AGENDA

SUPREME COURT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
UTAH RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE

Administrative Office of the Courts
450 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Judicial Council Room
Thursday, January 8, 2015
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

12:00 p.m.	Welcome and Approval of Minutes (Tab 1)	Joan Watt
12:05 p.m.	Rule 24 (Tab 2)	Troy Booher
	Rule 24 and *State v. Nielsen* (Tab 3)	Joan Watt
	Rule 27 (Tab 4)	Troy Booher
1:25 p.m.	Other Business	
1:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

Next Meeting: February 5, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.

Tab 1

MINUTES

SUPREME COURT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
UTAH RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE

Administrative Office of the Courts
450 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Judicial Council Room
Thursday, November 6, 2014
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT	**EXCUSED**
Joan Watt – Chair	Paul Burke
Alison Adams-Perlac – Staff	Alan Mouritsen
Troy Booher	Anne Marie Taliaferro
Marian Decker	
Judge Gregory Orme	
Rodney Parker	
Bryan Pattison (by phone)	
John Plimpton – Recording Secretary	
Bridget Romano	
Clark Sabey	
Lori Seppi	
Tim Shea	
Judge Fred Voros	
Mary Westby	

1. Welcome and Approval of Minutes **Joan Watt**

Ms. Watt welcomed the committee to the meeting. She asked for any comments on the minutes from the previous meeting. Ms. Decker pointed out that on page 3, in the first sentence under the "Efiling Subcommittee" heading, the word "my" should be "by."

Ms. Decker stated that the minutes accurately reflect what occurred at the previous meeting, but that she would like the committee to revisit Rule 4(f) and she would support a timeline for filing a motion to reinstate the period for filing a notice of appeal. Ms. Watt stated that Rule 4(f) would be added to the committee's agenda.

Mr. Booher moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 30, 2014, as amended. Ms. Romano seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Rules of Civil Procedure 7, 54, and 58A **Jonathan Hafen**

Jonathan Hafen, the chair of the Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure (Civil Rules Committee), introduced himself. He explained that the Civil Rules Committee has been evaluating how Rules 7, 54, and 58A of the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure interact. He said that Rules 7, 54, and 58A concern the finality of orders and judgments, which, in turn, affects the time period for filing notices of appeal. He said that, accordingly, the Civil Rules Committee wanted to consult with the committee on proposed amendments to Rules 7, 54, and 58A before sending them out for public comment.

Mr. Hafen said that the Civil Rules Committee has struggled with determining when orders and judgments should affect the rights of parties, including the right to appeal. He explained that, under the current proposed amendments, a judgment starts the time to appeal when it is signed by the judge and entered, i.e., recorded in the docket.

Ms. Romano said that Rule 7(j)(1) needs to clarify that when a judge orders a party to prepare and file a proposed order pursuant to subsections (j)(2)-(5), the order is not complete and entered until the proposed order is signed by the judge and entered in the docket. She said that, as Rule 7(j)(1) is written, a signed and entered minute entry could constitute completion and entry of the order, regardless of whether the judge has ordered a party to prepare and file a proposed order. The rest of the committee members and Mr. Hafen agreed with Ms. Romano.

3. Rule 9(f) **Joan Watt**

The committee amended Rule 9 to read as follows:

Rule 9. Docketing statement.

(a) Purpose. A docketing statement has two principal purposes: (1) to demonstrate that the appellate court has jurisdiction over the appeal, and (2) to identify at least one substantial issue for review. The docketing statement is a document used for jurisdictional and screening purposes. It should not include argument.

(b) Time for filing. Within 21 days after a notice of appeal, cross-appeal, or a petition for review of an administrative order is filed, the appellant, cross-appellant, or petitioner shall file an original and two copies of a docketing statement with the clerk of the appellate court and serve a copy with any required attachments on all parties. The Utah Attorney General shall be served in any appeal arising from a crime charged as a felony or a juvenile court proceeding.

~~(b) Interlocutory appeals. When a petition for interlocutory review is granted under Rule 5, a docketing statement shall not be filed, unless otherwise ordered.~~

(c) Content of docketing statement in a civil case. The docketing statement in an appeal arising from a civil case shall include ~~contain the following information~~:

(c)(1) A concise statement of the nature of the proceeding and the effect of the order appealed, and the district court case number, e.g., "This appeal is from a final judgment ~~or decree~~ of the First District Court granting summary judgment in case number 001900055." ~~or "This petition is from an order of the Utah State Tax Commission."~~

~~(c)(2) The statutory provision that confers jurisdiction on the appellate court.~~

(c)(~~3~~2) The following dates relevant to a determination of the timeliness of the notice of appeal and the jurisdiction of the appellate court:

(c)(2~~3~~)(i~~A~~) The date of entry of the final judgment or order from which the appeal is taken.

(c)(2~~3~~)(ii~~B~~) The date the notice of appeal ~~or petition for review~~ was filed in the trial court.

(c)(2~~3~~)(iii~~C~~) If the notice of appeal was filed after receiving an extension of the time to file pursuant to Rule 4(e), the date the motion for an extension was granted.

(c)(2)(iv) If any motions listed in Rule 4(b) were filed, the date such motion was filed in the trial court and the date of entry ~~The date of any motions filed pursuant to Rules 50(b), 52(b), or 59, Utah Rules of Civil Procedure, or Rule 24, Utah Rules of Criminal Procedure, and the date and effect~~ of any order~~s~~ disposing of such motion~~s~~.

(c)(2)(v) If the appellant is an inmate confined in an institution and is invoking Rule 21(f), the date the notice of appeal was deposited in the institution's internal mail system.~~a statement to that effect.~~

(c)(2~~5~~)(vi) If a motion to reinstate the time to appeal was filed pursuant to Rule 4(g), the date of the order disposing of such motion.

(c)(3) If the ~~an~~ appeal is taken from an order ~~in a multiple-party or a multiple-claim case, and the judgment has been~~ certified as ~~a~~ final ~~judgment by the trial court~~ pursuant to Rule 54(b) of the~~,~~ Utah Rules of Civil Procedure,~~:~~ a statement of what claims and parties remain before the trial court for adjudication.

~~(c)(5)(A) a statement of what claims and parties remain before the trial court for adjudication, and~~

~~(c)(5)(B) a statement of whether the facts underlying the appeal are sufficiently similar to the facts underlying the claims remaining before the trial court to constitute res judicata on those claims~~.

(c)(4~~6~~) A statement of at least one substantial issue appellant intends to assert on appeal. An issue not raised in the docketing statement may nevertheless be raised in the brief of the appellant; conversely, an issue raised in the docketing statement does not have to be included in the brief of the appellant.

(c)(5) A concise summary of the facts necessary to provide context for the issues presented.

(c)(6) A reference to all related or prior appeals in the case, with case numbers and citations.

