



Molly C. Dwyer
Clerk of Court

Office of the Clerk
United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
Post Office Box 193939
San Francisco, California 94119-3939
415-355-8000

June 04, 2020

No.: 20-71554
Short Title: Food & Water Watch, Inc., et al v. USEPA

Dear Petitioners/Counsel

Your Petition for Review has been received in the Clerk's office of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The U.S. Court of Appeals docket number shown above has been assigned to this case. You must indicate this Court of Appeals docket number whenever you communicate with this court regarding this case.

The due dates for filing the parties' briefs and otherwise perfecting the petition have been set by the enclosed "Time Schedule Order," pursuant to applicable FRAP rules. These dates can be extended only by court order. Failure of the petitioner to comply with the time schedule order will result in automatic dismissal of the petition. 9th Cir. R. 42-1.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

FILED

JUN 04 2020

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

FOOD & WATER WATCH, INC.;
SNAKE RIVER WATERKEEPER,
INC.,

Petitioners,

v.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY,

Respondent.

No. 20-71554

Environmental Protection Agency

TIME SCHEDULE ORDER

The parties shall meet the following time schedule.

Thu., June 11, 2020

Petitioners' Mediation Questionnaire due. If your registration for Appellate CM/ECF is confirmed after this date, the Mediation Questionnaire is due within one day of receiving the email from PACER confirming your registration.

Mon., August 24, 2020

Agency petitioner brief due

Tue., September 22, 2020

Respondent's answering brief and excerpts of record shall be served and filed pursuant to FRAP 31 and 9th Cir. R. 31-2.1.

The optional petitioners' reply brief shall be filed and served within 21 days of service of the respondent's brief, pursuant to FRAP 31 and 9th Cir. R. 31-2.1.

Failure of the petitioners to comply with the Time Schedule Order will result in automatic dismissal of the appeal. See 9th Cir. R. 42-1.

FOR THE COURT:

MOLLY C. DWYER
CLERK OF COURT

By: Janne Nicole Millare Rivera
Deputy Clerk
Ninth Circuit Rule 27-7



Office of the Clerk
United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
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Clerk of Court

**ATTENTION ALL PARTIES AND COUNSEL
PLEASE REVIEW PARTIES AND COUNSEL LISTING**

We have opened this appeal/petition based on the information provided to us by the appellant/petitioner and/or the lower court or agency. EVERY attorney and unrepresented litigant receiving this notice MUST immediately review the caption and service list for this case and notify the Court of any corrections.

Failure to ensure that all parties and counsel are accurately listed on our docket, and that counsel are registered and admitted, may result in your inability to participate in and/or receive notice of filings in this case, and may also result in the waiver of claims or defenses.

PARTY LISTING:

Notify the Clerk immediately if you (as an unrepresented litigant) or your client(s) are not properly and accurately listed or identified as a party to the appeal/petition. To report an inaccurate identification of a party (including company names, substitution of government officials appearing only in their official capacity, or spelling errors), or to request that a party who is listed only by their lower court role (such as plaintiff/defendant/movant) be listed as a party to the appeal/petition as an appellee or respondent so that the party can appear in this Court and submit filings, contact the Help Desk at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/cmecf/feedback/> or send a letter to the Clerk. If you or your client were identified as a party to the appeal/petition in the notice of appeal/petition for review or representation statement and you believe this is in error, file a motion to dismiss as to those parties.

COUNSEL LISTING:

In addition to reviewing the caption with respect to your client(s) as discussed above, all counsel receiving this notice must also review the electronic notice of docket activity or the service list for the case to ensure that the correct counsel are

listed for your clients. If appellate counsel are not on the service list, they must file a notice of appearance or substitution immediately or contact the Clerk's office.

NOTE that in criminal and habeas corpus appeals, trial counsel WILL remain as counsel of record on appeal until or unless they are relieved or replaced by Court order. *See* Ninth Circuit Rule 4-1.

REGISTRATION AND ADMISSION TO PRACTICE:

Every counsel listed on the docket must be admitted to practice before the Ninth Circuit AND registered for electronic filing in the Ninth Circuit in order to remain or appear on the docket as counsel of record. *See* Ninth Circuit Rules 25-5(a) and 46-1.2. These are two separate and independent requirements and doing one does not satisfy the other. If you are not registered and/or admitted, you MUST, within 7 days from receipt of this notice, register for electronic filing AND apply for admission, or be replaced by substitute counsel or otherwise withdraw from the case.

If you are not registered for electronic filing, you will not receive further notices of filings from the Court in this case, including important scheduling orders and orders requiring a response. Failure to respond to a Court order or otherwise meet an established deadline can result in the dismissal of the appeal/petition for failure to prosecute by the Clerk pursuant to Ninth Circuit Rule 42-1, or other action adverse to your client.

If you will be replaced by substitute counsel, new counsel should file a notice of appearance/substitution (no form or other attachment is required) and should note that they are replacing existing counsel. To withdraw without replacement, you must electronically file a notice or motion to withdraw as counsel from this appeal/petition and include your client's contact information.

To register for electronic filing, and for more information about Ninth Circuit CM/ECF, visit our website at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/cmecf/#section-registration>.

To apply for admission, see the instructions and form application available on our website at <https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/attorneys/>.



**United States Court of Appeals
for the Ninth Circuit**

**P.O. Box 31478
Billings, Montana 59107-1478**

**CHAMBERS OF
SIDNEY R. THOMAS
CHIEF JUDGE**

**TEL: (406) 373-3200
FAX: (406) 373-3250**

Dear Counsel:

I write to introduce you to the court's mediation program. The court offers you and your clients professional mediation services, at no cost, to help resolve disputes quickly and efficiently and to explore the development of more satisfactory results than can be achieved from continued litigation. Each year the mediators facilitate the resolution of hundreds of cases, from the most basic contract and tort actions to the most complex cases involving multiple parties, numerous pieces of litigation and important issues of public policy.

The eight circuit mediators, all of whom work exclusively for the court, are highly experienced attorneys from a variety of practices; all have extensive training and experience in negotiation, appellate mediation, and Ninth Circuit practice and procedure. Although the mediators are court employees, the court has adopted strict confidentiality rules and practices to ensure that what goes on in mediation stays in mediation. See Circuit Rule 33-1.

