



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

August 14, 2023

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Rule F, Alabama Small Claims Rules, be amended to read in accordance with Appendix A to this order;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Committee Comments to the Amendment of Rule F Effective August 14, 2023, be adopted to read in accordance with Appendix B to this order;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the amendment of Rule F and the adoption of the Committee Comment thereto are effective immediately; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following note from the reporter of decisions be added to follow Rule F:

"Note from the reporter of decisions: The order amending Rule F, Alabama Small Claims Rules, and adopting the Committee Comments thereto, effective August 14, 2023, is published in that volume of *Alabama Reporter* that contains Alabama cases from __ So. 3d."

Parker, C.J., and Shaw, Wise, Bryan, Sellers, Mendheim, Stewart, Mitchell, and Cook, JJ., concur.

Witness my hand and seal this 14th day of August, 2023.

Megan B. Rhodeseck

**Clerk of Court,
Supreme Court of Alabama**

FILED
August 14, 2023
Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of Alabama



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

August 14, 2023

APPENDIX A

RULE F. DEADLINE FOR ANSWER

The defendant shall file an answer in the office of the clerk within 14 days after a copy of the summons and complaint has been delivered to the defendant by the sheriff, constable, or other process server or by certified mail or commercial carrier. The defendant does not have to serve a copy of the answer on the plaintiff unless the answer contains a counterclaim.



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

August 14, 2023

APPENDIX B

Committee Comments to Amendment of Rule F Effective August 14, 2023

Rule D permits any form of service of process "provided in the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure." Rule 4(i)(3) of the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure permits service by commercial carrier, so Rule F is amended to make reference to service by commercial carrier.