

Rule 4 Summons

A Rule 4 Summons is used to provide notice to the Defendants in a lawsuit. It informs the Defendants that they have been sued and attaches a copy of the Complaint or Petition. The Complaint or Petition informs the Defendant(s) why they are being sued and provides the allegations or reasons behind the lawsuit. A Rule 4 Summons also explains to the Defendants what their rights and obligations are in order to protect them from a Default Judgment. A Rule 4 Summons is used in all cases, except when a Rule 81 Summons is required.

Rule 81 Summons

The Rule 81 Summons is used when directing a person to appear in court on a date and time certain, like a scheduled court hearing. It is used to provide notice to the Defendants in a lawsuit. A Rule 81 Summons is used for many types of cases, including the following:

- Adoption
- Correction of Birth Certificate
- Alteration of Name
- Termination of Parental Rights
- Paternity
- Legitimation
- Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support
- Determination of Heirship
- Partition
- Most cases dealing with Wills
- Child Custody Actions, including Modifications
- Child Support Actions, including Modifications
- Grandparents' Visitation
- Emancipation
- Temporary Relief in Divorce Actions
- Separate Maintenance
- Contempt Actions
- Proceedings in Youth Court