

Responding to a Complaint: Washington

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A Q&A guide to responding to a complaint in a trial court of general jurisdiction in Washington. This Q&A addresses the time to respond, extending the time to respond, pre-answer motions, answers, replies to the answer, counterclaims, crossclaims, third-party claims (also known as impleader), and defensive interpleader. Answers to questions can be compared across a number of jurisdictions (see Responding to a Complaint: State Q&A Tool).

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Washington courts have modified or suspended many court rules and procedures on a statewide or court-by-court basis. Check the State of Washington Courts: Court Closures and Emergency Modifications to Operations [website](#) for the latest developments in this jurisdiction.

Overview of Responding to a State Complaint

1. When must a defendant respond to the complaint?

In Washington, a defendant must respond to a complaint within 20 days after being served with the summons and complaint (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 4(a)(2) and 12(a)(1)).

If a plaintiff serves a defendant outside of Washington, the defendant has 60 days to respond to the complaint (RCW 4.28.180 and Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(3)).

If process is served by mail, a defendant has three additional days to respond to the complaint. A defendant served by mail within Washington therefore has 23 days to respond, and a defendant served by mail outside Washington has 63 days to respond. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 6(e).)

If process is served by publication, a defendant must respond within 60 days from the date of first publication of the summons (RCW 4.28.110 and Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(2)).

When calculating the deadline for a defendant to respond, the day that a defendant is served or the date of first publication (if served by publication) is not included, and the deadline cannot fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal

holiday. If the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline is extended to the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 6(a).)

2. How, if at all, can one obtain an extension of time to respond (for example, by stipulation, so-ordered stipulation, ex parte motion, motion on notice)?

Check the local court's website for additional information regarding extending time to respond to a complaint (see [Superior](#), [District](#), or [Municipal](#) Court rules, as relevant).

Before Expiration of Response Period

For cause and with or without notice or motion, the court may extend the time period for responding to a complaint if the original deadline has not already passed (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 6(b)).

After Expiration of Response Period

After the time period to respond has passed, a defendant may move for an extension of time to respond to the complaint. The court may grant the extension if the failure to respond is the result of excusable neglect. However, the court cannot extend any deadline under either:



- A renewed motion for judgment as a matter of law under Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 50(b).
- A motion for the court to amend its finding or judgment under Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 52(b).
- A motion for a new trial or reconsideration under Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 59(b) or (d).
- A motion for relief from a final judgment or order under Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 60(b).

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 6(b).)

3. What types of responses are permitted (for example, answer, motion, demurrer, special appearance)?

In Washington, a party can respond to a complaint with:

- An answer (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)).
- A motion (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(b)).

Washington has abolished demurrers, pleas, and exceptions for insufficiency of a pleading (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 7(c)).

Pre-Answer Responses

4. If motions, demurrers, or the like are permitted:

- Are there any preliminary requirements (for example, meet and confer with the plaintiff's counsel, have a conference with the court)?
- What grounds can be asserted (for example, subject matter jurisdiction, personal jurisdiction, failure to state a claim)?
- Are available grounds that are not asserted waived (either just for pre-answer litigation or for the whole case)?
- What papers are required (for example, notice of motion, motion, affidavit, memorandum of law)?
- Can the defendant offer evidence outside the complaint?
- When and how does the plaintiff respond?
- Can the defendant reply? If so, when and how?
- Does the court hear oral argument before deciding?
- Is discovery stayed until the court decides?
- If the court does not dismiss the complaint, how much time does the defendant have to file an answer?

In Washington, a defendant may bring a motion:

- To dismiss (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(b); see Motion to Dismiss).
- For a more definite statement (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(e); see Motion for a More Definite Statement).
- To strike (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(f); see Motion to Strike).

The defendant must consolidate all available defenses or objections permitted under Rule 12 of the Washington Superior Court Civil Rules into one motion, with limited exceptions under Rule 12(h)(2) (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(g)).

The defendant must serve the motion at least five days before the time specified for the hearing (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 6(d)).

Motion to Dismiss

Preliminary Requirements

There generally are no preliminary requirements for a motion to dismiss. However, check the local rules and the judge's individual rules to determine whether a particular court imposes any preliminary requirements.

