

**In the Iowa Supreme Court**

**In the Matter of Adopting  
Amendments to Chapter 6 of the  
Iowa Court Rules, Iowa Rules of  
Appellate Procedure**

**Order**

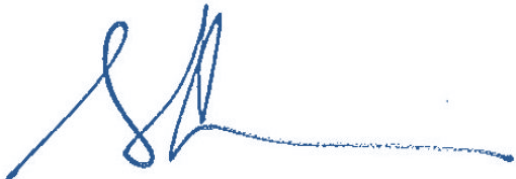
On September 29, 2023, the Iowa Supreme Court adopted amendments to Chapter 6 of the Iowa Court Rules, Iowa Rules of Appellate Procedure, with an effective date of April 1, 2024.

Rules 6.901(4) and 6.901(5) previously required counsel for a criminal defendant, postconviction applicant, or respondent committed under Iowa Code chapter 229A to serve a copy of the appellate brief on their client, indicating such service in the certificate of service, and to submit any pro se supplemental brief written by their client to the clerk of the supreme court. Those rules were amended to apply only to respondents in committal cases under Iowa Code chapter 229A in light of Iowa Code section 814.6A and section 822.3A, which now prohibit pro se filings by persons represented by counsel in criminal cases and postconviction-relief cases.

Due to the statutory changes, there is no need to delay the effective date for the amendments to rules 6.901(4) and 6.901(5). Accordingly, the amendments to rules 6.901(4) and 6.901(5), as provided with the September 29, 2023 order, are adopted effective immediately. The changes in rules 6.901(4) and 6.901(5) do not alter counsel's obligation to keep their clients reasonably informed. See Iowa Rule of Prof'l Conduct 32:1.4(a)(3). The effective date for all other amendments to chapter 6 remains April 1, 2024.

Dated this 7th day of December 2023.

**The Iowa Supreme Court**

By:   
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Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice