

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

1 First Street, N. E.
Washington, DC 20543

This Court's Rule 19 shall be struck in full and replaced with:

Rule 19. Procedure on a Certified Question.

1. A United States district court may certify to this Court a question or proposition of law on which it seeks instruction for the proper decision of a case, either on its own motion or at the behest of a party. The certificate shall contain a statement of the nature of the case and the facts on which the question or proposition of law arises. Only questions or propositions of law may be certified, and they shall be stated separately and with precision.

2. When a question is certified by a United States district court, this Court, on its own motion or that of a party, may consider and decide the entire matter in controversy.

3. When a question is certified, the Court will notify the parties and docket the case. Counsel shall then enter their appearances. After docketing, the Court will perform a preliminary examination of the certificate to determine whether the case should be briefed, set for argument, or

dismissed. No brief may be filed until the preliminary examination of the certificate is completed.

4. If the Court orders the case briefed or set for argument, the parties will be notified and permitted to file briefs. The Clerk of this Court then will direct the court in possession of the record to certify and transmit it.

5. A brief on the merits in a case involving a certified question shall comply the standard rules and procedures of the Court, which should be communicated to the parties, except that the brief for the party who is the plaintiff or petitioner below shall be filed within three days of the order requiring briefs or setting the case for argument.