

1 **Rule 50. Response; reply.**

2 (a) **Response.** No petition for writ of certiorari will be granted absent a request by the  
3 court for a response, and no response will be received unless requested by the court.

4 (1) Time to file. Within 30 days after an order requesting a response, any other party  
5 may file a response.

6 (2) Form. The response must comply with the form of a brief as specified in Rule 27(a)-  
7 (c) and, as applicable, Rule 49.

8 ~~(b)~~(3) Page or word limitation. A response must be as short as possible, and no more  
9 than 4,000 words or ~~and may not exceed 2015~~ pages if a word count is not provided.  
10 These limits do not include, ~~excluding the any~~ table of contents, ~~the~~ table of  
11 authorities, ~~and any the~~ appendix, or certificates.

12 (4) Contents. The response ~~shall~~ must contain, in the order indicated:

13 (A) A table of contents with page references;

14 (B) A table of authorities with cases alphabetically arranged and with parallel  
15 citations, agency rules, court rules, statutes, and authorities cited, with references  
16 to the pages of the response ~~petition~~ where they are cited;

17 (C) A concise statement of jurisdiction that either agrees with the petitioner's  
18 statement or explains why petitioner's statement is incorrect;

19 ~~Controlling provisions of constitutions, statutes, ordinances, and regulations set~~  
20 ~~forth verbatim with the appropriate citation. If the controlling provisions involved~~  
21 ~~are lengthy, their citation alone will suffice and their pertinent text shall be set~~  
22 ~~forth in the appendix.~~

23 (D) A statement of the case that includes the facts and the procedural background  
24 relevant to the issues presented for review. ~~The statement shall first indicate briefly~~  
25 ~~the nature of the case, the course of the proceedings, and its disposition in the~~  
26 ~~lower courts. There shall follow a statement of the facts relevant to the issues~~

~~presented for review.~~ All statements of fact and references to the proceedings below ~~shall~~ must be supported by citations to the record on appeal or to the opinion of the Court of Appeals;

(E) With respect to each question presented, a direct and concise argument responding to the petitioner's asserted grounds ~~special and important reasons as provided in Rule 46~~ for the issuance of the writ; and;

(F) **A certificate of compliance.** The filer must certify that the response complies with:

(i) paragraph (a)(3), governing the number of pages or words (the filer may rely on the word count of the word processing system used to prepare the response); and

(ii) Rule 21, governing public and private records.

~~An appendix containing any items listed in Rule 49(a)(10) that were not included in the petitioner's appendix.~~

(b) **Objections to jurisdiction.** The court will not accept a motion to dismiss a petition for a writ of certiorari. Objections to the Supreme Court's jurisdiction to grant the petition may be included in the response.

(d) **Reply.** A petitioner may file a reply addressed only to arguments first raised in the response.

(1) **Time to file.** A reply must be filed within ~~7~~ seven days after the response is served, but distribution of the petition and response to the court ordinarily will not be delayed pending the filing of any such reply unless the response includes a new request for relief, such as an award of attorney fees for the response.

(2) **Form.** A reply must comply with the form of a brief as specified in Rule 27(a)-(c).

(3) **Page or word limitations.** The reply must be as short as possible, and no more than 1,500 or ~~may not exceed~~ five pages if a word count is not provided. These limits do

53 not include any table of contents, table of authorities, appendix, or certificates, ~~and~~  
54 ~~must comply with Rule 27.~~

55 (4) A certificate of compliance. The filer must certify that the reply complies with:

56 (A) paragraph (c)(3), governing the number of pages or words (the filer may rely  
57 on the word count of the word processing system used to prepare the reply); and

58 (B) Rule 21, governing public and private records.

59 *Effective November 1, 2026*~~3~~