

ORDER & LIMITS ON CLOSING STATEMENTS

Contents

I. Introduction.....1
 II. Order of Statements1
 III. Limits on Closing Statements1

I. Introduction. This section sets out the basic rules for closing statements in non-capital cases.

II. Order of Statements.

- If the defendant does not put on evidence:
 - Defendant (may waive opening)
 - State
 - Defendant
- If the defendant does put on evidence:
 - State (may waive opening)
 - Defendant
 - State

Rule 10, General Rules of Practice for the District and Superior Court

III. Limits on Closing Statements. The judge can put the following limits on closing statements:

- Misdemeanors: Not less than one hour/side
- Felonies: Not less than two hours/side

G.S. 7A-97.