

RULES OF SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA
PART ONE
RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL PROCEEDINGS

Rule 1:1. Finality of Judgments, Orders and Decrees.

(a) Expiration of Court's Jurisdiction. — All final judgments, orders, and decrees, irrespective of terms of court, shall remain under the control of the trial court and subject to be modified, vacated, or suspended for twenty-one days after the date of entry, and no longer. But notwithstanding the finality of the judgment, in a criminal case the trial court may postpone execution of the sentence in order to give the accused an opportunity to apply for a writ of error and supersedeas; such postponement, however, shall not extend the time limits hereinafter prescribed for applying for a writ of error. The date of entry of any final judgment, order, or decree shall be the date it is signed by the judge either on paper or by electronic means in accord with Rule 1:17.

(b) General Rule: Orders Deemed Final. — Unless otherwise provided by rule or statute, a judgment, order or decree is final if it disposes of the entire matter before the court, including all claim(s) and all cause(s) of action against all parties, gives all the relief contemplated, and leaves nothing to be done by the court except the ministerial execution of the court's judgment, order or decree.

(c) Demurrers. — An order sustaining a demurrer or sustaining a demurrer with prejudice or without leave to amend is sufficient to dispose of the claim(s) or cause(s) of action subject to the demurrer, even if the order does not expressly dismiss the claim(s) or cause(s) of action at issue. An order sustaining a demurrer and granting leave to file an amended pleading by a specific time is sufficient to dispose of the claim(s) or cause(s) of action subject to the demurrer, if the amended pleading is not filed within the specific time provided, even if the order does not expressly dismiss the claim(s) or cause(s) of action at issue.

(d) Pleas in Bar and Motions for Summary Judgment. — An order sustaining a plea in bar or sustaining a plea in bar with prejudice or without leave to amend is sufficient to dispose of a claim(s) or cause(s) of action subject to the plea in bar, as is an order granting a motion for summary judgment, even if the order does not expressly dismiss the claim(s) or cause(s) of action at issue or enter judgment for the moving party.

(e) Motions to Strike. — In a civil case, an order which merely grants a motion to strike, without expressly entering summary judgment or partial summary judgment or dismissing the claim(s) or cause(s) of action at issue, is insufficient to dispose of the claim(s) or cause(s) of action at issue.

Last amended by Order dated August 30, 2018; effective November 1, 2018.

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PART ONE
RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL PROCEEDINGS

Rule 1:11. ~~Striking~~ Motion to Strike the Evidence.

If the court sustains a motion to strike the evidence of either party in a civil case being tried before a jury, or the evidence of the Commonwealth in a criminal case being so tried, then the court shall enter summary judgment or partial summary judgment in conformity with its ruling on the motion to strike.

If the court overrules a motion to strike the evidence and there is a hung jury, the moving party may renew the motion immediately after the discharge of the jury, and, if the court is of opinion that it erred in denying the motion, it shall enter summary judgment or partial summary judgment in conformity with its ruling on the motion to strike.

Last amended by Order dated August 30, 2018; effective November 1, 2018.

RULES OF SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA
PART THREE
PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE IN CIVIL ACTIONS

Rule 3:20. Motion for Summary Judgment.

Any party may make a motion for summary judgment at any time after the parties are at issue, except in an action for divorce or for annulment of marriage. If it appears from the pleadings, the orders, if any, made at a pretrial conference, the admissions, if any, in the proceedings, ~~or, upon sustaining a motion to strike the evidence,~~ that the moving party is entitled to judgment, the court shall ~~enter judgment in that party's favor~~ grant the motion. Summary judgment, interlocutory in nature, may be entered as to the undisputed portion of a contested claim or on the issue of liability alone although there is a genuine issue as to the amount of damages. Summary judgment shall not be entered if any material fact is genuinely in dispute. No motion for summary judgment or motion to strike the evidence shall be sustained when based in whole or in part upon any discovery depositions under Rule 4:5, unless all parties to the action shall agree that such deposition may be so used, or unless the motion is brought in accordance with the provisions of subsection B of § 8.01-420.

Last amended by Order dated August 30, 2018; effective November 1, 2018.