~~If the case is criminal,~~

~~(c)(6)(A) the charges of which the defendant was convicted or, if the defendant is not convicted, the dismissed or pending charges;~~

~~(c)(6)(B) any sentence imposed; and~~

~~(c)(6)(C) whether the defendant is currently incarcerated.~~

~~(c)(7) A statement of the issues appellant intends to assert on appeal, including, for each issue,~~

~~(c)(7)(A) citations to determinative statutes, rules, or cases;~~

~~(c)(7)(B) the applicable standard of appellate review, with supporting authority.~~

~~(c)(8) A succinct summary of facts material to a consideration of the issues presented.~~

~~(c)(9) If the appeal is subject to assignment by the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals, and the appellant advocates or opposes such an assignment, a succinct statement of reasons why the Supreme Court should or should not assign the case. The Supreme Court may, for example, consider whether the case presents or involves one or more of the following:~~

~~(c)(9)(A) a novel constitutional issue;~~

~~(c)(9)(B) an important issue of first impression;~~

~~(c)(9)(C) a conflict in Court of Appeals decisions;~~

~~(c)(9)(D) any other persuasive reason why the Supreme Court should or should not resolve the issue.~~

~~(c)(10) A reference to all related or prior appeals in the case, with case numbers and citations~~

(d) Content of a docketing statement in a criminal case. The docketing statement in an appeal arising from a criminal case shall include:

(d)(1) A concise statement of the nature of the proceeding, including the highest degree of any of the charges in the trial court, and the district court case number, e.g., "This appeal is from a judgment of conviction and sentence of the Third District Court on a third degree felony charge in case number 001900055."

(d)(2) The following dates relevant to a determination of the timeliness of the appeal and the jurisdiction of the appellate court:

(d)(2)(i) The date of entry of the final judgment or order from which the appeal is taken.

(d)(2)(ii) The date the notice of appeal was filed in the district court.

(d)(2)(iii) If the notice of appeal was filed after receiving an extension of the time to file pursuant to rule 4(e), the date the motion for an extension was granted.

(d)(2)(iv) If a motion pursuant to Rule 24 of the Utah Rules of Criminal Procedure was filed, the date such motion was filed in the trial court and the date of entry of any order disposing of such motion.

(d)(2)(v) If a motion to reinstate the time to appeal was filed pursuant to Rule 4(f), the date of the order disposing of such motion.

(d)(2)(vi) If the appellant is an inmate confined to an institution and is invoking Rule 21(f), the date the notice of appeal was deposited in the institution's internal mail system.

(d)(3) The charges of which the defendant was convicted, and any sentence imposed; or, if the defendant was not convicted, the dismissed or pending charges.

(d)(4) A statement of at least one substantial issue appellant intends to assert on appeal. An issue not raised in the docketing statement may nevertheless be raised in the brief of the appellant; conversely, an issue raised in the docketing statement does not have to be included in the brief of the appellant.

(d)(5) A concise summary of the facts necessary to provide context for the issues presented. If the conviction was pursuant to a plea, the statement of facts should include whether a motion to withdraw the plea was made prior to sentencing, and whether the plea was conditional.

(d)(6) A reference to all related or prior appeals in the case, with case numbers and citations.

~~(d) Necessary attachments. Copies of the following must be attached to each copy of the docketing statement:~~

~~(d)(1) The final judgment or order from which the appeal is taken;~~

~~(d)(2) Any rulings or findings of the trial court or administrative tribunal included in the judgment from which the appeal is taken;~~

~~(d)(3) In appeals arising from an order of the Public Service Commission, any application for rehearing filed pursuant to Utah Code Section 54-7-15;~~

~~(d)(4) The notice of appeal and any order extending the time for the filing of a notice of appeal.~~

~~(d)(5) Any notice of claim.~~

~~(d)(6) Any motions filed pursuant to Rules 50(b), 52(b), 54(b), or 59, Utah Rules of Civil Procedure, or Rule 24, Utah Rules of Criminal Procedure, and orders disposing of such motions; and~~

~~(d)(7) If the appellant is an inmate confined in an institution and is invoking Rule 4(g), the notarized statement or written declaration required by that provision.~~

(e) Content of a docketing statement in a review of an administrative order. The docketing statement in a case arising from an administrative proceeding shall include:

(e)(1) A concise statement of the nature of the proceedings and the effect of the order appealed, e.g., "This petition is from an order of the Workforce Appeals Board denying reconsideration of the denial of benefits."

(e)(2) The statutory provision that confers jurisdiction on the appellate court.

(e)(3) The following dates relevant to a determination of the timeliness of the petition for review:

(e)(3)(i) The date of entry of the final order from which the petition for review is filed.

(e)(3)(ii) The date the petition for review was filed.

(e)(4) A statement of at least one substantial issue petitioner intends to assert on review. An issue not raised in the docketing statement may nevertheless be raised in the brief of petitioner; conversely, an issue raised in the docketing statement does not have to be included in the brief of petitioner.

(e)(5) A concise summary of the facts necessary to provide context for the issues presented.

(e)(6) If applicable, a reference to all related or prior petitions for review in the same case.

(e)(7) Copies of the following documents must be attached to each copy of the docketing statement:

(e)(7)(i) The final order from which the petition for review is filed.

(e)(7)(ii) In appeals arising from an order of the Public Service Commission, any application for rehearing filed pursuant to Utah Code section 54-7-15.

~~(e) Appellee's statement regarding assignment. If the appeal is subject to assignment by the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals, an appellee may within 10 days of service of the docketing statement file a succinct statement of reasons why the appeal should or should not be assigned.~~

(f) Consequences of failure to comply. In a civil appeal, failure to file a ~~D~~docketing statement~~s~~ within the time period provided in subsection (b) ~~which fail to comply with~~

~~this rule will not be accepted. Failure to comply~~ may result in dismissal of a civil ~~the~~ appeal or ~~the~~ a petition for review. In a criminal case, failure to file a docketing statement within the time period provided in subsection (b) may result in a finding of contempt or other sanction. ~~An issue not listed in the docketing statement may nevertheless be raised in appellant's opening brief.~~

(g) Appeals from interlocutory orders. When a petition for permission to appeal from an interlocutory order is granted under Rule 5, a docketing statement shall not be filed unless otherwise ordered.

Advisory Committee Notes

The content of the docketing statement has been slightly reordered to first state information governing the jurisdiction of the court.

The docketing statement and briefs contain a new section requiring a statement of the applicable standard of review, with citation of supporting authority, for each issue presented on appeal.

The content of the docketing statement has been reordered and brought into conformity with revised Rule 4, Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure. This rule is satisfied by a docketing statement in compliance with form 7.

Mr. Booher moved to approve Rule 9 as amended. Mr. Sabey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Rule 24 **Troy Booher**

The committee did not discuss Rule 24.

5. Rule 24 and *State v. Nielsen* **Joan Watt**

The committee did not discuss Rule 24 and *State v. Nielsen*.

6. Rule 27 **Troy Booher**

The committee did not discuss Rule 27.

7. Other Business

There was no other business discussed at the meeting.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m. The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 8, 2015.

Tab 2

Rule 24. Briefs.

(a) Definitions. For purposes of this rule, the terms “appeal,” “cross-appeal,” “appellant,” and “appellee” include the equivalent elements of original proceedings filed in the appellate court. (b) Brief of the appellant. The Brief of Appellant shall contain under appropriate headings and in the order indicated:

(b)(1) List of parties. A complete list of all parties to the proceeding in the court or agency whose judgment or order is sought to be reviewed, except where the caption of the case on appeal contains the names of all such parties and except as provided in paragraph (e). The list should be set out on a separate page immediately inside the cover.

(b)(2) Table of contents. A table of contents with page references to the items included in the brief, including page or tab references to items in the addendum.

(b)(3) Table of authorities. A table of authorities including all cases, rules, statutes and other authorities cited, with references to the pages of the brief where they are cited.

(b)(4) Introduction. A concise statement of the nature of the case, the contentions on appeal, and a summary of the arguments made in the body of the brief.

