

RULES OF SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA  
PART FIVE  
THE SUPREME COURT  
H. DECISION, COSTS, AND MANDATE

**Rule 5:37. Petition for Rehearing After Consideration by the Full Court.**

(a) *Scope.* This Rule does not apply to the refusal or dismissal of a petition for appeal, or the refusal or dismissal of an original jurisdiction petition. See Rules 5:20 and 5:20A.

(b) *Notice of Intent.* A party intending to apply for a rehearing shall file written notice with the clerk of this Court within 10 days after the date of the order or opinion of this Court deciding the case. If such notice is given, the clerk of this Court shall withhold certification of the mandate until time for filing the petition for rehearing has expired and, if the petition is filed, until it is disposed of.

(c) *Requirements for Pro Se Prisoners or By Leave of Court.* Unless the rehearing is abandoned, 20 copies of a petition for rehearing not to exceed the longer of 10 pages or 1,750 words in length shall be thereafter filed in the office of the clerk of this Court and 3 copies delivered or mailed to opposing counsel within 30 days after the date of the order of this Court deciding the case.

(d) *Requirements for All Others.*

(1) Except for petitions filed by pro se prisoners, or with leave of this Court, the petition for rehearing shall be filed as an Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) document attached to an e-mail addressed to [scvpfr@courts.state.va.us](mailto:scvpfr@courts.state.va.us) and will be timely filed if received by the clerk's office on or before 11:59 p.m. within 30 days after the date of the order or opinion of this Court deciding the case. The petition must be formatted to print on a page 8 1/2 x 11 inches, must be in 14-point font or larger, must be double-spaced, and must not exceed the longer of 10 pages or 1,750 words. The petition must include a certificate of service to opposing counsel and the certificate shall specify the manner of service and the date of service. The petition must also include a certificate of compliance with the word count limit. The petition will be considered filed on the date and time that it is received by [scvpfr@courts.state.va.us](mailto:scvpfr@courts.state.va.us). If the petition does not meet the requirements of this rule as to format, the clerk shall so notify counsel and provide a specific amount of time for a corrected copy of the petition to be filed. A person who files a document electronically shall have the same responsibility as a person filing a document in paper form for ensuring that the document is properly filed, complete, and readable. However, if technical problems at this Court result in a failure to timely receive the electronically filed petition for rehearing, counsel shall provide to the clerk of this Court on the next business day all documentation which exists demonstrating the attempt to email the petition, any delivery failure notice received in response to the attempt, and a copy of the petition for rehearing.

(2) The e-mail message to which the petition is attached shall recite in the subject line the style of the case and the Supreme Court record number. The e-mail message

shall contain a paragraph stating that a petition for rehearing is being filed, the style of the case, the Supreme Court record number, the name and Virginia State Bar number of counsel filing the petition, as well as the law firm name, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number (if any), and e-mail address (if any) of counsel. The message shall also state whether a copy of the petition has been served by e-mail or another means on opposing counsel and the date of such service. If the petition has been served on opposing counsel by e-mail, the e-mail address for opposing counsel shall also be included. Upon receipt of the petition for rehearing in the e-mail box of the clerk's office, an acknowledgment will automatically be sent to counsel seeking the rehearing.

(e) *Grounds for Granting.* No petition for rehearing shall be granted unless one of the Justices who decided the case adversely to the applicant determines that there is good cause for such rehearing. The proceedings upon such rehearing shall be in accordance with Code § [8.01-675.2](#). No oral argument will be permitted on applications for rehearing.

(f) *When a Rehearing is Granted.* When a rehearing is granted, ~~the case will be placed on the privileged docket for oral argument. The petitioner may not file any brief in addition to the petition for rehearing. The respondent may file electronically, in compliance with paragraph (d) of this Rule, a brief in reply that shall not exceed the longer of 15 pages in length or 2,625 words within 21 days after the date of the order granting the rehearing. The respondent will be heard orally whether or not respondent files a brief in reply. The case will be called at the next session of the Court after the expiration of the 21 days unless counsel agree that it be called at a session of the Court commencing at an earlier time and the Court permits the case to be called at an earlier time. the Court will determine whether any additional briefing or argument is necessary. Thereafter, the Court may direct the respondent to electronically file a brief, in compliance with paragraph (d) of this Rule, that shall not exceed the longer of 15 pages in length or 2,625 words. After review of the petition for rehearing and the respondent's brief, if any is filed, the Court may set oral argument on the petition for rehearing at the next available session of the Court. Otherwise, the Court will issue a ruling on the rehearing without further briefing or oral argument.~~

**Last amended by Order dated April 13, 2012; effective June 13, 2012.**