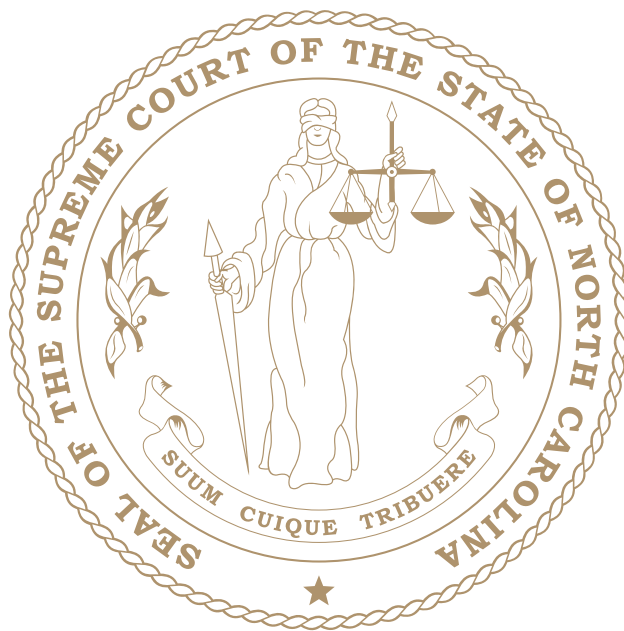


RULES OF PROCEDURE IN THE SUPREME COURT IN JUDICIAL STANDARDS CASES



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Foreword

The *Rules of Procedure in the Supreme Court in Judicial Standards Cases* were adopted by the Supreme Court on 21 August 2024, [Order Dated 21 August 2024](#). They supersede the former rules applicable in judicial standards cases, the *Rules for Supreme Court Review of Recommendations of the Judicial Standards Commission*, which had been in effect since 1975. Although the current rules borrow content from the original rule set, the current rules are a new paradigm. Accordingly, the history note after each rule in this codification dates back to the Court's adoption of the current rules on 21 August 2024. For a complete history of the rules applicable in judicial standards cases in the Supreme Court, please consult the publication record that appears at the end of this codification.

Questions or feedback about this codification may be directed to rules@sc.nccourts.org.

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Rules of Procedure in the Supreme Court in Judicial Standards Cases

Rule 1. Scope

These rules apply to cases governed by Article 30 of Chapter 7A of the General Statutes in which the Judicial Standards Commission has filed a recommendation of judicial discipline with the Supreme Court under Rule 22 of the Rules of the Judicial Standards Commission.

History Note.

[Order Dated 21 August 2024.](#)

Rule 2. Procedure

(a) **Notice of Briefing and Oral Argument.** If a respondent who is recommended for judicial discipline chooses to exercise his or her right under N.C.G.S. § 7A-377 to file a brief, then the respondent must file a notice of briefing and oral argument no later than 10 days after the commission files its recommendation. The notice must indicate that the respondent will file a brief and specify whether the respondent chooses to exercise his or her right to oral argument. If the respondent does not file a notice of briefing and oral argument, then the Supreme Court will decide the case without briefing and oral argument.

(b) **Briefs.** The respondent must file his or her brief no later than 30 days after the notice of briefing and oral argument is filed. The commission must file its brief no later than 30 days after respondent's brief is filed. The form and content of the briefs should conform as nearly as possible to the rules applicable to briefs in appeals to the Supreme Court. If the respondent does not file a brief, then the Supreme Court will decide the case without briefing and oral argument.

(c) **Oral Argument.** Oral arguments will conform as nearly as possible to the rules applicable to oral arguments in appeals to the Supreme Court.

(d) **Filing.** Documents must be filed electronically at <https://www.ncappellatecourts.org>. Other items should be filed electronically if permitted to do so by the electronic-filing site, but they may be filed by hand delivery or mail with the permission of the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

(e) **Service.** Each item filed must include a certificate of service and be served on the other party. Service may be made by e-mail or in the manner provided in Rule 4 of the Rules of Civil Procedure.

History Note.

[Order Dated 21 August 2024.](#)

Rule 3. Fees and Costs

No fees or costs will be assessed in the Supreme Court.

History Note.

[Order Dated 21 August 2024.](#)

Rule 4. Confidentiality

Proceedings in the Supreme Court are confidential unless the respondent files a document with the Supreme Court that waives the confidentiality of the proceedings. The proceedings are no longer confidential if the Supreme Court publicly reprimands, censures, suspends, or removes the respondent.

History Note.

[Order Dated 21 August 2024.](#)

A Publication Record of the Rules of Procedure in the Supreme Court in Judicial Standards Cases



Rules for Supreme Court Review of Recommendations of the Judicial Standards Commission (1975–2024) (Superseded)

Reporter Volume	Pages	Rules Affected*	Key Dates**
288 N.C.	740–42	Complete Rule Set	Adopted 25 September 1975
289 N.C.	732	Rule 3	Ordered 14 April 1976
372 N.C.	906–10	Complete Rule Set	Ordered 20 December 2016 Effective 20 December 2016 and applies to all cases filed with the Supreme Court on or after that date

Rules of Procedure in the Supreme Court in Judicial Standards Cases (2024–Present)

Current Slip Orders	Rules Affected*	Key Dates
Order Dated 21 August 2024	Complete Rule Set	Adopted 21 August 2024 and effective immediately

* Rules are titled as they appeared at the time of publication.

** The type of date provided for each published entry (e.g., “Adopted,” “Effective,” “Ordered”) reflects the information that was preserved in the North Carolina Reports.

Document ID

Rules of Procedure in the Supreme Court in Judicial Standards Cases – Codified 21 August 2024



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