

**SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

PRACTICE DIRECTION

SKELETON ARGUEMENTS

***PRACTICE – COURT OF APPEAL – SKELETON ARGUMENTS –
CIVIL APPEALS FROM THE HIGH COURT – Order 1, Rule 10
(2) and Order 59 of the Orders and Rules of the Supreme Court of Judicature of
Trinidad and Tobago – Submission of Skeleton arguments to the Court of
Appeal:***

With a view to speeding up judicial process in the Court of Appeal and, following consultation with the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago, the Chief Justice, with the concurrence of the other Judges of the Court of Appeal, issues the following Practice Direction:

Effective from the 1st day of January, 1988-

- (1) In the Court of Appeal in Civil Appeals, parties are required to reduce to typewritten form the submissions to be made before the Court by way of a skeleton argument.
- (2) This skeleton argument must consist of points, which should be numbered consecutively and should be as concise as possible.
- (3) Each point should be followed by full reference to the material to which the attorney –at –law will refer in support of it, i.e., the relevant pages or passages in authorities, bundles of documents, affidavits, transcripts and the judgment under appeal.

The attorney(s) –at –law for the appellant(s) shall no less than fourteen days before the date fixed for the hearing of the appeal-

- (a) file four copies of the skeleton argument in the Registry of the Court of Appeal; and
- (b) serve one copy thereof upon the attorney(s) –at –law for the respondent(s).

The attorney(s) –at –law for the respondent(s) shall also reduce to type –written form the submissions to be made in reply and shall not less than seven days before the date fixed for the hearing of the appeal –

- (a) file four copies of the skeleton argument in the Registry of the Court of Appeal; and**
- (b) serve one copy thereof upon the attorney(s) –at –law for the appellant(s).**

Failure to comply with this Direction may result in cost being made payable by the attorney(s) –at –law in default.

This Direction may, in the discretion of the Court hearing the matter, be dispensed with at the time of such hearing.

This Direction is without prejudice to the power of the Court to dismiss any appeal under the Rules of Court for want of prosecution or under its inherent jurisdiction.

Dated this 1st day of December 1987.

CLINTON A. BERNARD
Chief Justice.