(b)(5) Statement of the case. To the extent relevant to the contentions on appeal, a procedural history including the disposition(s) below, and a statement of the facts. Both the procedural history and statement of facts shall be supported by citations to the record in accordance with paragraph (f) of this rule.

(b)(6) Argument. For each ground for relief presented, the argument section shall contain the following under appropriate subheadings and in the order indicated:

(b)(6)(A) Contention statement. A statement of error that the appellant contends warrants relief on appeal.

(b)(6)(B) Preservation. A citation to the record in accordance with paragraph (f) of this rule showing that the contention was preserved in the trial court or administrative agency. An appellant contending that evidence was erroneously admitted or excluded shall identify the pages of the record where the evidence was identified, offered, and admitted or excluded. If the contention was not preserved, a statement of the grounds for seeking review of the unpreserved contention of error.

(b)(6)(C) Standard of review. The standard of review governing the contention, with supporting authority. (b)(6)(D) Relief sought. A statement of the precise relief sought. A party seeking to recover attorney's fees incurred on appeal shall state the request explicitly and set forth the legal basis for such an award.

(b)(6)(E) Grounds for relief requested. An argument setting forth controlling legal authority together with reasoned analysis explaining why that authority requires reversal. The legal citations shall conform to the public domain citation format and shall use italics. No text in a brief shall be bold, underlined or in ALL CAPS unless it is a quotation. References to the proceedings below shall be accompanied with citations to the relevant pages of the record. Where the appellant contends that a finding or verdict is not supported by sufficient evidence, the appellant should marshal the record evidence supporting the finding or verdict.

(b)(7) Conclusion. A brief conclusion.

(b)(8) Signature. A signature in compliance with Rule 21(e).

(b)(9) Proof of service. A proof of service in compliance with Rule 21(d).

(b)(10) Certificate of compliance. If applicable, a certificate of compliance in accordance with paragraph (g)(1)(C) of this rule.

(b)(11) Addendum. An addendum shall be bound as part of the brief unless doing so makes the brief unreasonably thick, in which case it shall be separately bound and contain a table of contents. The addendum shall contain copies of the following:

(b)(11)(A) in cases on certiorari, a copy of the decision of the Court of Appeals under review; (b)(11)(B) the text of any constitutional provision, statute, rule, or regulation whose interpretation is necessary to a resolution on the contentions set forth in the brief;

(b)(11)(C) the order or judgment appealed from or sought to be reviewed, together with any related minute entries, memorandum decisions, and findings of fact and conclusions of law; and

(b)(11)(D) other parts of the record necessary to an understanding of the issues on appeal such as jury instructions, insurance policies, leases, search warrants, real estate purchase contracts, and transcript pages. [(b)(12) Citation of decisions. Published decisions of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, and unpublished decisions of the Court of Appeals issued on or after October 1, 1998, may be cited as precedent in all courts of the State. Other unpublished decisions may also be cited, so long as all parties and the court are supplied with accurate copies at the time all such decisions are first cited.]

(c) Brief of the appellee. The Brief of Appellee shall conform to the requirements of paragraph (b) of this rule, except that the brief of appellee need not include:

(c)(1) a contention statement, the standard of review, or a citation to the record showing that a contention was preserved unless the appellee is dissatisfied with those subsections of the brief of appellant;

(c)(2) an addendum, except to provide relevant material not included in the addendum of the Brief of Appellant. (d) Reply brief. The appellant may file a Reply Brief of Appellant, and if the appellee has cross-appealed, the appellee may file a Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant. No further briefs may be filed except with leave of the appellate court.

(d)(1) A reply shall conform to the requirements of paragraphs (b)(2), (3), (7), (8), (9), and (10) of this rule.

(d)(2) A reply brief shall be limited to addressing arguments raised in the Brief of Appellee or the Brief of Cross-Appellee. The beginning of each section of a reply brief shall specify those pages in the Brief of Appellee or the Brief of Cross-Appellee where the arguments being addressed appear.

(e) References in briefs to parties. Counsel will be expected in their briefs and oral arguments to keep to a minimum references to parties by such designations as "appellant" and "appellee" or by initials. To promote clarity, counsel are encouraged to use the designations used in the lower court or in the agency proceedings; descriptive terms such as "the employee," "the injured person," "the taxpayer"; or the actual names of parties. Counsel shall avoid references by name to minors or to biological, adoptive, or foster parents in cases involving child abuse, neglect, or dependency, termination of parental rights, or adoption. With respect to the names of minors or parents in those cases, counsel are encouraged to use descriptive terms such as “child,” “the 11-year old,” “mother,” “adoptive parent,” and “foster father.”

(f) References in briefs to the record. References shall be made to the pages of the original record as paginated pursuant to Rule 11(b) or to pages

of any statement of the evidence or proceedings or agreed statement prepared pursuant to Rule 11(f) or 11(g). References to pages of published depositions or transcripts shall identify the sequential number of the cover page of each volume as marked by the clerk on the bottom right corner and each separately numbered page(s) referred to within the deposition or transcript as marked by the transcriber. References to exhibits shall be made to the exhibit numbers. References to “Trial Transcript” or “Memorandum in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment” do not comply with this rule unless accompanied by the relevant page numbers in the record on appeal.(g) Length of briefs.

(g)(1) Type-volume limitation.

(g)(1)(A) In an appeal involving the legality of a death sentence, a principal brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 28,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 2,600 lines of text; and a reply brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text. In all other appeals, a principal brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text; and a reply brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 7,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 650 lines of text.

(g)(1)(B) Headings, footnotes and quotations count toward the word and line limitations, but the table of contents, table of citations, and any addendum containing statutes, rules, regulations or portions of the record as required by paragraph (b)(11) of this rule do not count toward the word and line limitations.

(g)(1)(C) Certificate of compliance. A brief submitted under Rule 24(g)(1) must include a certificate by the attorney or an unrepresented party that the

brief complies with the type-volume limitation. The person preparing the certificate may rely on the word or line count of the word processing system used to prepare the brief. The certificate must state either the number of words in the brief or the number of lines of monospaced type in the brief.

(g)(2) Page limitation. Unless a brief complies with Rule 24(g)(1), a principal brief shall not exceed 30 pages, and a reply brief shall not exceed 15 pages, exclusive of pages containing the table of contents, tables of citations and any addendum containing statutes, rules, regulations, or portions of the record as required by paragraph (b)(11) of this rule. In cases involving cross-appeals, paragraph (h) of this rule sets forth the length of briefs.

(h) Briefs in cases involving cross-appeals. If a cross-appeal is filed, the party first filing a notice of appeal shall be deemed the appellant, unless the parties otherwise agree or the court otherwise orders. Each party shall be entitled to file two briefs.

(h)(1) Brief of appellant. The appellant shall file a Brief of Appellant in compliance with paragraph (b) of this rule.

(h)(2) Brief of appellee and cross-appellant. The appellee shall then file one brief, entitled Brief of Appellee and Cross-Appellant. The brief shall respond to the Brief of Appellant and present the issues raised in the cross-appeal and shall comply with the relevant provisions in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this rule.

(h)(3) Reply brief of appellant and brief of cross-appellee. The appellant shall then file one brief, entitled Reply Brief of Appellant and Brief of Cross-Appellee. The brief shall reply to the Brief of Appellee and respond to the Brief of Cross-Appellant and shall comply with the relevant provisions in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this rule.

(h)(4) Reply brief of cross-appellant. The appellee may then file a Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant, which shall reply to the Brief of Cross-Appellee. The brief shall comply with paragraph (d) of this rule.