Grounds Asserted

A pre-answer motion to dismiss a complaint may assert:

- Lack of subject matter jurisdiction.
- Lack of personal jurisdiction.
- Improper venue.
- Insufficiency of process.
- Insufficiency of service of process.
- Failure to state a claim on which relief can be granted.
- Failure to join a necessary party (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 19).

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(b)(1)-(7).)

Waiver

When the defendant makes a motion to dismiss, certain defenses are waived if not raised in the motion or a responsive pleading, including:

- Lack of personal jurisdiction.
- Improper venue.

- Insufficiency of process.
- Insufficiency of service of process.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(h)(1).)

The defenses that are not waived if not included in the motion to dismiss or a responsive pleading are:

- Failure to state a claim on which relief can be granted.
- Failure to join a necessary party (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 19).
- Lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(h)(2), (3).)

Required Papers

Motions must:

- Be in writing.
- State the motion's grounds with particularity.
- Specify the relief sought.
- Be signed according to Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 7(b)(1), (3).)

A motion must contain a caption that sets out:

- The name of the court.
- The title of the action. It is enough to state the name of the first party on each side with an indication of other parties (for example, "et al.").
- The file number if known by the person signing the motion.
- An identification of the nature of the motion (for example, "motion to dismiss").

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 10(a).)

All motions must include the signature and address of either:

- One attorney of record, including the attorney's Washington State Bar membership number.
- The party, if unrepresented.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11(a).)

The signature verifies that:

- The signer read the motion.
- To the best of the signer's knowledge, information, and belief:
 - the motion is well grounded in fact;
 - the motion is warranted by existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or

reversal of existing law or the establishment of new law;

- the motion is not being filed for an improper purpose (for example, to harass or cause unnecessary delay); and
- if the motion denies a factual contention, the denial is warranted on the evidence or reasonably based on a lack of information or belief.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11(a)(1)-(4).)

A motion may be supported by an affidavit (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11(a)). When a motion is supported by an affidavit, the motion must specify the supporting affidavit (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 7(b)(4)). Check the court's local rules for information regarding required and permitted papers.

Outside Evidence

Matters outside the pleadings may be submitted on a motion to dismiss. However, if a defendant includes matters outside the pleading on a motion to dismiss the complaint for failure to state a claim on which relief can be granted, the court can treat the motion as a motion for summary judgment under Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 56. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(b)(7).)

A court may consider certain limited forms of outside evidence without converting a motion to dismiss to a motion for summary judgment, including documents:

- Whose contents are referred to in the complaint but not attached to it.
- Subject to judicial notice.

(See, for example, *Rodriguez v. Loudeye Corp.*, 189 P.3d 168, 176 (Wash. Ct. App. 2008).)

Response by Plaintiffs

Washington law does not require a response to a motion. Check the court's local rules for information relating to the time to file a response.

Reply by Defendants

Washington law does not require a reply to a response. Check the court's local rules for information relating to the time to file a reply.

Oral Argument

In its discretion, the court may allow oral argument by conference telephone call. The expense of the call must be shared equally by all parties unless the court directs otherwise. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 7(b)(5).)

Check the court's local rules regarding oral argument. For example, in King County Superior Court, a party may request an oral argument on dispositive motions, but oral argument generally is permitted only for certain non-dispositive motions, including:

- Motions for revision of commissioners' rulings, except rulings regarding involuntary commitment and Title 13 proceedings.
- Motions for temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions.
- Family Law motions under LFLR 5.
- Motions to be presented in person to the Ex Parte and Probate Department under the Ex Parte and Probate Department Presentation of Motions and Hearings Manual issued by the clerk.

(Wash. King Super. Ct. LCR 7(b)(3), (4)).

Oral argument may be requested in other cases by placing "ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED" prominently on the first page of the motion or opposition to the motion (Wash. King Super. Ct. LCR 7(b)(4)(C)).

Stay of Discovery

Washington law does not contemplate a stay of discovery during a pre-answer motion. Counsel may consider filing a motion for a protective order to stay discovery (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 26(c)).

Serving an Answer or Other Response

If the court denies the motion or postpones its disposition until the trial on the merits, the defendant must serve a responsive pleading within ten days after receiving notice of the court's action (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4)(A)).

Motion for a More Definite Statement

Preliminary Requirements

There generally are no preliminary requirements for a motion for a more definite statement. Check the court's local rules and the judge's individual rules to determine whether a particular court imposes any preliminary requirements.

