

TIMELINE OF AN ARKANSAS CIVIL APPEAL

ELECTRONIC RECORD



FINAL ORDER ENTERED AT TRIAL COURT

*Caution: Post-judgment motions can change the deadline for your Notice of Appeal.

+30 DAYS

Ark. R. App. P.—Civ. 4(a)

NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED AT TRIAL COURT

(For Notice of Cross Appeal Deadline, Review Ark. R. App. P.—Civ. 4(a)).

6 THINGS YOUR NOTICE OF APPEAL MUST INCLUDE:

Ark. R. App. P.—Civ. 3(e)

1. The appealing party.
2. The order from which you're appealing.
3. A designation of the record on appeal (note that designating a partial record means you must also include a concise statement of points upon which you intend to rely).
4. A statement that appellant has ordered the transcript and has made financial arrangements with the court reporter.
5. The court to which you're appealing (plus basis of jurisdiction if appealing to Supreme Court).
6. A statement that the appealing party abandons any pending but unresolved claims.

+90 DAYS

Ark. R. App. P.—Civ. 5(a)

LODGE RECORD AT THE APPELLATE COURT

* NOTE: The deadline for filing the record is only 30 days for certain interlocutory appeals.

- Include an appellate cover sheet (Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 3-7).
- Filing fee of \$185 (Ark. Code Ann. §§ 21-6-401 and 21-6-416).
- When filing the record, select "Record Lodged \$" for the first part of the record, and "Record Lodged" (without the \$) for any other parts of the record.

+40 DAYS

Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-4(b)

DEADLINE TO FILE APPELLANT'S OPENING BRIEF

When preparing civil appellate court briefs, be sure to review Arkansas Supreme Court Rules 4-1, 4-2, and 4-4.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RULES 4-1, 4-2, AND 4-4:

- Argument length limited to 8,600 words. 4-2(d)(1).
- 7-day clerk's extension available on any brief by submitting a letter requesting an extension through eFlex. 4-4(h)(1).
- Additional extensions may be requested by motion. 4-4(h)(2).
- Brief must include cover, table of contents, points on appeal, table of authorities, jurisdictional statement, statement of the case and facts, argument, request for relief, certificate of service, and certificate of compliance. 4-2(a).
- Citation format is (RP1) for citations to the pleadings and (RT1) for citations to the transcript. 4-2(f).
- All portions of the brief, including footnotes, must be double-spaced in 14-pt. font. 4-1(d).
- Nonconforming briefs will be marked tendered and you'll have 7 calendar days to correct it (unless deadline was finalized). 4-4(g)(1).
- Briefs must be filed electronically, and no paper copies are required. 4-4(a).

+30 DAYS

Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-4(c)

DEADLINE TO FILE APPELLEE'S BRIEF

- Appellee's brief must conform to most of the same rules as the Appellant's Brief, except there is no request for relief, and the jurisdictional statement and statement of the case and facts are optional. 4-2(b).
- Argument length limited to 8,600 words. Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-2(d)(1).

+15 DAYS

Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-4(d)

DEADLINE TO FILE APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF

Argument length limited to 2,875 words. Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 4-2(d)(2).

SUBMISSION BY APPELLATE COURT (AND ORAL ARGUMENT, IF GRANTED)

- File letter requesting oral argument when filing your brief (either party may make this request). Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 5-1(a).
- If oral argument is granted it will take place on the day your case is submitted for decision (i.e., the Court will decide your case immediately following the oral argument).

DECISION HANDED DOWN BY APPELLATE COURT

- In most cases, decisions are handed down within 1-4 weeks following submission.
- The Court of Appeals hands down decisions on Wednesday mornings and the Supreme Court on Thursday mornings.

+18 DAYS

FILE PETITION FOR REHEARING

+28 DAYS

FILE PETITION FOR REVIEW

- Petitions for rehearing are limited to 10 pages. 2-3(e).
- Petitions for review are limited to 3 pages, but you may attach your petition for rehearing to it. 2-4(b)-(c).
- If either party files a petition for rehearing, then the deadline for a petition for review is extended until 10 days after the petition for rehearing is ruled on. 2-4(a).

MANDATE ISSUED TO CIRCUIT COURT

Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 5-3.

Mandates are issued to the circuit court once the appellate court's decision becomes final, which is typically after the last petition for rehearing or review is ruled on or the time for filing a petition for review or rehearing has expired. 5-3(a).



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THIS IS INTENDED TO BE A GUIDE. PLEASE VERIFY THE RULES WHEN FILING AN APPEAL.
INFORMATION PROVIDED HERE IS CURRENT AS OF APRIL 2021. ATTORNEYS ANDY TAYLOR & TASHA TAYLOR.