

Rule 220.1. Voir Dire

(a) Voir dire shall be conducted to provide the opportunity to obtain at a minimum a full description of the following information, where relevant, concerning the prospective jurors and their households:

* * *

(16) Such other pertinent information as may be appropriate to the particular case to achieve a competent, fair and impartial jury.

Note: For example, under presently prevailing law as established by the Superior Court, voir dire should have been allowed with respect to the effect of pre-trial publicity on prospective jurors' "attitudes regarding medical malpractice and tort reform." *Capoferri v. Children's Hosp. of Phila.*, 893 A.2d 133 (Pa. Super. 2006) (en banc).

(b) * * *

(c) * * *

Explanatory Comment

Rule 220.1 governing *voir dire* has been amended with the addition of a note to subdivision (a)(16). Subdivision (a) lists the information to which parties are entitled to obtain during *voir dire*, concluding with a catch-all provision in subparagraph (16). The note cites *Capoferri v. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*, 893 A.2d 133 (Pa. Super. 2006) (en banc), as an example of the type of information that may be sought from potential jurors pursuant to subparagraph (16) to achieve a competent, fair and impartial jury in a particular case.

By the Civil Procedural
Rules Committee

R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.
Chair