Grounds Asserted

A party may move for a more definite statement if either:

- The pleading is so vague or ambiguous that the party cannot reasonably prepare a response.

- More particularity in the pleading can help dispose of the action efficiently and economically.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(e).)

The party must file the motion before any other responsive pleading, and the motion must identify:

- The defects complained of.
- The desired details.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(e).)

Waiver

The service of an answer waives the defendant's right to make a motion for a more definite statement (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(e)).

Required Papers

See Motion to Dismiss: Required Papers.

Outside Evidence

The nature of a motion for a more definite statement does not lend itself to the presentation of outside evidence.

Response by Plaintiffs

See Motion to Dismiss: Response by Plaintiffs.

If the motion is granted and the court's order is not obeyed within ten days after receiving notice of the order, the court may strike the pleading that was subject to the order (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(e)).

Reply by Defendants

See Motion to Dismiss: Reply by Defendants.

Oral Argument

See Motion to Dismiss: Oral Argument.

Stay of Discovery

See Motion to Dismiss: Stay of Discovery.

Serving an Answer or Other Response

If the court denies the motion or postpones its disposition until the trial on the merits, the defendant must serve a responsive pleading within ten days after receiving notice of the court's action (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4)(A)).

If the court grants the motion, the defendant must serve a responsive pleading within ten days after being served with the plaintiff's more definite statement (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4)(B)).

Motion to Strike

Preliminary Requirements

There generally are no preliminary requirements for a motion to strike. Check the local rules and the judge's individual rules to determine whether a particular court imposes any preliminary requirements.

Grounds Asserted

Before responding to a pleading, a defendant may move to strike from the complaint any matter that is:

- Redundant.
- Immaterial.
- Impertinent.
- Scandalous.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(f).)

Waiver

The service of an answer waives the defendant's right to make a motion to strike. However, a court may strike material from a pleading at any time on its own initiative. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(f).)

Required Papers

See Motion to Dismiss: Required Papers.

Outside Evidence

Washington law does not expressly preclude a movant from presenting outside evidence in a motion to strike. However, this type of motion does not generally require outside evidence.

Response by Plaintiffs

See Motion to Dismiss: Response by Plaintiffs.

Reply by Defendants

See Motion to Dismiss: Reply by Defendants.

Oral Argument

See Motion to Dismiss: Oral Argument.

Stay of Discovery

See Motion to Dismiss: Stay of Discovery.

Serving an Answer or Other Response

If the court denies the motion or postpones its disposition until the trial on the merits, the defendant must serve a

responsive pleading within ten days after receiving notice of the court's action (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4)(A)).

Answering the Complaint

5. What are the required and optional contents of an answer?

Before filing an answer, consult the court's local rules and the judge's individual rules because they may vary from the general requirements.

Required Contents

Caption

In Washington, the answer must have a caption that contains:

- The name of the court.
- The title of the action. It is enough to state the name of the first party on each side with a designation for other parties (for example, "et al.>").
- The file number if known by the person signing the answer.
- An identification of the nature of the pleading (for example, "answer").

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 10(a).)

Denials or Admissions

The answer must respond to each allegation in the complaint with:

- An admission.
- A denial.
- A statement that the defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of an allegation, which has the effect of a denial.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 8(b).)

Allegations in the complaint that require a responsive pleading, except for allegations relating to the amount of damages, are considered admitted by the defendant unless denied in the answer (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 8(d)).

If a defendant intends in good faith to refute all the allegations in the complaint, it may generally deny all allegations subject to the obligations in Rule 11 of the Washington Superior Court Civil Rules (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 8(b)).

Defenses

A defendant must state in short and plain terms its defenses to each claim asserted in the complaint (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 8(b)).

Certain defenses are waived unless they are asserted in the answer or in a motion filed no later than the answer, including:

- Lack of personal jurisdiction.
- Improper venue.
- Insufficiency of process.
- Insufficiency of service of process.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(h)(1); see Question 4: Motion to Dismiss: Grounds Asserted.)

