

**SUPREME COURT RULES
FOR THE REPORTING OF OPINIONS**

As Amended Effective July 1, 2012.

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**SUPREME COURT RULES
FOR THE REPORTING OF OPINIONS**

SECTION 1.0. GENERAL RULES.

Rep.Op.R. 1.1. Title.

These rules shall be known as the “Supreme Court Rules for the Reporting of Opinions.”

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 1.2. Purpose.

The purpose of the Supreme Court Rules for the Reporting of Opinions is to establish consistent standards in the reporting of opinions of the Supreme Court, the courts of appeals, and the Court of Claims.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 1.3. Authority.

The Supreme Court Rules for the Reporting of Opinions are promulgated pursuant to Article IV, Section 2(C) of the Ohio Constitution and the inherent authority of the Supreme Court to prescribe the reporting of opinions by the Supreme Court, the courts of appeals, and the Court of Claims.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 1.4. Applicability.

The Supreme Court Rules for the Reporting of Opinions shall apply to the reporting of opinions of the Supreme Court, the courts of appeals, and the Court of Claims.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 1.5. Citation.

The Supreme Court Rules for the Reporting of Opinions shall be cited as “Rep.Op.R. _____.”

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

SECTION 2.0. OPINIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT.

Rep.Op.R. 2.1. Reporting and Website Posting of Opinions.

All opinions of the Supreme Court shall be promptly posted to the Supreme Court website and reported in the advance sheets and bound volumes of the *Ohio Official Reports*.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 2.2. Statement of Law.

The law stated in an opinion of the Supreme Court shall be contained in its text, including its syllabus, if one is provided, and footnotes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 2.3. Authority.

All majority opinions of the Supreme Court shall have the same authority, whether issued per curiam or as an opinion authored by a justice and whether or not they have a syllabus.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 2.4. Introductory Material.

Introductory material in an opinion of the Supreme Court, other than a syllabus, shall not be the controlling statement of the points of law decided but shall merely be a research and indexing aid.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 2.5. Format.

All text of opinions of the Supreme Court shall have numbered paragraphs to assist in the pinpoint citation of specific portions of the opinion. Numbering shall exclude paragraphs of the syllabus, footnotes, headings, block quotations, and editorial content from legal publishers. In all respects, the format of opinions posted to the Supreme Court website shall conform to the conventions adopted by the Supreme Court Reporter of Decisions.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 2.6. Citations.

Citations in opinions of the Supreme Court shall follow the *Writing Manual* adopted by the Supreme Court.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

**SECTION 3.0. OPINIONS OF THE COURTS OF APPEALS
AND THE COURT OF CLAIMS.**

Rep.Op.R. 3.1. Definition of “Opinion.”

As used in this section, “opinion” shall not include orders on procedural matters, orders without opinions, and judgment entries under App. R. 11.1(E).

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 3.2. Supreme Court Website Designated the Ohio Official Reports.

The Supreme Court hereby designates the Supreme Court website as the *Ohio Official Reports* for opinions of the courts of appeals and the Court of Claims as of July 1, 2012.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 3.3. Posting of Opinions on the Supreme Court Website.

All opinions of the courts of appeals and the Court of Claims, upon transmission to the Supreme Court, shall be promptly posted to the Supreme Court website.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 3.4. Use of Opinions.

All opinions of the courts of appeals issued after May 1, 2002 may be cited as legal authority and weighted as deemed appropriate by the courts without regard to whether the opinion was published or in what form it was published.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 3.5. Format.

All opinions of the courts of appeals and the Court of Claims submitted for posting on the Supreme Court website pursuant to Rep.Op.R. 3.3 shall meet all of the following requirements:

- (A) The opinion shall display the number and caption of the case; the character of the proceeding, such as mandamus, habeas corpus, criminal appeal from common pleas court, or civil appeal from municipal court; the court deciding the case; the counsel for all parties; and the date the judgment was journalized;

- (B) The text of the opinion shall have numbered paragraphs to assist in the pinpoint citation of specific portions of the opinion. Numbering shall exclude paragraphs of the syllabus, footnotes, headings, block quotations, and editorial content from legal publishers. The format of opinions shall conform to the conventions adopted by the Supreme Court Reporter of Decisions.

- (C) The opinion shall have incorporated in the document properties the name, number, date, and issuing court of the case and key words delineating the legal issues addressed.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

SECTION 4.0. MISCELLANEOUS.

Rep.Op.R. 4.1. Failure to Allow a Discretionary Appeal.

The refusal of the Supreme Court to accept any case for review shall not be considered a statement of opinion as to the merits of the law stated by the trial or appellate court from which review is sought.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 4.2. Accuracy.

All opinions of the Supreme Court, the courts of appeals, and the Court of Claims reported in the bound volumes of the *Ohio Official Reports* shall control as to accuracy over the same opinions as reported in any other printed source or posted to the Supreme Court website or any other electronic database.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Rep.Op.R. 4.3. Availability of Posted Opinions.

All opinions posted to the Supreme Court website prior to July 1, 2012 and all opinions posted to the Supreme Court website on or after July 1, 2012 pursuant to Rep.Op.R. 2.1 and 3.2 shall be permanently available to the public without charge.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012