The first step in the mediation process is case selection. To assist the mediators in the case selection process, appellants/petitioners must file a completed Mediation Questionnaire within 7 days of the docketing of the case. See Circuit Rules 3-4, and 15-2. Appellees may also fill out and file a questionnaire. The questionnaire with filing instructions is available [here](#). Once the Mediation Questionnaire is submitted, the parties will receive via NDA a link to a separate form that will allow them to submit **confidential** information directly to the Circuit Mediators. Counsel may also submit confidential information at any time to ca09_mediation@ca9.uscourts.gov.

In most cases, the mediator will schedule a settlement assessment conference, with counsel only, to determine whether the case is suitable for mediation. Be assured that participation in the mediation program will not slow down disposition of your appeal. Mediation discussions are not limited to the issues on appeal. The discussions can involve other cases and may include individuals who are not parties to the litigation, if doing so enables the parties to reach a global settlement.

Further information about the mediation program may be found on the court's website: www.ca9.uscourts.gov/mediation/. Please address questions directly to the Mediation Program at 415-355-7900 or ca09mediation@ca9.uscourts.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sidney R. Thomas".

Sidney Thomas

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

Form 7. Mediation Questionnaire

Instructions for this form: <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/forms/form07instructions.pdf>

9th Cir. Case Number(s)

Case Name

**Counsel submitting
this form**

**Represented party/
parties**

Briefly describe the dispute that gave rise to this lawsuit.

Feedback or questions about this form? Email us at forms@ca9.uscourts.gov

Briefly describe the result below and the main issues on appeal.

Describe any proceedings remaining below or any related proceedings in other tribunals.

Signature

Date

(use “s/[typed name]” to sign electronically-filed documents)

Feedback or questions about this form? Email us at forms@ca9.uscourts.gov

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authorizes discharges of wastewater from concentrated animal feeding operations (“CAFOs”) in Idaho. Notice of this action was published in the Federal Register at 85 Fed. Reg. 28,624 (May 13, 2020). A copy of the Federal Register notice is attached hereto as Exhibit A. General Permit IDG010000 will become effective on June 15, 2020. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 23.2, the permit is considered issued for the purpose of judicial review beginning two weeks after publication in the Federal Register, or May 27, 2020. Thus, General Permit IDG010000 is ripe for review in this Court. *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1369(b)(1)(F) (authorizing review by the Court of Appeals for EPA action in “issuing or denying any permit under [33 U.S.C. § 1342 (CWA NPDES program)]”).

Petitioners are non-profit organizations whose missions include advocating for the protection, preservation, and sound management of waters of the United States. Petitioners have a substantial interest in the EPA’s reissuance of General Permit IDG010000 because the federal action taken therein will have adverse impacts on the Petitioners’ and their members’ interests in the unique resources and ecosystems found in affected waters of the United States.

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of June, 2020.

s/ Tyler Lobdell
Tyler Lobdell (ISB No. 10431)
Food & Water Watch
3449 S Norfolk Way
Boise, Idaho 83706
Telephone: (208) 209-3569

s/ Allison LaPlante

Allison LaPlante (OSB No. 023614)

Earthrise Law Center

Lewis & Clark Law School

1010 S. Terwilliger Boulevard

Portland, Oregon 97219-7799

Telephone: (503) 768-6894

Facsimile: (503) 768-6642

*Counsel for Petitioners Food & Water Watch
and Snake River Waterkeeper*

*Counsel for Petitioners Food & Water
Watch and Snake River Waterkeeper*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 4th day of June, 2020, I electronically filed the foregoing Petition for Review and Rule 26.1 Disclosure Statement with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System, and served by certified mail, return receipt requested, a true and correct copy of the foregoing on the following:

Andrew Wheeler, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code: 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Daniel D. Opalski, Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 Water Division
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101

Correspondence Control Unit
Office of General Counsel (2311)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

William Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530

s/ Tyler Lobdell
Tyler Lobdell
Food & Water Watch

EXHIBIT A

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC20–19–000) by either of the following methods:

- **eFiling at Commission's Website:**

<http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>.

- **Mail/Express Services:** Persons unable to file electronically may mail similar pleadings to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Hand delivered submissions in docketed proceedings should be delivered to Health and Human Services, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Instructions: All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp>. For user assistance, contact FERC Online Support by email at ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov, or by phone at: (866) 208–3676 (toll-free).

Docket: Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this

docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Brown may be reached by email at DataClearance@FERC.gov and telephone at (202) 502–8663.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control No.: 1902–0099.

Abstract: The FERC Form 561 responds to the FPA requirements for annual reporting of similar types of positions which public utility officers and directors hold with financial institutions, insurance companies, utility equipment and fuel providers, and with any of an electric utility's 20 largest purchasers of electric energy (*i.e.*, the 20 entities with high expenditures of electricity). The FPA specifically defines most of the information elements in the Form 561 including the information that must be filed, the required filers, the directive to

make the information available to the public, and the filing deadline.

The Commission uses the information required by 18 CFR 131.31 and collected by the Form 561 to implement the FPA requirement that those who are authorized to hold interlocked directorates annually disclose all the interlocked positions held within the prior year. The Form 561 data identifies persons holding interlocking positions between public utilities and other entities, allows the Commission to review these interlocking positions, and allows identification of possible conflicts of interest.

Type of Respondents: Public utility officers and directors holding financial positions, insurance companies, security underwriters, electrical equipment suppliers, fuel provider, and any entity which is controlled by these.

Estimate of Annual Burden:¹ The Commission estimates the total annual burden and cost² for this information collection as follows:

FERC FORM 561, (ANNUAL REPORT OF INTERLOCKING POSITIONS)

Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden & cost per response	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost	Cost per respondent (\$)
(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1)
2,700	1	2,700	0.25 hrs.; \$20.00	675.00 hrs.; \$54,000	\$20.00

Comments: Comments are invited on:

(1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: May 7, 2020.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2020–10252 Filed 5–12–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–10009–53–Region 10]

Final Reissuance of NPDES General Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations in Idaho (IDG010000)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final reissuance of NPDES general permit.