The defendant must set out certain affirmative defenses in the answer, including:

- Accord and satisfaction.
- Arbitration and award.
- Assumption of risk.
- Contributory negligence.
- Discharge in bankruptcy.
- Duress.
- Estoppel.
- Failure of consideration.
- Fault of a non-party (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(i)).
- Fraud.
- Illegality.
- Injury by fellow servant.
- Laches.
- License.
- Payment.
- Release.
- Res judicata.
- Statute of frauds.
- Statute of limitations.
- Waiver.
- Any other matter constituting an avoidance or affirmative defense.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 8(c).)

All defenses must be made in numbered paragraphs.

Set out each non-denial defense separately wherever a separation helps with the clear presentation of the matters. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 10(b).) The defendant may adopt by reference statements in the same pleading (for example, the answer) or another pleading or motion (for example, the complaint) (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 10(c)).

An answer may set out two or more defenses alternatively or hypothetically either in one defense or in separate defenses. An answer may also set out as many defenses as are available to the defendant regardless of consistency and whether based on legal or equitable grounds. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 8(e)(2).)

Signature

The answer must include the signature and address of either:

- One attorney of record, including the attorney's Washington State Bar Association membership number.
- The party, if unrepresented.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11(a).)

The signature verifies that:

- The signer read the answer.
- To the best of the signer's knowledge, information, and belief:
 - the answer is well grounded in fact;
 - the answer is warranted by existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law or the establishment of new law;
 - the answer is not being filed for an improper purpose (for example, to harass or cause unnecessary delay); and
 - if the answer denies a factual contention, the denial is warranted on the evidence or reasonably based on a lack of information or belief.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11(a)(1)-(4).)

Optional Contents

Cross-Claims and Counterclaims

A defendant may assert in its answer:

- Cross-claims.
- Counterclaims.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13; see Question 9.)

Exhibits

An answer may rely on written exhibits attached to it (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 10(c)).

6. Under what circumstances, if any, must a defendant verify its response?

Except when a rule or statute provides otherwise, a defendant is not required to verify its answer by affidavit (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 11(a); 3A Wash. Prac. Rules Practice CR 11 cmt. 4 (6th ed.)).

Amending an Answer

7. Can a defendant amend its answer? If so:

- When?
- What grounds, if any, must be shown to justify an amendment?

Time to Amend

A defendant may amend its answer once as a matter of course at any time before a responsive pleading is served. When no responsive pleading is permitted and the action has not been placed on the trial calendar, the defendant may amend its answer at any time within 20 days after serving it. A defendant otherwise may amend its answer only with leave of court or written consent of the opposing party. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 15(a).)

Grounds for Amendment

When a defendant may amend its answer only with leave of court, leave can be freely given when justice so requires (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 15(a)). Washington courts can grant a defendant leave to amend its complaint unless doing so results in prejudice to the opposing party (for example, undue delay, unfair surprise, or jury confusion) or the amendment would be futile (see, for example, *Cambridge Townhomes, LLC v. Pac. Star Roofing, Inc.*, 209 P.3d 863, 869-70 (Wash. 2009)).

Replying to an Answer

8. Can a plaintiff file a reply pleading? If so:

- When is it due?
- What grounds, if any, must be shown to justify a reply?
- What are the optional and required contents?

A plaintiff cannot reply to an answer unless ordered to do so by the court (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 7(a)).

Time to Reply

If the court orders the plaintiff to reply to the answer, the reply must be served within 20 days of the order unless the order directs otherwise (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4)).

Grounds for Reply

The court can direct the plaintiff to serve a reply if it deems a reply to the answer necessary.

Reply Contents

The reply's contents depends on the court's order.

Defendant's Affirmative Claims

9. Can a defendant assert affirmative claims of its own? If so:

- What types of claims are available (for example, counterclaims, crossclaims, third-party claims) and what is the basic nature of each (for example, who is a proper defendant to it and what is a proper subject)?
- Are any claims by a defendant mandatory (for example, compulsory counterclaims, claims covered by an entire controversy rule)?
- When and how does the defendant assert its claims?
- When and how do other parties respond to a defendant's claims?

Available Claims

In Washington, a defendant may assert in its answer:

- Cross-claims.
- Counterclaims.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13.)

The defendant may also assert third-party claims in a separate pleading (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a)).

Counterclaims

Under Washington law, counterclaims can be either compulsory or permissive (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(a)-(b)).

