

**Rule 8. The Reply: Time of Filing, Contents, and Service**

(a) The reply: When filed. Within 30 days after service upon the petitioner of an answer in which affirmative relief is requested, the petitioner shall file and serve a reply, unless a motion in lieu of a pleading has been filed by petitioner. If such a motion has been filed, the petitioner shall file the reply as follows: (1) if the Court denies the motion or postpones its disposition until the trial on the merits, the reply shall be filed within 20 days after service of notice of the Court's action; or (2) if the Court grants a motion for a more definite statement, the reply shall be filed within 20 days after service of the more definite statement; or (3) within such time as is fixed by order of the Court.

(b) Contents. Each material allegation of fact contained in the answer shall be specifically admitted or specifically denied or a statement shall be made indicating why it can neither be admitted nor denied. In addition the reply shall include a statement of any facts upon which the petitioner relies for defense.

Paragraphs and subparagraphs in the reply shall be separately numbered or lettered to correspond with those of the answer.