(h)(5) Type-Volume Limitation.

(h)(5)(A) The Brief of Appellant is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text.

(h)(5)(B) The Brief of Appellee and Cross-Appellant is acceptable if it contains no more than 16,500 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,500 lines of text.

(h)(5)(C) The Reply Brief of Appellant and Brief of Cross-Appellee is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text.

(h)(5)(D) The Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant is acceptable if it contains no more than half of the type volume specified in Rule 24(h)(5)(A).

(h)(6) Certificate of Compliance. A brief submitted under Rule 24(h)(5) must comply with Rule 24(g)(1)(C).

(h)(7) Page Limitation. Unless it complies with Rule 24(h)(5) and (6), the Brief of Appellant must not exceed 30 pages; the Brief of Appellee and Cross-Appellant, 35 pages; the Reply Brief of Appellant and Brief of Cross-Appellee, 30 pages; and the Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant, 15 pages.

(i) Permission for over length brief. While such motions are disfavored, the court for good cause shown may upon motion permit a party to file a brief that exceeds the page, word, or line limitations of this rule. The motion shall state with specificity the issues to be briefed, the number of additional pages, words, or lines requested, and the good cause for granting the motion. A motion filed at least seven days prior to the date the brief is due or seeking

three or fewer additional pages, 1,400 or fewer additional words, or 130 or fewer lines of text need not be accompanied by a copy of the brief. A motion filed within seven days of the date the brief is due and seeking more than three additional pages, 1,400 additional words, or 130 lines of text shall be accompanied by a copy of the finished brief. If the motion is granted, the responding party is entitled to an equal number of additional pages, words, or lines without further order of the court. Whether the motion is granted or denied, the draft brief will be destroyed by the court.

(j) Briefs in cases involving multiple appellants or appellees. In cases involving more than one appellant or appellee, including cases consolidated for purposes of the appeal, any number of either may join in a single brief, and any appellant or appellee may adopt by reference any part of the brief of another. Parties may similarly join in reply briefs.

(k) Citation of supplemental authorities. When pertinent and significant authorities come to the attention of a party after briefing or oral argument but before decision, that party may promptly advise the clerk of the appellate court, by letter. The letter shall identify the authority, indicate the page of the brief or point argued orally to which it pertains, and briefly state its relevance. Any other party may respond by letter within seven days of the filing of the original letter. The body of any letter filed pursuant to this rule may not exceed 350 words. An original letter and nine copies shall be filed in the Supreme Court. An original letter and seven copies shall be filed in the Court of Appeals. (l) Compliance with Rule 21A. Any filing made under this rule that contains information or records classified as other than public shall comply with Rule 21A.(m) Requirements and sanctions. All briefs under this rule must be concise, presented with accuracy, logically arranged with proper headings and free from burdensome, irrelevant, immaterial or scandalous matters.

Briefs that are not in compliance may be disregarded or stricken, on motion or sua sponte by the court, and the court may assess attorney fees against the offending lawyer.

Advisory Committee Notes

Paragraph (a) clarifies that in briefs governed by this rule the parties should use the terms "appellant" and "appellee" rather than "petitioner" and respondent."

The 2014 amendments eliminate, add, and change a number of requirements. The rule eliminates the statement of jurisdiction, the setting forth of determinative provisions, the nature of the case, and the summary of the argument. The rule adds to what must be included in the addendum, an introduction that replaces some of the eliminated requirements, and a citation requirement at the beginning of each section of a reply brief. And the rule changes the statement of issues to contention statements and moves the contention statements, standards of review, and preservation requirements to the argument section of the brief.

The rule reflects the marshaling requirement articulated in *State v. Nielsen*, 2014 UT 10, __ P.3d __, which holds that the failure to marshal is no longer a technical deficiency that will result in default, but is the manner in which an appellant carries its burden of persuasion when challenging a finding or verdict based upon evidence.

Briefs that do not comply with the technical requirements of this rule are subject to Rule 27(e).

Examples of the public domain citation format referenced in paragraph (b)(6)(E) are as follows:

Before publication in Utah Advanced Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16.

Before publication in Pacific Reporter but after publication in Utah Advance Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

After publication in Pacific Reporter:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, 998 P.2d 250.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, 998 P.2d 250.

Examples of a pinpoint citation to a Utah Supreme Court opinion or a Utah Court of Appeals opinion issued on or after January 1, 1999, would be as follows:

Before publication in Utah Advance Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, ¶ 21.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶ 21.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶¶ 21-25.

Before publication in Pacific Reporter but after publication in Utah Advance Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, ¶ 21, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶ 21, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

After publication in Pacific Reporter:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, ¶ 21, 998 P.2d 250.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶ 21, 998 P.2d 250.

If the immediately preceding authority is a post-January 1, 1999, opinion, cite to the paragraph number:

264 Id. ¶ 15.

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Rule 24. Briefs.

(a) Definitions. For purposes of this rule, the terms “appeal,” “cross-appeal,” “appellant,” and “appellee” include the equivalent elements of original proceedings filed in the appellate court.

(b) Brief of the appellant. The ~~b~~Brief of ~~the a~~Appellant shall contain under appropriate headings and in the order indicated:

(~~a~~b)(1) List of parties. A complete list of all parties to the proceeding in the court or agency whose judgment or order is sought to be reviewed, except where the caption of the case on appeal contains the names of all such parties and except as provided in paragraph (e). The list should be set out on a separate page ~~which appears~~ immediately inside the cover.

(~~a~~b)(2) Table of contents. A table of contents ~~, including the contents of the addendum,~~ with page references to the items included in the brief, including page or tab references to items in the addendum.

(~~a~~b)(3) Table of authorities. A table of authorities including all ~~with~~ cases~~,~~ ~~alphabetically arranged and with parallel citations,~~ rules, statutes and other authorities cited, with references to the pages of the brief where they are cited.

(~~a~~b)(4) Introduction. A ~~brief~~concise statement of the nature of the case, the contentions on appeal, and a summary of the arguments made in the body of the brief. ~~showing the jurisdiction of the appellate court.~~

~~(a)(5) A statement of the issues presented for review, including for each issue: the standard of appellate review with supporting authority; and~~

~~(a)(5)(A) citation to the record showing that the issue was preserved in the trial court; or~~

~~(a)(5)(B) a statement of grounds for seeking review of an issue not preserved in the trial court.~~

~~(a)(6) Constitutional provisions, statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations whose interpretation is determinative of the appeal or of central importance to the appeal shall be set out verbatim with the appropriate citation. If the pertinent part of the provision is lengthy, the citation alone will suffice, and the provision shall be set forth in an addendum to the brief under paragraph (11) of this rule.~~

(~~a~~b)(~~7~~5) ~~A s~~Statement of the case. To the extent relevant to the contentions on appeal, a procedural history including the disposition(s) below, and a statement of the facts. Both the procedural history and statement of facts ~~The statement shall first indicate briefly the nature of the case, the course of proceedings, and its disposition in the court below. A statement of the facts relevant to the issues presented for review shall follow. All statements of fact and references to the proceedings below~~ shall be supported by citations to the record in accordance with paragraph (~~e~~f) of this rule.

