

# 27<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA



## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

### AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (TITLE II) POLICY

The Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania (“UJS”) complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) which provides that “no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity.” 42 U. S. C. A. § 12132. Pursuant to that requirement, if you are an individual with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in any judicial proceeding or any other service, program, or activity of the UJS, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. However, the ADA does not require the 27<sup>th</sup> Judicial District to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

If you require an accommodation under the ADA, it is recommended that you make your request as soon as possible, or at least five (5) business days before your scheduled participation in any court proceeding, or UJS program or activity. All requests for accommodation, regardless of timeliness, will be given due consideration, and, if necessary, may require an interactive process between the requestor and the 27<sup>th</sup> Judicial District to determine the best course of action.

To request a reasonable accommodation, please complete the *Request for Reasonable Accommodation Form* (Appendix “A” to this policy) and return it to:

Joyce Hood, ADA Coordinator  
Office of the District Court Administrator  
27<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Pennsylvania  
Court of Common Pleas of Washington County  
1 South Main Street, Suite 2004  
Washington, PA 15301  
Tel. (724) 228-6797  
Fax (724) 228-6938  
[joyce.hood@washingtoncourts.us](mailto:joyce.hood@washingtoncourts.us)

If you need assistance completing this form, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the contact information listed above. Complaints alleging violations of Title II of the ADA may be filed pursuant to the UJS Grievance Procedure with the ADA Coordinator. A response will be sent to you after careful review of the facts in accordance with the UJS Grievance Procedure.



**APPENDIX A**  
**FOR USE BY JUDICIAL DISTRICTS ONLY**

UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF PENNSYLVANIA

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ACCOMMODATION (ADA) TITLE II REQUEST FOR REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FORM  
(INCLUDES REQUEST FOR INTERPRETER FOR HEARING /SPEECH IMPAIRED)

**Client Information – Section A**

Name: _____	Phone: _____
Address: _____	Email: _____
_____	Mobile: _____

Please check the box that most closely describes your status in this matter:

- Litigant   
  Plaintiff   
  Defendant   
  Parent   
  Child   
  Witness   
  Attorney   
  Victim   
  Juror  
 Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**Requestor Information (if different from above)**

Name: _____	Bus. Phone/ Mobile: _____
Address: _____	Fax: _____
Relationship to Client: _____	Email: _____
	TTY: _____

**Accommodation**

Nature of the disability for which an accommodation is requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation requested: \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of Proceeding**

**Proceeding Information (if known)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Magisterial District Court No. _____ District Judge Name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Division <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Division <input type="checkbox"/> Orphans' Court Division <input type="checkbox"/> Family Division <input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Specify Address: _____	Case #: _____ Case Name: _____ Judge: _____ Proceeding _____ Proceeding _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Proceeding _____ Type: _____
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

AFTER COMPLETING THE FORM, PLEASE SEND TO: JOYCE HOOD, ADA COORDINATOR, OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATOR, 27<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, 1 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 2004, WASHINGTON, PA 15301.

**I hereby certify that an Americans with Disabilities Act accommodation is required in the above-captioned action on the date stated.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

**Service Provider Information - Section B**

A SERVICE REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE CLIENT NAMED ABOVE.

Service Provider Company: _____	Fax: _____
Individual Interpreter Name: _____	Email: _____
Bus. Phone/ Mobile: _____	Date to Provider: _____

**Court Official Verification – Section C**

VERIFYING OFFICIAL SHALL MAINTAIN A COPY IN THE COURT'S CASE FILE AND PROVIDE THE ORIGINAL TO THE SERVICE PROVIDER FOR SUBMISSION WITH BILLING.

I hereby verify that the services were performed by the provider in the above-captioned action on the date and time stated.

Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ End Date \_\_\_\_\_  
& Time: \_\_\_\_\_ & Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Court Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# 27<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA



## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

### Americans with Disabilities Act (Title II) Grievance Procedure

This grievance procedure is established for the prompt resolution of complaints alleging any violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) in the provision of services, programs, or activities by the Unified Judicial System (“UJS”). If you require a reasonable accommodation to complete this form, or need this form in an alternate format, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the information listed below:

Joyce Hood, ADA Coordinator  
Office of the District Court Administrator  
27<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Pennsylvania  
Court of Common Pleas of Washington County  
1 South Main Street, Suite 2004  
Washington, PA 15301  
Tel. (724) 228-6797  
Fax (724) 228-6938  
[joyce.hood@washingtontcourts.us](mailto:joyce.hood@washingtontcourts.us)

To file a complaint under the Grievance Procedure please take the following steps:

1. Complete the complaint form and return to the ADA Coordinator. Alternative means of filing complaints will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request. The complaint should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than sixty (60) calendar days after the alleged violation.
2. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the complaint, the Deputy Court Administrator will investigate the complaint, including, but not limited to, meeting with the individual seeking an accommodation, either in person or via telephone, to discuss the complaint and any possible resolution. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of the meeting, the Deputy Court Administrator will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio. The

response will explain the position of the 27<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

3. If the response to the complaint does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant may appeal the decision within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the response to the District Court Administrator. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the District Court Administrator will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint, and any possible resolution. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the meeting, the District Court Administrator will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

This grievance procedure is informal. Participation by a complainant in this process is completely voluntary. Please note that use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to, and does not preclude a complainant from, pursuing other remedies available under law.

The UJS Policy on Non-Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity also encompasses disability-related issues and provides complaint procedures for UJS court users. Any employment-related disability discrimination complaints will be governed by the UJS Policy on Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity.



UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF PENNSYLVANIA

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) TITLE II  
GRIEVANCE FORM

**Grievant Information**

Grievant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone  
(include area code): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone  
(include area code): \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Phone  
(include area code): \_\_\_\_\_

**Alternative Contact Person (other than Grievant)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone  
(include area code): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone  
(include area code): \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship  
To Client: \_\_\_\_\_

**Court Service, Program or Facility Allegedly in Violation**

Date and Location of Alleged Violation (dd/mm/yyyy)

Description of Alleged Violation and Requested Remedy

Has this case been filed with the Department of Justice or other government agency or court?

Yes      No

**If You Answered "Yes" to the Previous Question, Complete the Following**

Agency or Court: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone  
(include area code): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_