SUMMARY: The Director of the Water Division, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10, is reissuing the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) located in Idaho, excluding facilities in Indian Country. The General Permit authorizes discharges of wastewater from CAFOs. The previous permit NPDES General Permit for CAFOs in Idaho expired on May 8, 2017. This permit will transfer to the State of Idaho in July 2020 as part of the phased implementation of Idaho's administration of the NPDES program. The EPA will remain the permitting

authority for CAFO facilities located in Indian Country in Idaho.

DATES: The issuance date of the General Permit is May 13, 2020. The General Permit will be effective on June 15, 2020 and will expire on June 14, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the general permits, Fact Sheet and Response to Comments are available upon request. Written requests may be submitted to: Water Division; USEPA Region 10; 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, WD19–C04; Seattle, WA 98101–3188. These documents can be accessed online on the EPA Region 10 website at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/npdes-general-permit-concentrated-animal-feeding-operations-cafos-idaho>.

¹ Burden is the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, refer to Title 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

² Commission staff estimates that the industry's skill set and cost (for wages and benefits) for FERC–561 are approximately the same as the Commission's average cost. The FERC 2019 average salary plus benefits for one FERC full-time equivalent (FTE) is \$167,091/year (or \$80.00/hour).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests may be made to Audrey Washington at (206) 553-0523 or to Nicholas Peak at (208) 378-5765. Requests may also be electronically mailed to: washington.audrey@epa.gov, or peak.nicholas@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. General Information**

All animal feeding operations (AFOs) that meet the regulatory definition of a CAFO and are subject to 40 CFR part 412 are eligible for coverage under the permit, excluding facilities in Indian Country. Eligible CAFOs may apply for authorization under the terms and conditions of the permit by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) and nutrient management plan (NMP). Upon receipt, the EPA will review the NOI and NMP to ensure that all permit requirements are met. If the EPA makes a preliminary determination that the NOI is complete, the NOI, NMP, and draft terms of the NMP to be incorporated into the permit will be made available for a thirty (30) day public review and comment period.

If determined appropriate by the EPA, CAFOs will be granted coverage under the permit upon written notification by the EPA.

The EPA received 81 comments from six different organizations/entities during the public comment period which extended from October 23, 2019 through December 9, 2019. A Response to Comments document was prepared to respond to public comments received and explain any changes made to the draft general permit to produce the final general permit. The EPA received the final State CWA 401 certification on April 8, 2020.

The EPA has completed a Biological Evaluation for these Permit actions. Consultation under the Endangered Species Act between the EPA and the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been completed. The Services concurred on the EPA's determination that the Permit actions are not likely to adversely affect species listed under the Endangered Species Act or designated critical habitat.

II. Other Legal Requirements

This action was submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under Executive Orders 12866, *Regulatory Planning and Review*, and 13563, *Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review*, and was determined to be not significant.

Dated: May 7, 2020.

Daniel D. Opalski,

Director, Water Division, Region 10.

[FR Doc. 2020-10227 Filed 5-12-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ADVISORY BOARD

Notice of Issuance of Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts 9, Materiality: Amending Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts (SFFAC) 1, Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting, and SFFAC 3, Management's Discussion and Analysis

AGENCY: Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board.

ACTION: Notice.

Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3511(d), the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), and the FASAB Rules Of Procedure, as amended in October 2010, notice is hereby given that the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) has issued Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts (SFFAC) 9, *Materiality: Amending Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts (SFFAC) 1, Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting, and SFFAC 3, Management's Discussion and Analysis*.

SFFAC 9 is available on the FASAB website at <https://fasab.gov/accounting-standards/>. Copies can be obtained by contacting FASAB at (202) 512-7350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Monica R. Valentine, Executive Director, 441 G Street NW, Suite 1155, Washington, DC 20548, or call (202) 512-7350.

Authority: Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

Dated: May 4, 2020.

Monica R. Valentine,
Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 2020-10154 Filed 5-12-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1610-02-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-1210; FRS 16737]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collections. Comments are requested concerning: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before July 13, 2020. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and to Nicole.ongele@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele, (202) 418-2991.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-1210.

Title: Wireless E911 Location Accuracy Requirements (PS Docket No. 07-114).

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, State, Local or Tribal Government, and Federal Government.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 4,394 respondents; 29,028 responses.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

Office of the Clerk

After Opening an Agency Case: An Introduction for Attorneys

You have received this guide because you filed a petition for review of a federal agency decision in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. It provides information you need to know to represent a petitioner before the court.

This guide is not for immigration cases. If you opened an immigration case, please request our immigration packet.

Read this guide carefully. If you don't follow instructions, the court may dismiss your case.

This Guide Is Not Legal Advice

Court employees are legally required to remain neutral; that means they can't give you advice about how to win your case. However, if you have a question about procedure—for example, which forms to send to the court or when a form is due—this packet should provide the answer. If it doesn't, you may contact the clerk's office for more information.

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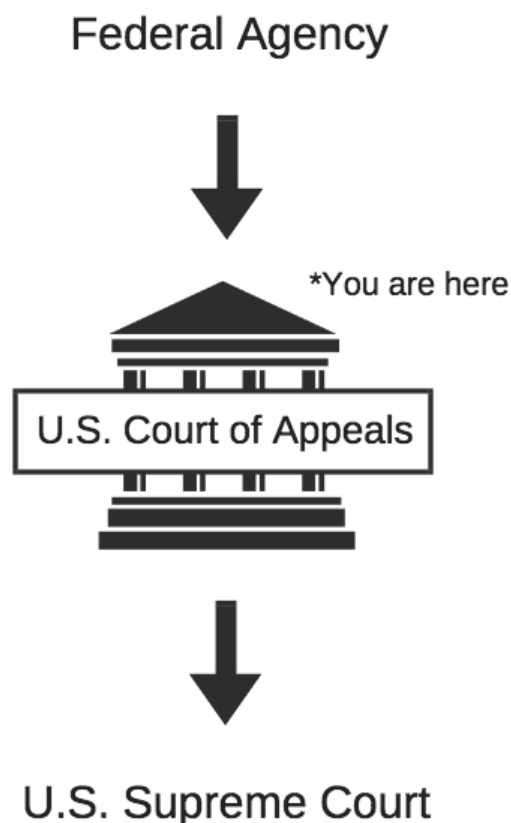
HOW AN AGENCY PETITION WORKS

The chart below shows the path of an agency petition from the agency to the highest court. Review these steps to make sure you understand where you are in the process.

