

RULE L1920.53. HEARING BY MASTER. REPORT.

(1) Hearing Date.

The Master's hearing shall be held as soon as reasonably possible after the prehearing conference.

(2) Time of Report.

If the Master cannot file the report within thirty (30) days after the hearing and receipt of the transcript if any, and/or written arguments, memoranda or other post-hearing filings by the parties the Master shall file a motion with the Court, pursuant to motions practice, asking for an extension of time.

(3) Compelling the Filing of a Report.

Should the Master fail to file a report within the times required, a party may obtain a rule upon the Master to show cause why the final report should not be filed promptly. If good cause is not shown and no report is filed, the Court shall take appropriate action.

(4) Hearing Transcripts.

The Master shall engage the services of a stenographer. The testimony shall not be transcribed unless:

(a) It is required by the Master as necessary in making the report and recommendation. As a general rule, the Master will make the report and recommendation based upon the notes of testimony taken by the Master. The Master may request a transcript in complex cases or upon agreement of the parties. In the event a transcript is requested, the master's report and recommendation must be filed within 30 days of receipt of the transcript. The Master may direct the parties to post an advance deposit for the cost of the transcript, with final apportionment of the cost made as part of the report and recommendation; or

(b) It is ordered by the Court following the filing of exceptions; or

(c) It is ordered by a party.

If a transcript is ordered by a party, that party shall arrange to pay for the transcript in accordance with the Rules of Judicial Administration and the cost of the transcript may be allocated to one or both of the parties by a Court order.