~~(a)(8) Summary of arguments. The summary of arguments, suitably paragraphed, shall be a succinct condensation of the arguments actually made in the body of the brief. It shall not be a mere repetition of the heading under which the argument is arranged.~~

(~~a~~b)(~~9~~6) ~~An a~~Argument. For each ground for relief presented, ~~T~~the argument section shall contain the following under appropriate subheadings and in the order indicated:

(b)(6)(A) Contention statement. A statement of error that the appellant contends warrants relief on appeal. ~~contentions and reasons of the appellant with respect to the issues presented, including the grounds for reviewing any issue not preserved in the trial court, with citations to the authorities, statutes, and parts of the record relied on. A party challenging a fact finding must first~~

~~marshal all record evidence that supports the challenged finding. A party seeking to recover attorney's fees incurred on appeal shall state the request explicitly and set forth the legal basis for such an award.~~

(b)(6)(B) Preservation. A citation to the record in accordance with paragraph (f) of this rule showing that the contention was preserved in the trial court or administrative agency. An appellant contending that evidence was erroneously admitted or excluded shall identify the pages of the record where the evidence was identified, offered, and admitted or excluded. If the contention was not preserved, a statement of the grounds for seeking review of the unpreserved ~~claim~~contention of error.

(b)(6)(C) Standard of review. The standard of review governing the contention, with supporting authority.

(~~a~~b)(~~10~~6)(D) Relief sought. A statement of ~~short conclusion stating~~ the precise relief sought. A party seeking to recover attorney's fees incurred on appeal shall state the request explicitly and set forth the legal basis for such an award.

(b)(6)(E) Grounds for relief requested. An argument setting forth controlling legal authority together with reasoned analysis explaining why that authority requires reversal ~~of the order or verdict challenged on appeal~~. The legal citations shall conform to the public domain citation format and shall use italics. No text in a brief shall be bold, underlined or in ALL CAPS unless it is a quotation. References to the proceedings below shall be accompanied with citations to the relevant pages of the record. Where the appellant contends that a finding or verdict is not supported by sufficient evidence, the appellant should marshal the record evidence supporting the finding or verdict.

(b)(7) Conclusion. A brief conclusion.

(b)(8) Signature. A signature in compliance with Rule 21(e).

(b)(9) Proof of ~~S~~service. A proof of service in compliance with Rule 21(d).

(b)(10) Certificate of c~~C~~ompliance. If applicable, a certificate of compliance in accordance with paragraph (g)(1)(C) of this rule.

(~~a~~b)(11) Addendum. An addendum ~~to the brief or a statement that no addendum is necessary under this paragraph. The addendum~~ shall be bound as part of the brief unless doing so makes the brief unreasonably thick, in which case it shall be separately bound and contain a table of contents. ~~If the addendum is bound separately, the addendum shall contain a table of contents.~~ The addendum shall contain ~~a~~ copies~~y~~ of the following:

~~(a)(11)(A) any constitutional provision, statute, rule, or regulation of central importance cited in the brief but not reproduced verbatim in the brief;~~

(~~a~~b)(11)(~~B~~A) in cases ~~being reviewed~~ on certiorari, a copy of the decision of the Court of Appeals under review~~opinion~~; ~~in all cases any court opinion of central importance to the appeal but not available to the court as part of a regularly published reporter service; and~~

(b)(11)(B) the text of any constitutional provision, statute, rule, or regulation whose interpretation is necessary to a resolution on the contentions set forth in the brief;

(b)(11)(C) the order or judgment appealed from or sought to be reviewed, together with any related minute entries, memorandum decisions, and findings of fact and conclusions of law; and

(~~a~~b)(11)(~~C~~D) ~~those~~other parts of the record necessary to an understanding of the issues on appeal such as jury instructions, insurance policies, leases, search warrants, real estate purchase contracts, and transcript pages. ~~that are of central importance to the determination of the appeal, such as the challenged instructions, findings of fact and conclusions of law, memorandum~~

~~decision, the transcript of the court's oral decision, or the contract or document subject to construction.~~

[(b)(12) Citation of decisions. Published decisions of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, and unpublished decisions of the Court of Appeals issued on or after October 1, 1998, may be cited as precedent in all courts of the State. Other unpublished decisions may also be cited, so long as all parties and the court are supplied with accurate copies at the time all such decisions are first cited.]

(~~b~~c) Brief of the appellee. The ~~b~~Brief of ~~the a~~Appellee shall conform to the requirements of paragraph (~~a~~b) of this rule, except that the brief of appellee need not include:

(~~b~~c)(1) a contention statement, the standard of review, or a citation to the record showing that a contention was preserved unless the appellee is dissatisfied with those subsections of the brief of appellant; ~~of the issues or of the case unless the appellee is dissatisfied with the statement of the appellant; or~~

(~~b~~c)(2) an addendum, except to provide relevant material not included in the addendum of the ~~appellant~~Brief of Appellant. ~~The appellee may refer to the addendum of the appellant.~~

(~~c~~d) Reply brief. The appellant may file a Reply ~~b~~Brief of Appellant, ~~in reply to the brief of the appellee,~~ and if the appellee has cross-appealed, the appellee may file a Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant.~~brief in reply to the response of the appellant to the issues presented by the cross-appeal. Reply briefs shall be limited to answering any new matter set forth in the opposing brief. The content of the reply brief shall conform to the requirements of paragraphs (a)(2), (3), (9), and (10) of this rule.~~ No further briefs may be filed except with leave of the appellate court.

(d)(1) A reply shall conform to the requirements of paragraphs (b)(2), (3), (7), (8), (9), and (10) of this rule.

(d)(2) A reply brief shall be limited to addressing arguments raised in the Brief of Appellee or the Brief of Cross-Appellee. The beginning of each section of a reply brief shall specify those pages in the Brief of Appellee or the Brief of Cross-Appellee where the arguments being addressed appear.

(~~d~~e) References in briefs to parties. Counsel will be expected in their briefs and oral arguments to keep to a minimum references to parties by such designations as "appellant" and "appellee~~.~~" or by initials. ~~It~~To promote~~s~~ clarity, counsel are encouraged to use the designations used in the lower court or in the agency proceedings~~,~~; ~~or the actual names of parties, or~~ descriptive terms such as "the employee," "the injured person,~~"~~ "the taxpayer~~,~~"; or the actual names of parties. Counsel shall avoid references by name to minors or to biological, adoptive, or foster parents in cases involving child abuse, neglect, or dependency, termination of parental rights, or adoption. With respect to the names of minors or parents in those cases, counsel are encouraged to use descriptive terms such as “child,” “the 11-year old,” “mother,” “adoptive parent,” and “foster father.”~~etc.~~

(~~e~~f) References in briefs to the record. References shall be made to the pages of the original record as paginated pursuant to Rule 11(b) or to pages of any statement of the evidence or proceedings or agreed statement prepared pursuant to Rule 11(f) or 11(g). References to pages of published depositions or transcripts shall identify the sequential number of the cover page of each volume as marked by the clerk on the bottom right corner and each separately numbered page(s) referred to within the deposition or transcript as marked by the transcriber. References to exhibits shall be made to the exhibit numbers. References to “Trial Transcript” or “Memorandum in

Support of Motion for Summary Judgment" do not comply with this rule unless accompanied by the relevant page numbers in the record on appeal.~~If reference is made to evidence the admissibility of which is in controversy, reference shall be made to the pages of the record at which the evidence was identified, offered, and received or rejected.~~

(~~f~~g) Length of briefs.

(~~f~~g)(1) Type-volume limitation.

(~~f~~g)(1)(A) In an appeal involving the legality of a death sentence, a principal brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 28,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 2,600 lines of text; and a reply brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text. In all other appeals, ~~A~~a principal brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text; and a reply brief is acceptable if it contains no more than 7,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 650 lines of text.