Federal Agency. Cases come to the U.S. Court of Appeals from several different federal agencies. For example, a petition may arise from a final decision at the Federal Aviation Administration, National Labor Relations Board, Federal Trade Commission, or another agency. The important thing to understand is that you must have exhausted all of your options for appeal within the agency itself before filing a petition for review with the court of appeals. Many agency decisions must first be challenged in a U.S. District Court before you can come to the court of appeals.

U.S. Court of Appeals. When reviewing the federal agency decision in your case, the court of appeals (usually a panel of three judges) will carefully consider everything that has happened so far. The court will also read all the papers that you and opposing counsel file during your case. The court will look to see whether any agency, officer, or lower court has made a legal or factual mistake. You are not allowed to present new evidence or testimony on appeal.

U.S. Supreme Court. If you do not agree with the decision of the court of appeals, you can ask the United States Supreme Court to review your case. The Supreme Court chooses which cases it wants to hear. It reviews only a small number of cases each year.



Your case may not go through all of the stages shown above. For example, if the U.S. Court of Appeals resolves your case the way that you want, you won't need to file a petition in the U.S. Supreme Court.

PRACTICE RULES AND RESOURCES

This guide highlights rules that you **absolutely must follow** after filing a case. You are also responsible for reviewing and following the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure (Fed. R. App. P.), the Ninth Circuit Rules (9th Cir. R.), and the general orders. The Federal Rules and the Ninth Circuit Rules are available at www.ca9.uscourts.gov/rules.

Practice Guides

In addition to the rules above, the following guides can support your practice before this court. You can find these and other resources on the court's website under *Legal Guides*:

- **Appellate Practice Guide.** A thorough manual of appellate practice prepared by the Appellate Lawyer Representatives.
- **Perfecting Your Appeal.** You can view this video for free at www.ca9.uscourts.gov or purchase it from the clerk's office for \$15.00.

Appellate Mentoring Program

The appellate mentoring program provides guidance to attorneys who are new to federal appellate practice or who would benefit from mentoring at the appellate level. Mentors are volunteers who have experience in immigration, habeas corpus, or appellate practice in general. If you are interested, a program coordinator will match you with a mentor, taking into account your needs and the mentor's particular strengths.

To learn more, email the court at mentoring@ca.9.uscourts.gov or go to www.ca9.uscourts.gov. On the website, select the "Attorneys" tab, look for "Appellate Mentoring Program," then choose "Information."

IMPORTANT RULES FOR ALL CASES

The rules in this section apply to all attorneys who file an agency petition in the court of appeals. You must understand and follow each one.

Ninth Circuit Bar Admission

To practice before the court of appeals, you must be admitted to the Bar of the Ninth Circuit. For instructions on how to apply, go to www.ca9.uscourts.gov. Select the "Attorneys" tab, look for "Attorney Admissions," then choose "Instructions."

Register for Electronic Filing

Unless the court gives you an exemption, you must use the Ninth Circuit's electronic filing system, called CM/ECF (Case Management/Electronic Case Files). To learn more and to register, go to www.ca9.uscourts.gov then click "Filing a Document – CM/ECF."

For additional guidance on filing documents and making payments electronically, read the Ninth Circuit Rules, especially Rule 25-5. For a complete list of the available types of filing events, see the [CM/ECF User Guide](#). To find the guide, go to "Filing a Document" as described just above, look for "Documentation & Training," then select "CM/ECF User Guide."

Complete a Mediation Questionnaire

After you file a petition for review of an agency decision, you must complete a mediation questionnaire. (9th Cir. R. 15-2.) The court uses the questionnaire to assess settlement potential.

You must file the questionnaire no later than **seven days** after the clerk's office docketed your petition. To find the form, go to www.ca9.uscourts.gov/forms.

If you want to request a conference with a mediator, call the Mediation Unit at (415) 355-7900, email ca09_mediation@ca9.uscourts.gov, or make a written request to the Chief Circuit Mediator. You may request conferences confidentially. For more information about the court's mediation program, go to www.ca9.uscourts.gov/mediation.

Meet Your Deadlines

Read all documents you get from the court. They will contain important instructions and deadlines for filing your court papers. **If you miss a deadline or fail to respond to the court as directed, the court may dismiss your case.**

Complete Your Forms Properly

Everything you send to the court must be clear and easy to read. If we can't read your papers, we may send them back to you. To make the clerk's job easier, please:

- ✓ Include your case number on all papers you send to the court or to opposing counsel.
- ✓ Number your pages and put them in order.
- ✓ If you are not filing electronically, use only one paper clip or a single staple to keep your documents organized. The clerk's office must scan your documents and extra binding makes that job difficult.

Deliver Papers the Right Way

When you deliver papers to the court or to opposing counsel, you must take certain steps to show you sent them to the right place on time.

- ✓ **Use the correct address.** Before you put anything in the mail, make sure the address is current and correct.
 - To find current addresses for the court, see “How to Contact the Court,” at the end of this guide. You may deliver a document to the court in person, but you must hand it to someone designated to receive documents in the clerk’s office.
 - To find the correct address for opposing counsel, see opposing counsel’s notice of appearance. Opposing counsel should have sent a copy of this notice to you after you filed your petition for review. The notice states opposing counsel’s name and address.
- ✓ **Attach a certificate of service.** You must attach a signed certificate of service to each document you send to the court or to opposing counsel unless all parties will be served via CM/ECF. *See* 9th Cir. R. 25-5(f).
- ✓ **Send a copy of all documents to opposing counsel.** When you file a document with the court, you must also send a copy (including any attachments) to opposing counsel unless they will be served via CM/ECF.

Keep Copies of Your Documents

Make copies of all documents you send to the court or to opposing counsel and keep all papers sent to you.

Pay the Filing Fee or Request a Waiver

The filing fee for your case is \$500.00. The fee is due when you file a petition for review. If you don’t pay the fee, you will receive a notice informing you that you have **21 days** to either pay the fee or request a waiver because the petitioner can’t afford to pay.

