

UNDERSTANDING THE PETITION

Explanations:

EACH NUMBER COINCIDES WITH THE NUMBERS IN THE PETITION.

1. In a Petition you state why you have standing to be in this Court. The opponent may challenge that. Often where there are multiple Plaintiffs the party must state why they can be seen as one party.

There may have been times when the Plaintiffs and Defendants acted together. So, you distinguish those acts and the acts of others who may have done the same thing.

Spiritually, we must approach God in one voice.

2. Why can we bring an action before the Court? We claim our citizenship, our heritage. Spiritually, we come before Him with thanksgiving and praise.
3. Who can come before the Lord? Only those with clean hands and a pure heart. Legally, there is “the clean hands” doctrine. It is a defense if the opponent can assert participation in the very thing one contends the other party has done.
4. What harm, what offense, has the opponent committed in general? What is the larger scope of the matter presented?
5. What is the Plaintiff asking for? What do you want the Court to do? Why should the Court do it? What would happen if the Court does not grant your request?
6. Are there other alternatives to accomplish what you are asking this Court to do? Can other Courts, another recourse, accomplish the same purpose? Why should this Court act? Even if there has been some wrong done by the Defendants, how does that affect the Petitioner?

If the Court answers your request, will it harm someone else?
7. How clear is it that the Court has ruled on this kind of request before? Can this Court do what the Plaintiff is asking it to do? If you want the Court to take the action you request, are you prepared to obey its order, even as the ruling would affect the other party?
8. Specifically what are the wrongs you expect this Court’s action to correct?
 - a, b, Are there matters still unresolved from the past?
 - c, d, e, f, g, Broad enough not to leave a loophole in the specifics.
9. Are there parties that need to be identified as included or excluded from the breadth of the Order if the Court grants the Petition?