(~~f~~g)(1)(B) Headings, footnotes and quotations count toward the word and line limitations, but the table of contents, table of citations, and any addendum containing statutes, rules, regulations or portions of the record as required by paragraph (~~a~~b)(11) of this rule do not count toward the word and line limitations.

(~~f~~g)(1)(C) Certificate of compliance. A brief submitted under Rule 24(~~f~~g)(1) must include a certificate by the attorney or an unrepresented party that the brief complies with the type-volume limitation. The person preparing the certificate may rely on the word or line count of the word processing system used to prepare the brief. The certificate must state either the number of words in the brief or the number of lines of monospaced type in the brief.

(~~f~~g)(2) Page limitation. Unless a brief complies with Rule 24(~~f~~g)(1), a principal brief~~s~~ shall not exceed 30 pages, and a reply brief~~s~~ shall not exceed 15 pages, exclusive of pages containing the table of contents, tables of citations and any addendum containing statutes, rules, regulations, or portions of the record as required by paragraph (~~a~~b)(11) of this rule. In cases involving cross-appeals, paragraph (~~g~~h) of this rule sets forth the length of briefs.

(~~g~~h) Briefs in cases involving cross-appeals. If a cross-appeal is filed, the party first filing a notice of appeal shall be deemed the appellant, unless the parties otherwise agree or the court otherwise orders. Each party shall be entitled to file two briefs.

(~~g~~h)(1) Brief of appellant. The appellant shall file a Brief of Appellant~~, which shall present the issues raised in the appeal~~ in compliance with paragraph (b) of this rule.

(~~g~~h)(2) Brief of appellee and cross-appellant. The appellee shall then file one brief, entitled Brief of Appellee and Cross-Appellant.~~,~~ The brief ~~which~~ shall respond to the ~~issues raised in the~~ Brief of Appellant and present the issues raised in the cross-appeal and shall comply with the relevant provisions in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this rule.

(~~g~~h)(3) Reply brief of appellant and brief of cross-appellee. The appellant shall then file one brief, entitled Reply Brief of Appellant and Brief of Cross-Appellee.~~,~~ The brief ~~which~~ shall reply to the Brief of Appellee and respond to the Brief of Cross-Appellant and shall comply with the relevant provisions in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this rule.

(~~g~~h)(4) Reply brief of cross-appellant. The appellee may then file a Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant, which shall reply to the Brief of Cross-Appellee. The brief shall comply with paragraph (d) of this rule.

(~~g~~h)(5) Type-Volume Limitation.

(~~g~~h)(5)(A) The ~~appellant's~~ Brief of Appellant is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text.

(~~g~~h)(5)(B) The ~~appellee's~~ Brief of Appellee and Cross-Appellant is acceptable if it contains no more than 16,500 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,500 lines of text.

(~~g~~h)(5)(C) The ~~appellant's~~ Reply Brief of Appellant and Brief of Cross-Appellee is acceptable if it contains no more than 14,000 words or it uses a monospaced face and contains no more than 1,300 lines of text.

(~~g~~h)(5)(D) The ~~appellee's~~ Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant is acceptable if it contains no more than half of the type volume specified in Rule 24(~~g~~h)(5)(A).

(~~g~~h)(6) Certificate of Compliance. A brief submitted under Rule 24(~~g~~h)(5) must comply with Rule 24(~~f~~g)(1)(C).

(~~g~~h)(7) Page Limitation. Unless it complies with Rule 24(~~g~~h)(5) and (6), the ~~appellant's~~ Brief of Appellant must not exceed 30 pages; the ~~appellee's~~ Brief of Appellee and Cross-Appellant, 35 pages; the ~~appellant's~~ Reply Brief of Appellant and Brief of Cross-Appellee, 30 pages; and the ~~appellee's~~ Reply Brief of Cross-Appellant, 15 pages.

(~~h~~i) Permission for over length brief. While such motions are disfavored, the court for good cause shown may upon motion permit a party to file a brief that exceeds the page, word, or line limitations of this rule. The motion shall state with specificity the issues to be briefed, the number of additional pages, words, or lines requested, and the good cause for granting the motion. A motion filed at least seven days prior to the date the brief is due or seeking three or fewer additional pages, 1,400 or fewer additional words, or 130 or fewer lines of text need not be accompanied by a copy of the brief. A motion filed within seven days of the date the brief is due and seeking more than

three additional pages, 1,400 additional words, or 130 lines of text shall be accompanied by a copy of the finished brief. If the motion is granted, the responding party is entitled to an equal number of additional pages, words, or lines without further order of the court. Whether the motion is granted or denied, the draft brief will be destroyed by the court.

(~~i~~j) Briefs in cases involving multiple appellants or appellees. In cases involving more than one appellant or appellee, including cases consolidated for purposes of the appeal, any number of either may join in a single brief, and any appellant or appellee may adopt by reference any part of the brief of another. Parties may similarly join in reply briefs.

(~~j~~k) Citation of supplemental authorities. When pertinent and significant authorities come to the attention of a party after briefing or ~~that party's brief has been filed, or after~~ oral argument but before decision, ~~a~~that party may promptly advise the clerk of the appellate court, by letter ~~setting forth the citations~~. The letter shall identify the authority, indicate the page of the brief or point argued orally to which it pertains, and briefly state its relevance. Any other party may respond by letter within seven days of the filing of the original letter. The body of any letter filed pursuant to this rule may not exceed 350 words. An original letter and nine copies shall be filed in the Supreme Court. An original letter and seven copies shall be filed in the Court of Appeals. ~~There shall be a reference either to the page of the brief or to a point argued orally to which the citations pertain, but the letter shall state the reasons for the supplemental citations. The body of the letter must not exceed 350 words. Any response shall be made within seven days of filing and shall be similarly limited.~~

(~~k~~l) Compliance with Rule 21A. Any filing made under this rule that contains information or records classified as other than public shall comply with Rule 21A.

(m) Requirements and sanctions. All briefs under this rule must be concise, presented with accuracy, logically arranged with proper headings and free from burdensome, irrelevant, immaterial or scandalous matters. Briefs ~~which~~ that are not in compliance may be disregarded or stricken, on motion or sua sponte by the court, and the court may assess attorney fees against the offending lawyer.

Advisory Committee Notes

Paragraph (a) clarifies that in briefs governed by this rule the parties should use the terms "appellant" and "appellee" rather than "petitioner" and respondent."

The 2014 amendments eliminate, add, and change a number of requirements. The rule eliminates the statement of jurisdiction, the setting forth of determinative provisions, the nature of the case, and the summary of the argument. The rule adds to what must be included in the addendum, an introduction that replaces some of the eliminated requirements, and a citation requirement at the beginning of each section of a reply brief. And the rule changes the statement of issues to contention statements and moves the contention statements, standards of review, and preservation requirements to the argument section of the brief.

The rule reflects the marshaling requirement articulated in *State v. Nielsen*, 2014 UT 10, ___ P.3d ___, which holds that the failure to marshal is no longer a technical deficiency that will result in default, but is the manner in which an appellant carries its burden of persuasion when challenging a finding or verdict based upon evidence.

Briefs that do not comply with the technical requirements of this rule are subject to Rule 27(e).

Examples of the public domain citation format referenced in paragraph (b)(6)(E) are as follows:

Before publication in Utah Advanced Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16.