- **If the petitioner can afford the fee.** Submit your payment through the electronic filing system, or send a check or money order to the court. Make the check out to “Clerk, U.S. Courts.” Don’t forget to include the case number. Please note that after you pay the fee, we cannot refund it, no matter how the case turns out.

- **If the petitioner can't afford to pay.** You may ask the court to waive the fee by filing a motion to proceed in forma pauperis. See “Stage One: Opening Your Case,” below.

If you do not pay the fee or submit a waiver request by the deadline, the court will dismiss your case. (9th Cir. R. 42-1).

If You Move, Tell the Court

If your mailing address changes, you must immediately notify the court in writing. (9th Cir. R. 46-3.)

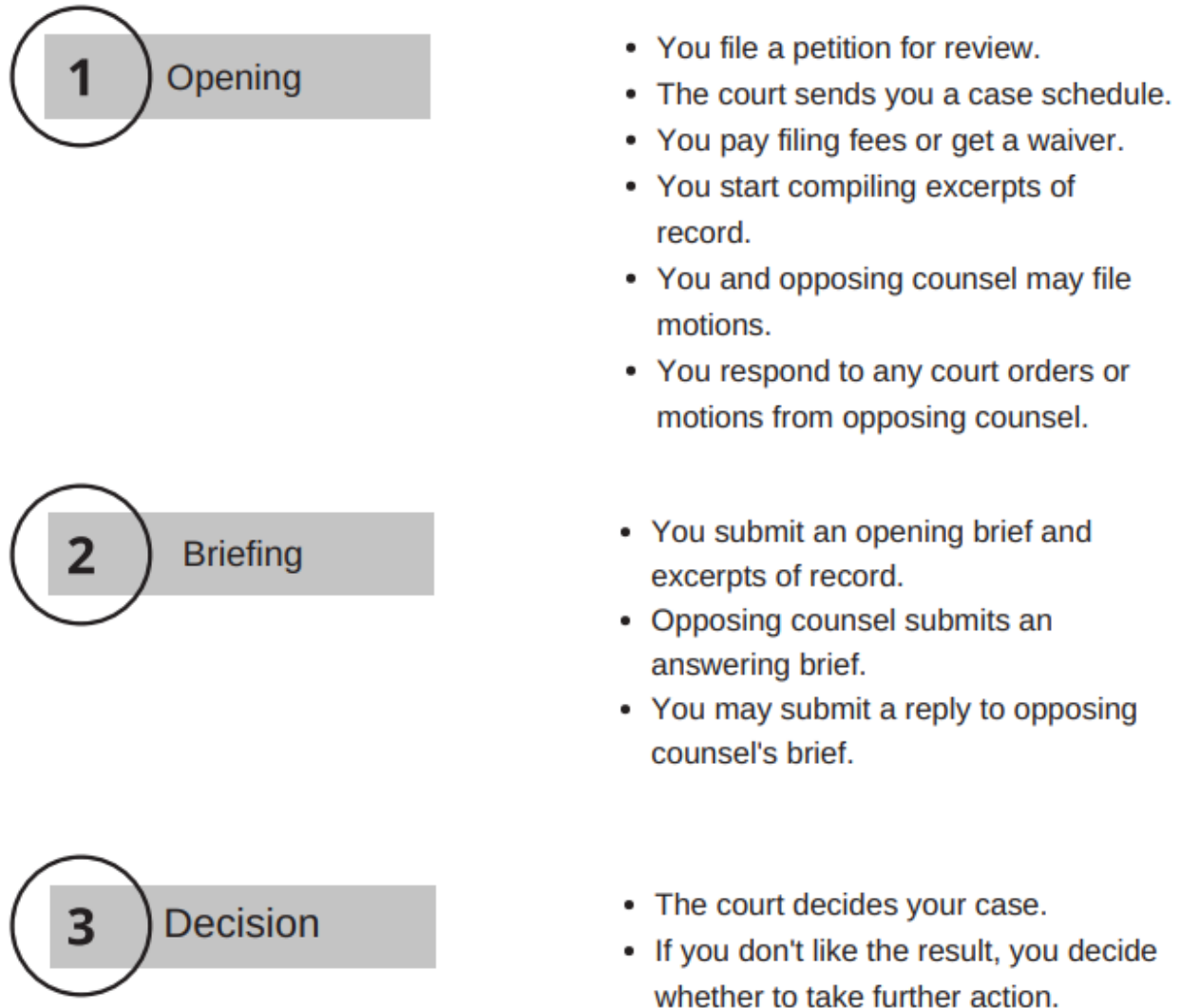
- **CM/ECF.** If you are registered for CM/ECF, update your information online at <https://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/pscof/login.jsf>.
- **Paper filing.** If you are exempt from CM/ECF, file a change of address form with the court. You can find the form on the court's website at www.ca9.uscourts.gov/forms.

If you don't promptly change your address, including your email address, you could miss important court notices and deadlines. As noted above, missing a deadline may cause the court to dismiss your case.

HANDLING AN AGENCY CASE: THREE STAGES

This section will help you understand and manage the different parts of your case. We describe the basic documents you must file with the court and the timing of each step.

To begin, review the chart below. It introduces the three stages of a case.



Stage One: Opening a Case

By the time you receive this guide, you have already opened a case by filing a petition for review. In response, the clerk's office created the case record and gave you a case number and a briefing schedule.

If you haven't already paid the filing fee, you must do so now. See "Pay the Filing Fee or Request a Waiver," above.



The court may dismiss your case at any time. Even if you pay the fees and get a briefing schedule, the court may decide not to keep your case for a variety of legal reasons. If the court dismisses your case and you think the court was wrong, see "If You Don't Agree with a Court Decision," below.

Now is also the time to start compiling excerpts of record and to file any opening motions with the court. This section discusses each step in turn.

Preparing Excerpts of Record

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals does not require an appendix of record. Instead, you must file excerpts of record with your opening brief. (See 9th Cir. R. 17-1.) Your excerpts of record should be clear and well-organized. They should include all the documents that the court will need to understand and decide the issues in your petition.

Start putting together your excerpts of record now, before you write your opening brief. Then, as you write the brief, you can mark each record page that you reference so you can easily add the marked pages to your excerpts.

