

***United States Court of Appeals***  
FIFTH CIRCUIT  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

LYLE W. CAYCE  
CLERK

TEL. 504-310-7700  
600 S. MAESTRI PLACE,  
Suite 115  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

April 16, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO ALL COUNSEL OR PARTIES LISTED BELOW:

No. 19-60133 Joseph Thomas, et al v. Phil Bryant, et al  
USDC No. 3:18-CV-441

EXPEDITED BRIEFING NOTICE:

In light of the court's order of April 16, 2019 granting the motion to expedite the above captioned appeal, please adhere to the following expedited briefing schedule.

- Appellants brief is due on April 18, 2019
- Appellees brief is due on May 6, 2019
- Appellants reply brief is due on May 13, 2019

Record Excerpts: 5<sup>TH</sup> CIR. R. 30.1.7(c) provides that the electronic PDF version of the record excerpts should contain pages representing the "tabs" identified in the index of the document. However, we remind attorneys that the actual paper copies of record excerpts filed with the court must contain actual physical tabs that extend beyond the edge of the document, to facilitate easy identification and review of tabbed documents.

Brief Covers: THE CASE CAPTION(S) ON BRIEF COVERS MUST BE EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE CASE CAPTION(S) ON THE ENCLOSED TITLE CAPTION SHEET(S). YOU WILL HAVE TO CORRECT ANY MODIFICATIONS YOU MAKE TO THE CAPTION(S) BEFORE WE SUBMIT YOUR BRIEF TO THE COURT.

Dismissal of Appeals: The clerk may dismiss appeals without notice if you do not file a brief on time, or otherwise fail to comply with the rules.

Appearance Form: If you have not electronically filed a "Form for Appearance of Counsel," you must do so within 14 days of this date. You must name each party you represent, See FED. R. APP. P. and 5<sup>TH</sup> CIR. R. 12. The form is available from the Fifth Circuit's website, [www.ca5.uscourts.gov](http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov).

**ATTENTION ATTORNEYS:** Direct access to the electronic record on appeal (EROA) for pending appeals will be enabled by the U S District Court on a per case basis. Counsel can expect to receive notice once access to the EROA is available. Counsel must be approved for electronic filing and must be listed in the case as attorney of record before access will be authorized. Instructions

for accessing and downloading the EROA can be found on our website at [www.ca5.uscourts.gov/attorneys/attorney-forms/eroa\\_downloads](http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/attorneys/attorney-forms/eroa_downloads). Additionally, a link to the instructions will be included in the notice you receive from the district court.

Sealed documents, except for the presentence investigation report in criminal appeals, will not be included in the EROA. Access to sealed documents will continue to be provided by the district court only upon the filing and granting of a motion to view same in this court.

**Guidance Regarding Citations in Pleadings.**

5<sup>TH</sup> CIR. R. 28.2.2 grants the Clerk the authority to create a standard format for citation to the electronic record on appeal. You must use the proper citation format when citing to the electronic record on appeal.

- A. In single record cases, use the short citation form, "ROA" followed by a period, followed by the page number. For example, "ROA.123."
- B. For multiple record cases, cite "ROA" followed by a period, followed by the Fifth Circuit appellate case number of the record referenced, followed by a period, followed by the page of the record. For example, "ROA.13-12345.123."

**Reminder as to Sealing Documents on Appeal:** Our court has a strong presumption of public access to our court's records, and the court scrutinizes any request by a party to seal pleadings, record excerpts, or other documents on our court docket. Counsel moving to seal matters must explain in particularity the necessity for sealing in our court. Counsel do not satisfy this burden by simply stating that the originating court sealed the matter, as the circumstances that justified sealing in the originating court may have changed or may not apply in an appellate proceeding. It is the obligation of counsel to justify a request to file under seal, just as it is their obligation to notify the court whenever sealing is no longer necessary. An unopposed motion to seal does not obviate a counsel's obligation to justify the motion to seal.

Sincerely,

LYLE W. CAYCE, Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Allison G. Lopez".

By:

Allison G. Lopez, Deputy Clerk  
504-310-7702

Enclosure

Mr. Brian Parker Berry  
Mr. Tommie S. Cardin  
Mr. Charles Edward Cowan  
Mr. Jon Marshall Greenbaum  
Mr. Robert Bruce McDuff  
Mr. T. Russell Nobile  
Mrs. Beth Levine Orlansky  
Mr. Joseph Henry Ros  
Ms. Caitlyn E. Silhan  
Mr. Ellis Turnage  
Mr. Michael Brunson Wallace

Case No. 19-60133

JOSEPH THOMAS; VERNON AYERS; MELVIN LAWSON,

Plaintiffs - Appellees

v.

PHIL BRYANT, Governor of the State of Mississippi, all in the official capacities of their own offices and in their official capacities as members of the State Board of Election Commissioners; DELBERT HOSEMANN, Secretary of State of the State of Mississippi, all in the official capacities of their own offices and in their official capacities as members of the State Board of Election Commissioners,

Defendants - Appellants