Before publication in Pacific Reporter but after publication in Utah Advance Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

After publication in Pacific Reporter:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, 998 P.2d 250.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, 998 P.2d 250.

Examples of a pinpoint citation to a Utah Supreme Court opinion or a Utah Court of Appeals opinion issued on or after January 1, 1999, would be as follows:

Before publication in Utah Advance Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, ¶ 21.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶ 21.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶¶ 21-25.

Before publication in Pacific Reporter but after publication in Utah Advance Reports:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, ¶ 21, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶ 21, 380 Utah Adv. Rep. 24.

After publication in Pacific Reporter:

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT 16, ¶ 21, 998 P.2d 250.

Smith v. Jones, 1999 UT App 16, ¶ 21, 998 P.2d 250.

If the immediately preceding authority is a post-January 1, 1999, opinion, cite to the paragraph number:

Id. ¶ 15.

~~Rule 24(a)(9) now reflects what Utah appellate courts have long held. See In re Beesley, 883 P.2d 1343, 1349 (Utah 1994); Newmeyer v. Newmeyer, 745 P.2d 1276, 1278 (Utah 1987). "To successfully appeal a trial court's findings of fact, appellate counsel must play the devil's advocate. 'Attorneys must extricate themselves from the client's shoes and fully assume the adversary's position. In order to properly discharge the marshalling duty..., the challenger must present, in comprehensive and fastidious order, every scrap of competent evidence introduced at trial which supports the very findings the appellant resists.'" ONEIDA/SLIC, v. ONEIDA Cold Storage and Warehouse, Inc., 872 P.2d 1051, 1052-53 (Utah App. 1994)(alteration in original)(quoting West Valley City v. Majestic Inv. Co., 818 P.2d 1311, 1315 (Utah App. 1991)). See also State ex rel. M.S. v. Salata, 806 P.2d 1216, 1218 (Utah App. 1991); Bell v. Elder, 782 P.2d 545, 547 (Utah App. 1989); State v. Moore, 802 P.2d 732, 738-39 (Utah App. 1990).~~

~~The brief must contain for each issue raised on appeal, a statement of the applicable standard of review and citation of supporting authority.~~

Tab 3

State offers two lines of response. First it asks us to stop short of reaching the merits in light of Nielsen's purported failure to marshal the evidence—specifically, his failure to present, "in comprehensive and fastidious order, every scrap of competent evidence introduced at trial which supports the very findings the appellant resists." *Chen v. Stewart*, 2004 UT 82, ¶ 77, 100 P.3d 1177 (internal quotation marks omitted). Second, and alternatively, the State challenges Nielsen's position on the merits, identifying evidence in the record that it sees as sufficient to sustain an inference that Trisha was taken against her will.

¶32 We reject the State's first point but agree with its second. Before addressing the merits of Nielsen's challenge to the sufficiency of the evidence, we first consider the State's marshaling argument—acknowledging some dicta in our prior cases that appears to support it, but refining and clarifying the standard going forward.

1. Marshaling

¶33 Our rules of appellate procedure prescribe standards for the form, organization, and content of a brief on appeal. *See* UTAH R. APP. P. 24. Some of the standards in rule 24 are sufficiently clear and objective that the failure to follow them may result in the rejection of a noncompliant brief by our clerk's office. A brief that exceeds the rule's limits on length, for example, would be rejected by our clerk's office, as would a brief that fails to include a table of contents or statement of the standard of review. *See id.* 24(a)(2), (5). Typically a party filing a noncompliant brief would be given an opportunity to correct these sorts of deficiencies. But failure to do so theoretically could result in our failure to reach the merits on the basis of the party's procedural default under rule 24.

¶34 Other standards in rule 24 are more subjective, and not susceptible to rejection by the clerk's office or to procedural default by the court. Such standards are often an outgrowth of a party's burden of persuasion on appeal. Thus, rule 24 requires the appellant's brief to set forth "the contentions and reasons of the appellant with respect to the issues presented . . . with citations to the authorities, statutes, and parts of the record relied on." *Id.* 24(a)(9). Our clerk's office makes no attempt to police this rule at the outset. That assessment is left to the court. And we perform it not as a matter of gauging procedural compliance with the rule, but as a necessary component of our evaluation of the case on its

merits, as viewed through the lens of the applicable standard of review. *See State v. Thomas*, 961 P.2d 299, 305 (Utah 1998) ("While failure to cite to pertinent authority may not always render an issue inadequately briefed, it does so when the overall analysis of the issue is so lacking as to shift the burden of research and argument to the reviewing court."); *Salt Lake Cnty. v. Butler, Crockett & Walsh Dev. Corp.*, 2013 UT App 30, ¶ 37 n.5, 297 P.3d 38 (holding that the appellant "has not met its burden of persuasion on appeal by adequately briefing a plausible claim").

¶35 Historically, our marshaling requirement was understood to fall into the latter category. For many years, we conceived of the responsibility to marshal the evidence supporting a challenged factual finding as a mere component of an appellant's broader burden of overcoming the weighty deference granted to factual determinations in the trial court. Thus, when a party failed to marshal and distinguish evidence supportive of a challenged verdict or finding of fact, our response was not to decline to reach the merits as a matter of default, but simply to affirm on the ground that the appellant had failed to carry its heavy burden of persuasion.

¶36 This version of the marshaling principle was announced in our cases as early as 1961. *See Charlton v. Hackett*, 360 P.2d 176, 176 (Utah 1961). We followed this approach consistently for several decades thereafter. *See, e.g., Nyman v. Cedar City*, 361 P.2d 1114, 1115 (Utah 1961); *Egbert & Jaynes v. R.C. Tolman Constr. Co.*, 680 P.2d 746, 747 (Utah 1984). We coined the term "marshal[ing]" in 1985, *see Scharf v. BMG Corp.*, 700 P.2d 1068, 1070 (Utah 1985), but still continued to view marshaling as part of the overall burden necessary to meet the clear error standard of review on appeal. *See, e.g., IFG Leasing Co. v. Gordon*, 776 P.2d 607, 616–17 (Utah 1989).

¶37 Over time our caselaw occasionally has migrated in the other direction—toward the hard-and-fast *default* notion of a procedural rule. Instead of noting an appellant's failure to marshal as a step toward concluding that it had failed to establish clear error, we sometimes have identified a marshaling deficiency as a ground for an appellant's procedural default—citing a lack of marshaling as a basis for not reaching the merits. *See, e.g., United Park City Mines Co. v. Stichting Mayflower Mountain Fonds*, 2006 UT 35, ¶¶ 38, 41, 140 P.3d 1200.

¶38 Over a similar span of time, we also added some additional teeth to the rule. Thus, while rule 24(a)(9) itself (adopted in 1999) speaks only of "marshal[ing] all record evidence that supports the challenged finding," our caselaw has sometimes extended this principle to require an appellant to "present, in comprehensive and fastidious order, every scrap of competent evidence introduced at trial which supports the very findings the appellant resists," and to do so in a manner in which he "temporarily remove[s] [his] own prejudices and fully embrace[s] the adversary's position" by assuming the role of "devil's advocate." *Chen*, 2004 UT 82, ¶¶ 77–78 (internal quotation marks omitted).