To learn the rules that govern what your excerpts should and should not include, and how to format them, read 9th Cir. R. 17-1 and 30-1. We also recommend that you read Chapter X of Appellate Practice Guide; see "Practice Guides," above.

Filing Opening Motions

Here are two common motions that you might make at the beginning of your case.

Motion to Proceed in Forma Pauperis

File this motion to ask the court to waive the petitioner's filing fee. To file your motion, you must complete and include [Form 4: Motion and Affidavit for Permission to Appeal in Forma Pauperis](#). The form is available on the court's website at www.ca9.uscourts.gov/forms. In addition, please follow the instructions in "How to Write and File Motions," below.

Motion for Injunction Pending Appeal

You can also file a motion for injunction pending appeal, sometimes called a motion for injunctive relief. This type of motion asks the court to order someone to do something or to stop doing something while your case is in progress. Be specific about what type of relief you are asking for, why the court should grant the relief, and the date by which you want the court to respond. In addition, be sure to follow the instructions in “How to Write and File Motions,” below.

Stage Two: Preparing and Filing Briefs

During the second stage of your case, you and opposing counsel will prepare and file written briefs. The required components of a brief are set out in Fed. R. App. P. 28 and 32, and 9th Cir. R. 28-2, 32-1, and 32-2. You should familiarize yourself with those rules and follow them carefully. In this section, we cover some key points of briefing practice.

Opening Brief

You will write and file the first brief in your case. In the opening brief, you must:

- state the facts of the case
- describe the relief you are seeking for the petitioner
- provide legal arguments to support your petition, and
- include citations to the excerpts of record.

Deadline for filing. You must file your opening brief and excerpts of record by the deadline stated in the briefing schedule.

If you do not file your brief on time or request an extension, the court will dismiss your case.

Tips for Writing Your Briefs

Keep these points in mind to write a better brief:

Avoid unnecessary words. Don't use 20 words to say something you can say in ten.

Think things through. Make logical arguments and back them up with legal rules.

Be respectful. You can disagree without being disagreeable. Focus on the strengths of your case, not the character of others.

Tell the truth. Don't misstate or exaggerate the facts or the law.

Proofread. Before you file, carefully check for misspellings, grammatical mistakes, and other errors.

Answering Brief

In response to your opening brief, opposing counsel may file an answering brief. If opposing counsel files an answer, they must send a copy to you.

The time scheduling order sets the deadline for the answering brief. Please note that the opening and answering brief due dates are not subject to the rules for additional time described in Fed. R. App. P. 26(c). In particular, if you file your opening brief early, it does not advance the due date for your opponent's answering brief. (See 9th Cir. R. 31-2.1.)

Reply Brief

You are invited to reply to opposing counsel's answering brief, but you are not required to do so. If you write a reply brief, do not simply restate the arguments in your opening brief. Use the reply brief to directly address the arguments in opposing counsel's answering brief.

You must file your reply brief within **21 days** of the date the government serves you with its answering brief.

How to File a Brief

Rules for filing briefs depend on whether or not you are required to file electronically.

CM/ECF. After we review your electronic submission, we will request paper copies of the brief that are identical to the electronic version. Do not submit paper copies until we direct you to do so. (See 9th Cir. R. 31-1.) You must also send **two copies** of the brief to any exempt or unregistered opposing counsel.

Exempt Filers Only. Please follow these steps:

- ✓ Send the original document and **six copies** of your brief to the court.
- ✓ Send **two copies** to opposing counsel.
- ✓ Attach a signed certificate of service to the original and to each copy for opposing counsel.
- ✓ Keep a copy for your records.

How to File Excerpts of Record

Submit your excerpts in PDF format using CM/ECF on the same day that you submit your brief. You must serve a paper copy of your excerpts on any unregistered party.

If the excerpts contain sealed materials, you must submit the sealed documents separately, along with a motion to file under seal. (9th Cir. R. 27-13(e).) You must serve sealed filings on all parties by mail or by email if they are registered for electronic filing, or if mutually agreed, rather than through CM/ECF.

After approving your electronic submission, the clerk will direct you to file individually bound paper copies of the excerpts of record with white covers.

To review the rules for filing excerpts, see 9th Cir. R. 30-1.

If You Need More Time to File

Usually, you may ask for one streamlined extension of up to 30 days from the brief's existing due date. (See 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(a) for conditions.)

- **CM/ECF.** Electronic filers do not need to use a written motion; you may submit your request using the “File Streamlined Request to Extend Time to File Brief” event on CM/ECF on or before your brief's existing due date.
- **Paper filing.** Make your request by filing Form 13 on or before your brief's existing due date. You can find Form 13 on the court's website at www.ca9.uscourts.gov/forms.

If you need more than 30 days, or if the court has already given you a streamlined extension, you

must submit a written motion asking for more time. Your motion must show both diligence and substantial need. You must file your request at least **seven days** before your brief is due. The motion must meet the requirements of 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(b). You may use Form 14 or write your own motion.

Usually, in response to an initial motion for more time, the court will adjust the schedule. (See Circuit Advisory Committee Note to Ninth Circuit Rule 31-2.2.) If you followed the correct procedures to ask for more time but the court doesn't respond by the date your brief is due, act as though the court has granted your request and take the time you asked for.

What Happens After You File

After you and opposing counsel have filed your briefs, a panel of three judges will evaluate the case. Sometimes the court decides a case before briefing is complete (9th Cir. R. 3-6); if that happens, we will let you know.

Judges conduct oral hearings in all cases unless all members of the panel agree that oral argument would not significantly aid the decision-making process. (Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).)

Notification of oral hearings. We will notify you of the potential dates and location of an oral hearing approximately 14 weeks in advance. After you receive notice, you have **three calendar days** to inform the court of any conflicts. We distribute calendars about ten weeks before the hearing date.

Changes to oral hearing dates or location. The court will change the date or location of an oral hearing only if you show good cause for the change. If you wish to submit a request to continue a hearing, you must do so within 14 days of the hearing. Note, however, that the court grants such requests only if you can show exceptional circumstances. (9th Cir. R. 34-2.)

Oral arguments are live streamed to YouTube. Viewers can access them through the court's website. Go to www.ca9.uscourts.gov and choose "Live Video Streaming of Oral Arguments and Events."

