

Rule 7. Pleadings Allowed; Form of Motions**7.01 Pleadings**

There shall be a complaint and an answer (including such pleadings in a third-party proceeding when a third-party claim is asserted); a reply to a counterclaim denominated as such; and an answer to a cross-claim if the answer contains a cross-claim. No other pleading shall be allowed except that the court may order a reply to an answer. Demurrers, pleas and exceptions for insufficiency of a pleading shall not be used.

7.02 Motions and Other Documents

(a) An application to the court for an order shall be by motion which, unless made during a hearing or trial, shall be in writing, shall state with particularity the grounds therefor, and shall set forth the relief or order sought. The requirement of writing is fulfilled if the motion is stated in a written notice of the hearing of the motion. Motions provided in these rules are motions requiring a written notice to the party and a hearing before the order can be issued unless the particular rule under which the motion is made specifically provides that the motion may be made ex parte. The parties may agree to written submission to the court for decision without oral argument unless the court directs otherwise. Upon the request of a party or upon its own initiative, the court may hear any motion by telephone conference.

(b) The rules applicable for captions, signing, and other matters of form of pleadings apply to all motions and other documents provided for by these rules.

(c) All motions will be signed in accordance with Rule 11.

(Amended effective July 1, 2015.)