

Appeals Quick Guide

Dependency and Neglect Cases

Duration

6+ Months

Costs

Filing Fee:	None
Appeal Cost Bond:	None
Transcripts:	Varies. About \$150/hr. of testimony.

Work Load

30 Page
Research Paper

Step 0 Decide & Prepare

Order and Pay for Transcripts ([JDF 4](#)).
Petition for Magistrate Review (*if needed*).

File in: DC.
File in: DC.

Step 1 Give Notice & Designate Transcripts

Form: Notice of Appeal ([JDF 1941](#)). File in: CoA and DC.
Due: Within 21 days of:
1. Final Order (from Judge), or
2. Order denying a timely Motion for Post-Trial Relief, or
3. Order denying a Petition for Magistrate Review.

Step 2 Record on Appeal

Sent by the DC within 42 days of Step 1.
Not sent if: Transcripts not paid.

Steps 3-5 Written Arguments

Your arguments over the issues. File in: CoA
3 - Opening Brief ([JDF 1945](#)). By Aplt. Due: 21 Days of Step 2.
4 - Answer Brief ([JDF 1946](#)). By Aple. Due: 21 Days of Step 3.
(Or 28 if two appellants.)
5 - Reply Brief. By Aplt. Due: 14 Days of Step 4.

Step 6 Opinion

Written decision issued by a 3 Judge panel.
Sent about 3-4 months after the final brief is filed.

Quick Facts

1. Not a New Trial: you will not be allowed to present new evidence or call witnesses on appeal.

2. An Appeal is a review of the Judge's decisions in your case. Not the conduct of opposing attorneys or witnesses.

3. Issues: the alleged mistakes the DC made in managing or deciding the case.

4. The CoA will look at the issues to see if there were any errors in the law, or to see if the court's findings were clearly wrong, or if the court abused their discretion.

5. Roles: The appellant (Aplt) is the person who brings the appeal, the appellee (Aple) is the person who responds to the appeal.

6. Key:

DC	District / Juvenile Court
CoA	Court of Appeals