Any claim the defendant has against the plaintiff when serving the answer is a compulsory counterclaim that must be stated in the answer if:

- The counterclaim arose out of the same transaction or occurrence that is the subject of the plaintiff's claim.
- The counterclaim's adjudication does not require the presence of a third party whom the court cannot obtain jurisdiction over.
- When the action was commenced, the defendant's counterclaim was not the subject of another pending action.
- The plaintiff did not bring suit on the defendant's counterclaim by attachment or another process by which the court did not obtain jurisdiction to render a judgment thereon or the defendant is stating any counterclaim under Rule 13.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(a).)

A permissive counterclaim is any claim against the plaintiff that did not arise out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(b)).

Cross-Claims

A defendant may assert as a cross-claim against a co-party any claim that:

- Arises out of the same transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the complaint or any counterclaim in it.
- Relates to any property that is the subject matter of the complaint.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(g).)

Third-Party Claims

A defendant, as third-party plaintiff, may serve a summons and complaint on a non-party (a third-party defendant) who is or may be liable to the defendant for all or part of the plaintiff's claims against the defendant (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a)).

Mandatory Claims for Defendant

The only mandatory claim is the compulsory counterclaim (see Available Claims: Counterclaims).

When and How Claims Are Asserted

Counterclaims

Compulsory counterclaims must be asserted in the answer (see Available Claims: Counterclaims). Permissive

counterclaims may also be asserted in the answer (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(b)).

A claim that either matured or was acquired by the defendant after serving the answer may be presented as a counterclaim by supplemental pleading with the court's permission (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(e)).

With leave of court, the defendant may assert a counterclaim by amendment when justice requires it or when the failure to assert the counterclaim is due to:

- Oversight.
- Inadvertence.
- Excusable neglect.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(f).)

Cross-Claims

Cross-claims may be asserted in the answer (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 13(g)).

Third-Party Claims

A third-party plaintiff (the defendant) need not obtain leave of court to serve a third-party defendant (the non-party) if the third-party complaint (the complaint filed by the defendant against the non-party) is filed within ten days of serving the answer to the plaintiff's complaint. The third-party plaintiff otherwise can serve a third-party defendant only with leave of court and notice to all parties. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a).)

Other Parties' Response to Defendant's Claims

Response to Counterclaim

The plaintiff must serve a reply to a counterclaim within 20 days after service of either:

- The answer.
- A court order that directs the plaintiff to serve a reply unless the court directs otherwise.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4).)

However, the service of a motion under Rule 12(b) of the Washington Superior Court Civil Rules alters the time for serving a response (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4); see Question 4).

A motion against or an answer to a counterclaim is subject to the same content requirements as a motion against or an answer to a complaint (see Questions 4 and 5).

Response to Cross-Claim

A party served with a cross-claim must serve an answer within 20 days after being served with the cross-claim (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a)(4)).

However, the service of a motion under Rule 12(b) of the Washington Superior Court Civil Rules alters the time for serving a response (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 12(a); see Question 4).

A motion against or an answer to a cross-claim is subject to the same content requirements as a motion against or an answer to a complaint (see Questions 4 and 5).

Response to Third-Party Claim

A person served with the third-party summons and complaint is referred to as the third-party defendant. The third-party defendant must assert any:

- Defenses to the third-party complaint under Rule 12(b).
- Counterclaims against the third-party plaintiff under Rule 13.
- Cross-claims against other third-party defendants under Rule 13.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a).)

A third-party defendant may also assert against the plaintiff:

- Any defenses available to the third-party defendant against the plaintiff's claim against the defendant.
- Any claim arising out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim against the defendant.

(Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a).)

A third-party defendant may also proceed against a non-party who is or may be liable to the third-party defendant for all or part of the third-party plaintiff's claim (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a)).

Any party may move to strike the third-party claim or sever it for a separate trial (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14(a)).

The plaintiff may assert any claim against the third-party defendant arising out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim against the defendant (the third-party plaintiff). The plaintiff's failure to assert this type of claim has the effect of failing to state a compulsory counterclaim under Rule 13(a) of the Washington Superior Court Civil Rules (see Available Claims: Counterclaims). The third-party defendant must then assert any defenses under Rule 12 and any counterclaims or and cross-claims under Rule 13. (Wash. Super. Ct. Civ. R. 14.)

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