

Amended by Order dated December 14, 2012; effective January 1, 2013.

RULES OF SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA
PART FIVE
THE SUPREME COURT
A. GENERAL

Rule 5:5. Filing Deadlines; Post Trial Proceedings Below; Timely Filing by Mail; Inmate Filing; Extension of Time.

(a) *Filing Deadlines.* The times prescribed for filing the notice of appeal (Rules 5:9(a), 5:14(a) and 5:21(c)), a petition for appeal (Rules 5:17(a) and 5:21(g)), a petition for review pursuant to Code § [8.01-626](#) (Rule 5:17A) and a petition for rehearing (Rules 5:20 and 5:37), are mandatory. A single extension not to exceed thirty days may be granted if at least two Justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia concur in a finding that an extension for papers to be filed is warranted by a showing of good cause sufficient to excuse the delay.

(b) *Post-Trial Proceedings Below and Their Effect on the Notice of Appeal.* The time period for filing the notice of appeal is not extended by the filing of a motion for a new trial, a petition for rehearing, or a like pleading unless the final judgment is modified, vacated, or suspended by the trial court pursuant to Rule 1:1 or a timely petition for rehearing is filed in the Court of Appeals. In any such case, the time for filing the notice of appeal shall be computed from the date of final judgment entered following such modification, vacation, or suspension, or from the date the Court of Appeals refuses a timely petition for rehearing or enters final judgment following the granting of such a petition.

(c) *How to File by Mail in a Timely Manner.* Any document required to be filed with the clerk of this Court shall be deemed to be timely filed if (1) it is transmitted expense pre-paid to the clerk of this Court by priority, express, registered, or certified mail via the United States Postal Service, or by a third-party commercial carrier for next-day delivery, and (2) if the official receipt therefor be exhibited upon demand of the clerk of this Court or any party and it shows such transmission or mailing within the prescribed time limits. This rule does not apply to documents to be filed in the office of the clerk of the trial court or clerk of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission or clerk of the State Corporation Commission.

(d) *Inmate Filing.* A paper filed by an [inmate individual](#) confined in an institution, [including a prison, jail, or the Virginia Center for Behavioral Rehabilitation](#), is timely filed if deposited in the institution's internal mail system with first-class postage prepaid on or before the last day for filing. Timely filing of a paper by an [inmate individual](#) confined in [such](#) an institution may be established by (1) an official stamp of the institution showing that the paper was deposited in the internal mail system on or before the last day for filing, (2) an official postmark dated on or before the last day for filing, or (3) a notarized statement signed by an official of the institution showing that the paper was deposited in the internal mail system on or before the last day for filing.

(e) *Extensions Generally.* Except as provided in paragraph (a) of this Rule, a motion for an extension of time is timely if filed either within the original filing deadline or within any extension period specified by the governing rule. Filing the motion within the original filing deadline or within the specified extension period does not toll the original filing deadline or further extend the period of extension.