MEMORANDUM

To: LLA Membership

From: Gary Weber

Date: December 10, 2015

Subject: Annual Report of the Customs and Rules Committee

The Lycoming Law Association Customs and Rules Committee met a number of times in 2015. The following individuals served on the Committee in 2015: Gary Weber, Chair; Jennifer Heverly; Norman Lubin; John Pietrovito; Kevin Way and J. Michael Wiley.

At the request of the Court, the Committee considered implementing local criminal rule L107, which establishes the circumstances under which criminal complaints may not be filed without the approval of an attorney for the Commonwealth. The Committee recommended a rule and the court approved the new rule by order on September 21.

The Committee also considered a comprehensive re-write of the local criminal rules, which were outdated and out of sync with the state criminal rules. A package of fewer and simpler local rules were recommended to the Court and implemented by order dated September 21.

The Committee was requested to consider a comprehensive revision of the arbitrator selection and arbitration scheduling system, that had been in place for many years. The Court suggested an arbitrator appointment process that did not allow for strikes by the parties, and arbitration occurring on days certain, with the hearing arbitrators sitting for up to two arbitrations. Revised arbitration rules were recommended, along with several technical changes to the pretrial procedures. The rules were implemented by order on October 15.

The Committee was requested to consider a change to the motion cover sheet. The requested change was approved by the Committee and submitted to the Court for approval. The change was implemented by order dated October 23.

All of the above orders and rules are found at: www.lycolaw.org/rules/changes.html.