¶39 Our commitment to the hard-and-fast default notion of the marshaling rule has been less than complete. Sometimes we have openly overlooked a failure to marshal and proceeded to the merits. *See, e.g., State v. Green*, 2005 UT 9, ¶¶ 12–13, 108 P.3d 710. In many other cases, moreover, we have reverted to our earlier conception of marshaling, and disposed of the case on its merits despite an alleged failure to marshal "every scrap" of contrary evidence. And in all events we have declined to state a limiting principle, leaving the question of whether to treat marshaling as a basis for a default or instead as a component of the burden of persuasion purely a matter of our discretion. *See Martinez v. Media-Paymaster Plus/Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, 2007 UT 42, ¶¶ 19–20, 164 P.3d 384 (noting that parties risk forfeiting their challenges to factual questions when they fail to marshal but sustaining the court of appeals' choice to resolve the case on its merits because "[t]he reviewing court . . . retains discretion to consider independently the whole record and determine if the decision below has adequate factual support").

¶40 The time has come to reconcile and regularize our cases in this field. In so doing, we recognize and reiterate the importance of the requirement of marshaling. It is a boon to both judicial economy and fairness to the parties. *See Chen*, 2004 UT 82, ¶ 79. Thus, an appellant who seeks to prevail in challenging the sufficiency of the evidence to support a factual finding or a verdict on appeal should follow the dictates of rule 24(a)(9), as a party who fails to identify and deal with supportive evidence will never persuade an appellate court to reverse under the deferential standard of review that applies to such issues. That said, we now conclude that the hard-and-fast default notion of marshaling is more problematic than helpful—particularly when compounded by the heightened requirements of our caselaw (to present "every scrap" of evidence and to play "devil's advocate") and our retention of

discretion to disregard a marshaling defect where we deem it appropriate.

¶41 We therefore repudiate the default notion of marshaling sometimes put forward in our cases and reaffirm the traditional principle of marshaling as a natural extension of an appellant's burden of persuasion. Accordingly, from here on our analysis will be focused on the ultimate question of whether the appellant has established a basis for overcoming the healthy dose of deference owed to factual findings and jury verdicts—and not on whether there is a technical deficiency in marshaling meriting a default.

¶42 In so holding, we do not mean to minimize the significance of our longstanding requirement of marshaling. Instead we aim only to clarify it and put it in proper perspective. Thus, we reiterate that a party challenging a factual finding or sufficiency of the evidence to support a verdict will almost certainly fail to carry its burden of persuasion on appeal if it fails to marshal. Our point is only that that will be the question on appeal going forward. The focus should be on the merits, not on some arguable deficiency in the appellant's duty of marshaling.

¶43 Too often, the appellee's brief is focused on this latter point, and not enough on the ultimate merits of the case. To encourage the latter and discourage the former, we also hereby repudiate the requirements of playing "devil's advocate" and of presenting "every scrap of competent evidence" in a "comprehensive and fastidious order." *Supra* ¶ 38. That formulation is nowhere required in the rule. And its principal impact on briefing has been to incentivize appellees to conduct a fastidious review of the record in the hope of identifying a scrap of evidence the appellant may have overlooked. That is not the point of the marshaling rule, and will no longer be an element of our consideration of it.

¶44 Under this standard as now clarified, we reject the State's request that we treat Nielsen's failure to marshal every scrap of evidence supporting the jury's verdict as a stand-alone basis for rejecting his challenge to his kidnapping conviction. We proceed instead to the merits of Nielsen's argument, while emphasizing that our assessment of his claim on appeal is certainly affected (and greatly undermined) by the overbroad assertions in his brief regarding the absence of evidence in the record and by his general failure to identify and deal with that evidence.

Tab 4

Rule 27. Form of briefs.

(a) Paper size; printing margins. Briefs shall be typewritten, printed or prepared by photocopying or other duplicating or copying process that will produce clear, black and permanent copies equally legible to printing, on opaque, unglazed paper 8 1/2 inches wide and 11 inches long, and shall be securely bound along the left margin. Paper may be recycled paper, with or without deinking. The printing must be double spaced, except for matter customarily single spaced and indented. Margins shall be at least one inch on the top, bottom and sides of each page. Page numbers may appear in the margins.

(b) ~~Typeface~~Font. All briefs shall use one of the following fonts: Book Antiqua or Garamond. ~~Either a proportionally spaced or monospaced typeface in a plain, roman style may be used. A proportionally spaced typeface~~All text must be 13-point or larger ~~for both text and footnotes. A monospaced typeface may not contain more than ten characters per inch for both text and footnotes~~.

(c) Binding. Briefs shall be printed on both sides of the page, and bound with a compact-type binding so as not unduly to increase the thickness of the brief along the bound side. Coiled plastic and spiral-type bindings are not acceptable.

(d) Color of cover; contents of cover. The cover of the opening brief of appellant shall be blue; that of appellee, red; that of intervenor, guardian ad litem, or amicus curiae, green; that of any reply brief, or in cases involving a cross-appeal, the appellant's second brief, gray; that of any petition for rehearing, tan; that of any response to a petition for rehearing, white; that of a petition for certiorari, white; that of a response to a petition for certiorari, orange; and that of a reply to the response to a petition for certiorari, yellow. The cover of an addendum shall be the same color as the brief with which it is

filed. All brief covers shall be of heavy cover stock. There shall be adequate contrast between the printing and the color of the cover. The cover of all briefs shall set forth in the caption the full title given to the case in the court or agency from which the appeal was taken, as modified pursuant to Rule 3(g), as well as the designation of the parties both as they appeared in the lower court or agency and as they appear in the appeal. In addition, the covers shall contain: the name of the appellate court; the number of the case in the appellate court opposite the case title; the title of the document (e.g., Brief of Appellant); the nature of the proceeding in the appellate court (e.g., Appeal, Petition for Review); the name of the court and judge, agency or board below; and the names and addresses of counsel for the respective parties designated as attorney for appellant, petitioner, appellee, or respondent, as the case may be. The names of counsel for the party filing the document shall appear in the lower right and opposing counsel in the lower left of the cover. In criminal cases, the cover of the defendant's brief shall also indicate whether the defendant is presently incarcerated in connection with the case on appeal and if the brief is an Anders brief.

(e) Effect of non-compliance with rules. The clerk shall examine all briefs before filing. If they are not prepared in accordance with these rules, they will not be filed but shall be returned to be properly prepared. The clerk shall retain one copy of the non-complying brief and the party shall file a brief prepared in compliance with these rules within 5 days. The party whose brief has been rejected under this provision shall immediately notify the opposing party in writing of the lodging. The clerk may grant additional time for bringing a brief into compliance only under extraordinary circumstances. This rule is not intended to permit significant substantive changes in briefs.

Advisory Committee Note

~~The change from the term "pica size" to "ten characters per inch" is intended to accommodate the widespread use of word processors. The definition of pica is print of approximately ten characters per inch. The amendment is not intended to prohibit proportionally spaced printing.~~

An Anders brief is a brief filed pursuant to Anders v. California, 386 U.S. 793, 97 S.Ct. 1396 (1967), in cases where counsel believes no nonfrivolous appellate issues exist. In order for an Anders-type brief to be accepted by either the Utah Court of Appeals or the Utah Supreme Court, counsel must comply with specific requirements that are more rigorous than those set forth in Anders. See, e.g. State v. Wells, 2000 UT App 304, 13 P.3d 1056 (per curiam); In re D.C., 963 P.2d 761 (Utah App. 1998); State v. Flores, 855 P.2d 258 (Utah App. 1993) (per curiam); Dunn v. Cook, 791 P.2d 873 (Utah 1990); and State v. Clayton, 639 P.2d 168 (Utah 1981).