

**§1153. Authority of referees**

All the referees must meet and hear the parties; but a majority may make the report, which is as valid as if signed by all, if it appears by the report or certificate of the dissenting referee that all attended and heard the parties. They may allow costs or not to either party, unless special provision is made therefor in the submission, but the court may reduce their compensation. Any referee may swear witnesses. [PL 2009, c. 166, §2 (AMD).]

A referee appointed to hear a dispute concerning real property must report the referee's decision within one year of appointment by the court unless good cause for extending this period is shown. [PL 2009, c. 166, §2 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2009, c. 166, §2 (AMD).

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