Stage Three: The Court's Final Decision

After the judges decide your case, you will receive a memorandum disposition, opinion, or court order stating the result. If you are happy with the outcome, congratulations.

If you or opposing counsel didn't get the final results you want, either of you may take the case further. We explain your options in the section "After Your Case," below.

HOW TO WRITE AND FILE MOTIONS

This section provides general guidelines for writing and filing motions, including motions discussed elsewhere in this guide. The motion you want to make may have special rules—for example, a different page limit or deadline—so be sure that you also read its description, as noted below.

How to Write a Motion

If you want to file a motion with the court, follow these guidelines:

- ✓ Clearly state **what** you want the court to do.
- ✓ Give the legal reasons **why** the court should do what you are asking.
- ✓ Tell the court **when** you would like it done.
- ✓ Tell the court what the opposing party's position is. (Circuit Advisory Committee Note to Ninth Circuit Rule 27-1(5); 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(b)(6).)
- ✓ If you are filing a response requesting affirmative relief, include your request in the caption. (Fed. R. App. P. 27(a)(3)(B)) and use the correct filing type.
- ✓ Don't write a motion that is more than 20 pages long unless you get permission from the court.

If you like, you may support your motion with an affidavit or declaration. (28 U.S.C. § 1746.)

Cases Scheduled for Argument or Submitted to a Panel

If your case has been (1) scheduled for oral argument, (2) argued, or (3) submitted to or decided by a panel, then the first page or cover of your motion must include the date of argument, submission, or decision and, if known, the names of the judges on the panel. (9th Cir. R. 25-4.)

How to File a Motion

To file your motion, you must follow the rules described in “Deliver Papers the Right Way,” at the beginning of this guide. Keep the following points in mind.

- **CM/ECF.** For electronic filing, follow instructions on CM/ECF. If there are any non-registered parties, you must send a hard copy to that party.
- **Paper filing.** Send the original document to the court and send a copy to opposing counsel. Remember to attach a signed certificate of service to the original and to any copies. Always keep a copy for your own records.

Note that you should not include a notice of motion or a proposed order with your motion. (Fed. R. App. P. 27(a)(2)(C)(ii) and (iii).)

What Happens After You File

The path of a motion depends on the details of your case. Certain motions—for example, a motion to dismiss the case—may automatically stay the briefing schedule. (See 9th Cir. R. 27-11.) The following steps are common after filing a motion.

Opposing counsel may respond. After you file a motion, opposing counsel has ten days to file a response. (See Fed. R. App. P. 27(a)(3)(A); Fed. R. App. P. 26(c).) In the response, opposing counsel will tell the court why it disagrees with the arguments in your motion.

You may reply to opposing counsel’s response. If opposing counsel responds, you may tell the court why you think opposing counsel’s view is incorrect. If you file a reply, don’t just repeat the arguments in your original motion. Instead, directly address the arguments in opposing counsel’s response. You usually have **seven days** to file a reply with the court, starting on the day you are served with their response. (See Fed. R. App. P. 27(a)(3)(B).) Normally, a reply may not be longer than ten pages.

The court decides your motion. After you and opposing counsel file all papers related to the motion, a panel of two or three judges will decide the issue.

How to Respond to a Motion from Opposing Counsel

Your opponent may also submit motions to the court. For example, opposing counsel may file a motion to dismiss the case or to ask the court to review the case more quickly than usual. If opposing counsel files a motion, you are allowed to respond with your arguments against it. Your response may not be longer than 20 pages.

Usually, you must file your response with the court no more than **ten days** from the day opposing counsel serves its motion on you.

Read More About These Motions

If you are making one of the following motions, read the section noted here:

Motion to proceed in forma pauperis in “Filing Opening Motions,” above.

Motion for injunctive relief pending appeal in “Filing Opening Motions,” above.

Motion for extension of time to file a brief in “If You Need More Time to File,” above.

Motion for reconsideration in “If You Don’t Agree With a Court Decision,” below.



Emergency Motions

An emergency motion asks the court to act within 21 days to avoid irreparable harm. Your emergency motion must meet the requirements of 9th Cir. R. 27-3.

If you need emergency relief, you must notify the Emergency Motions department in San Francisco before you file the motion. Call them at 415-355-8020 or e-mail emergency@ca9.uscourts.gov. Please note that a request for more time to file a document with the court or any other type of procedural relief does *not* qualify as an emergency motion. (See Circuit Court Advisory Committee Note to 27-3(3).)

Finally, if you absolutely must notify the court of an emergency outside of standard office hours, call 415-355-8000. This line is for true emergencies that cannot wait until the next business day—for example, imminent removal from the United States.

IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH A COURT DECISION

If you think the court of appeals made an incorrect decision about important issues in your case, you can ask the court to take a second look. You may do this during your case—for example, if you disagree with the court's ruling on a motion. Or you may ask the court to review its final decision at the end of your case.

During Your Case: Motion for Reconsideration

If you disagree with a court order or ruling during your case, you may file a motion for reconsideration stating the reasons why you think the court's ruling was wrong. Your motion may not be longer than 15 pages.

