

Answers—Adversary Proceedings

Docketing Event

Adversary > Answers > Complaint, 3rd, Cross, Counter

Negative Notice: N/A

Fee: N/A

Code and Rule References

[Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7008](#)

[Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7010](#)

[Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7012](#)

[Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7015](#)

[Fed. R. Civ. P. 8](#)

[Fed. R. Civ. P. 10](#)

[Fed. R. Civ. P. 12](#)

[Fed. R. Civ. P. 15](#)

[Fed. R. Civ. P. 19](#)

[Local Rule 2090-1](#)

Description

If a complaint has been properly served, the defendant usually must serve an answer or a responsive pleading within 30 days after the issuance of the summons. The United States, its agencies, and its officers have 35 days. The filing of an amended complaint may alter the time in which the defendant must serve an answer. Answers to a complaint also may include:

- Counter-Claim: Defendant is making claims against the Plaintiff.
- Cross-Claim: Defendant is making claims against another Defendant.
- Third Party Complaint: Defendant is making a claim against someone who is not included in the adversary proceeding as a plaintiff or a defendant.

Note: A Third Party Complaint also may be filed in a separate document. See Third Party Complaint procedures.

Filing Checklist

1. Review the answer to determine if it:
 - Is signed;
 - Attorney's name and address are complete and consistent with the filing attorney's name and address in CM/ECF;
 - Is filed by a corporation with the assistance of an attorney.
 - If filed by a corporation, the attorney must file a statement of corporate ownership on behalf of the corporation.
2. When docketing, insure you:
 - Docket answer in correct case/Adversary Proceeding; and
 - Use the correct event.