court Motion Cover Sheet.**

The committee was also requested to prepare a motion cover sheet to use in Orphans' Court cases. A cover sheet and proposed rule were reviewed and approved. Subsequently, before it was submitted to the court, the rule was pulled for further consideration. The proposal did not take into account certain procedures unique to the Orphans' Court - procedures such as the use of a citation. These issues should be further considered in 2012 and reviewed by Orphans' Court practitioners, and a new form submitted to the court for approval.