

### **Rule 31. Consolidation of Cases**

- (A) Pursuant to Superintendence Rules 4(B) and 36(B), when actions involving a common question of law and fact are pending before this Court, upon motion of any party or on the Court's own motion, the Court may order a joint adjudicatory hearing or trial of any or all of the matters in issue; and, it may make such orders concerning proceedings as may tend to reduce unnecessary costs or delay. Custody and parenting time matters shall be processed, assigned, and heard as motions where an action to determine the parent and child relationship has previously been established.
- (B) The motion for consolidation shall be filed in all actions for which consolidation is sought. Notice of the filing of such motion shall be given to the Administrative Judge by counsel when the actions involve multiple judges. All judges involved in the consolidation motion shall confer in an effort to expedite the ruling. The judge who has the lower or lowest numbered case shall recommend a ruling on the motion and refer the matter to the Administrative Judge for ruling and, upon the granting of the motion, journalization of the change in judicial assignment.

Last Revision Unknown, Prior to 2012