

# Supreme Court of Virginia

## Rule 5:18 - Brief in Opposition

- Time for Filing:** Within 21 days after the Petition for Appeal is served on counsel. If the Petition was served by mail, three days can be added to the time for filing; if the Petition was served by fax, email, or commercial delivery service, one day shall be added. (Rule 1:7)
- Page Limit:** 25 pages or 4,375 words (excludes cover, table of contents, table of authorities, and certificate of service)
- Color of Cover:** White (the brief is not actually required to be bound with a cover - it can be stapled, and the color white is not mandated by rule, but preferred.)
- Form and Content:** 14 point type; only acceptable fonts are Arial; Cambria; Century; Century School Book; Constantia; Courier New; Franklin Gothic Book; Georgia; Palatino Linotype; Tahoma; Times New Roman; Verdana; double spaced (footnotes and quotations can be single spaced), one inch margins all around.
- The brief shall contain:
1. Subject Index and Table of Citations with cases alphabetically arranged.
  - \*2. Statement of the Case, if the appellee disagrees with the statement as presented by the appellant.
  - \*3. Statement of the Facts, if necessary to correct or amplify the statement in the Petition for Appeal.
  4. Argument and Standard of Review relating to each Assignment of Error.
  - \*5. Assignments of Cross-Error, if any, with a reference to the record, transcript, etc. as to where the error was preserved; Argument and Standard of Review for each Assignment of Error.
  6. Conclusion
  7. Certificate of Service
- \*These items are optional.
- Number of copies:** 7 for court, one for each opposing party