

SUPREME COURT OF THE STUDENT BODY

In re: *Procedure for Hearing Petitions Filed*
October 2, 2018

PER CURIAM

The Supreme Court of the Student Body of the University of Florida (the “Court”) met on the 2nd day of October in the year 2018, to establish rules of procedure for the hearing of those petitions filed with the Court by members of the student body and are taken up for consideration by the Court. These rules of procedure are as follows:

Preliminary Matters

Submitting petitions to the Court: Petitions must be presented with a memorandum and must be submitted to the Chief Justice via email.

Memorandum requirements: The memorandum submitted with the petition must include the following: (1) Brief description of the facts of the case; (2) Reference to University of Florida rules, statutes, or codes applicable to the case; (3) Request for relief and the relief to which the parties assert that they are entitled; (4) The names and signatures of the students who are presenting the petition to the Court.

Preliminary Hearing: The Court reserves the right to grant or deny writ of certiorari in any case. The Court shall have a public hearing when deciding whether to grant or deny writ of certiorari. During such public hearings, only members of the Court shall speak and discuss whether to grant or deny writ of certiorari. The Court shall base its final decision on a majority vote.

Oral Argument

Speaker: Those students whose signatures are on the petition being argued may elect one (1) current University of Florida student to present an argument on behalf of the petition being heard. The name of the elected speaker must be submitted to the Chief Justice via email prior to the scheduled start time of the hearing regarding the petition being argued. *To avoid potential confusion stemming from the submission of multiple speaker names, the speaker name submitted by the student whose signature appears earliest on the petition will represent the petition in oral argument.*

Opposition: Opposing arguments may be heard. In order for members of the general student body to argue in opposition to a petition taken before the Court those members must first establish standing by filing a memorandum and a petition with the Court prior to the hearing articulating their position. Notwithstanding the aforementioned filing requirement, the Student Body Solicitor General will always have standing to present opposing arguments to any petition heard by the Court at any time. The Court reserves the right to consolidate opposing petitions in order to facilitate expediency and efficiency.

Order of Presentation: In the event opposing arguments are to be presented to the Court, the speaker representing the petition first filed with the Court will present oral argument before their opposition. Any speaker presenting oral argument to the Court will be provided twenty (20) minutes to present their argument. In the event their time expires, a speaker may ask the Court for leave to briefly conclude their argument. During initial oral presentation, the petition's oral representative must reserve time for rebuttal if desired. Rebuttal time will be subtracted from the twenty 20 minutes provided up to five (5) minutes.

Reservation for Rebuttal: In the event opposing arguments are to be presented to the Court, the petitioner may reserve up to five (5) minutes of their time for rebuttal. The request to reserve must be made during the petitioner's initial oral presentation.

Hearing of Multiple Related Petitions: In the event that multiple petitions are being heard during one hearing, related petitions may be heard in succession prior to the beginning of deliberation.

Deliberation

Commencement and Duration: At the close of oral arguments, the Court will begin deliberation. No time constraints are imposed on deliberations. Deliberations will take place until a member of the Court moves to vote on a matter, if such a motion is seconded by another member of the Court, the Court will vote on the matter moved upon. During deliberation, only members of the Court may speak unless a non-member is explicitly given permission by the Court. The Court reserves the right to ask anyone who disrupts deliberations to leave.

Assignment of Opinion and Adjournment: After a matter has been voted on, the Chief Justice will assign a member of the Court to write and circulate an opinion to all other members of the Court for comment and adjourn the hearing.

Filing of Opinion: Upon reaching a consensus on the language of an opinion, the Court will file said opinion with the Senate Secretary for publication in the court reporter.

The Court hereby adopts the foregoing rules of procedure.