

Title, Centered and in Bold, e.g.

Curtis Lynn MOORE, Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

Lynn McDONALD, Hood County Deputy Sheriff, Defendant-Appellee.

30 f. 3D 616 (1994)

Rule of Law: What questions of the law does the case hinge on? What sections of law are relevant to the case? Put down the most relevant.

Procedural History: If the case was heard by a lower court, state it here as well as the decision arrived at in the court.

Facts: State the facts of the case clearly, referring to the litigants by their names.

Holding: What was the court's decision on the case?

Reasoning: Summarize the court's reasoning and show how it arrived at the decision given.

Concurrence: Give the reasoning of concurring judges who otherwise came to the majority opinion with different reasoning.

Dissent: Give the reasoning of differing judges and summarize their reasons.

Other Considerations (Dicta, Analysis, etc)

How Long Should Your Case Brief Be?

There are few rules about how long your legal brief should be, but it should be brief as the name suggests. In many cases, it should not exceed 825 words excluding the concurrences, dissents, dicta, and other considerations. To maintain such a restrictive word count, include only the operative facts of the case.