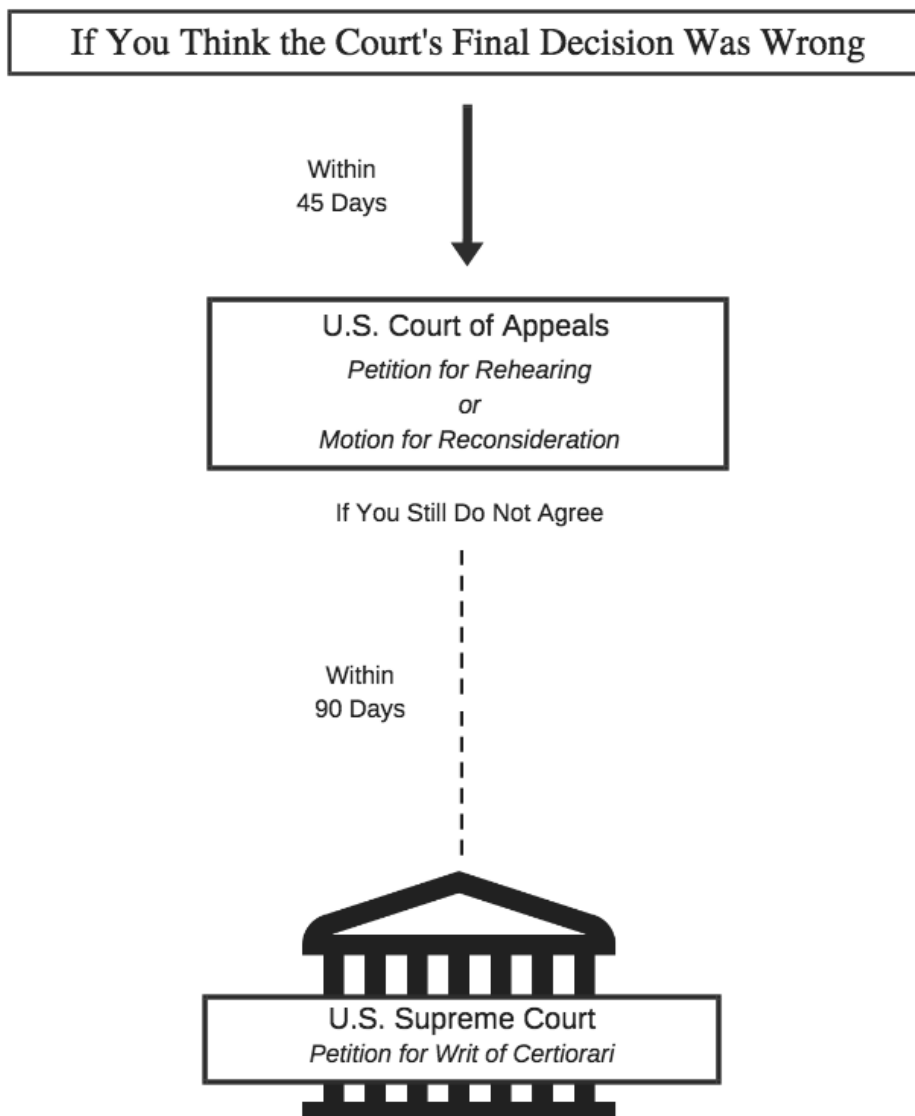
A motion for reconsideration of an order that does not end the case—that is, a non-dispositive order—is due **within 14 days** of the date stamped on the court order. (9th Cir. R. 27-10(a).) In addition to these rules, please follow the general guidelines in “How to Write and File Motions,” above.

After Your Case: Motions and Petitions

If you think the court's final decision in your case was wrong and you want to take further action, you have two options:

- File a motion for reconsideration or petition for rehearing in this court.
 - If the court decided your case in an order, then you would file a motion for reconsideration, as discussed just above. You have **45 days** (instead of 14 days) to file a motion for reconsideration of a court order that ends your case. (9th Cir. R. 27-10(a).)
 - If the court decided your case in a memorandum disposition or opinion, then you would file a petition for rehearing, discussed below.
- File a petition for writ of certiorari with the U.S. Supreme Court.

It is most common to do these things one after the other—that is, to file a petition for rehearing or motion for reconsideration in this court and then, if that doesn't succeed, petition the Supreme Court. It is technically possible to file both petitions at the same time but that is not the typical approach. Our discussion focuses on the common path.



Court of Appeals: Petition for Rehearing

To ask the court of appeals to review its final decision in your case, you must file a petition for rehearing. Before starting a petition, remember that you must have a legal reason for believing that this court's decision was incorrect; it is not enough to simply dislike the outcome. You will not be allowed to present any new facts or legal arguments in your petition for rehearing. Your document should focus on how you think the court overlooked existing arguments or misunderstood the facts of your case.

A petition for rehearing may not be longer than 15 pages. Your petition is due **within 45 days** of the date stamped on the court's opinion or memorandum disposition. To learn more about petitions for rehearing, see Fed. R. App. P. 40 and 40-1.

Most petitions for rehearing go to the same three judges who heard your original petition. It is also possible to file a petition for rehearing en banc. This type of petition asks 11 judges to review your case instead of three. The court grants petitions for rehearing en banc only in rare, exceptional cases. To learn more about petitions for rehearing en banc, see Fed. R. App. P. 35.

U.S. Supreme Court: Petition for Writ of Certiorari

If the court of appeals denies your petition for rehearing—or if it rehears your case and issues a new judgment you don't agree with—you have 90 days from the denial order or the new decision to petition the U.S. Supreme Court to hear your case. You do this by asking the Supreme Court to grant a writ of certiorari. You must file the petition with the Supreme Court directly. A writ of certiorari directs the appellate court to send the record of your case to the Supreme Court for review.

The Supreme Court is under no obligation to hear your case. It usually reviews only cases that have clear legal or national significance—a tiny fraction of the cases people ask it to hear each year. Learn the [Supreme Court's Rules](#) before starting a petition for writ of certiorari. (You can find the rules and more information about the Supreme Court at www.supremecourt.gov.)

HOW TO CONTACT THE COURT

Court Addresses: San Francisco Headquarters

<i>Mailing Address for U.S. Postal Service</i>	<i>Mailing Address for Overnight Delivery (FedEx, UPS, etc.)</i>	<i>Street Address</i>
Office of the Clerk James R. Browning Courthouse U.S. Court of Appeals P.O. Box 193939 San Francisco, CA 94119-3939	Office of the Clerk James R. Browning Courthouse U.S. Court of Appeals 95 Seventh Street San Francisco, CA 94103-1526	95 Seventh Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Court Addresses: Divisional Courthouses

<i>Pasadena</i>	<i>Portland</i>	<i>Seattle</i>
Richard H. Chambers Courthouse 125 South Grand Avenue Pasadena, CA 91105	The Pioneer Courthouse 700 SW 6th Ave, Ste 110 Portland, OR 97204	William K. Nakamura Courthouse 1010 Fifth Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Court Website

www.ca9.uscourts.gov

The court's website contains the court's rules, forms, and general orders, public phone directory, information about electronic filing, answers to frequently asked questions, directions to the courthouses, bar admission forms, opinions and memoranda, live streaming of oral arguments, links to practice manuals, an invitation to join our pro bono program, and more.