**CIVIL CASES**

**Introduction: -**  
**Pleadings avow basic positions of the parties in a civil suit. There are the circular orders and administrative instructions are being issued from time to time for the guidance of all the subordinate Civil Courts. As to pleadings of civil suits are concerned, it is seminal to refer to Order 6 the Code of Civil Procedure,1908 (CPC). ” Pleading” shall mean plaint or written statement as seen from Order 6 Rule 1 CPC. All plaints, written Statements and other proceedings presented to the court, shall be written, type written or printed, fairly and legible on stamped paper or on substantial foolscap folio paper. A plaint shall be headed with a cause-title, as in Form No.1 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Rules of Practice (CRP). Certain Form of Proceedings are set out in Chapter -II of the Civil Rules of Practice for the guidance of all the subordinate Civil Courts. For instance, when a document produced with any pleading appears to be defaced, torn, or in any way damaged, or where its condition or appearance required special notice, a note of its condition and appearance shall be made on the list of documents by the party producing the same and should be checked and initialed, if correct, by the receiving officer. The rule is that civil cases are decided on the basis of preponderance of evidence. See. Syed Askari’s, 2009 (3) SCALE 604). Of course, there are instances that defendant drags the proceedings without filing his written statement for months together. If defendant was deliberately delaying the proceedings and had failed to assign good and sufficient cause for not filing the written statement, the Court could forfeit his right of defense.**

Generally, pleadings shall contain the following factors as was provided in Order 6 of CPC. No pleading shall, except by way of amendment, raise any new ground of claim or contain any allegation of fact inconsistent with the previous pleadings of the party pleading the same. As to material contents of a document, it shall be sufficient in any pleading to state the effect thereof as briefly as possible, without setting out the whole or any part thereof, unless the precise words of the document or any part thereof are material. Every pleading shall be signed by the party and his pleader (if any). where a party pleading is, by reason of absence or for other good cause, unable to sign the pleading, it may be signed by any person duly authorized by him to sign the same or to sue or defend on his behalf. It is advised to go through Order 6 of CPC.

When a civil lawsuit is filed, the documents that are filed by plaintiffs and defendants into the court record at the start of the case are called pleadings. There are different kinds of pleadings that serve different purposes, and an experienced legal professional can help you understand what pleading is required. While you might have to provide information that will go into pleadings during your case, the documents themselves are usually prepared and filed by lawyers.

Most civil lawsuits begin with a pleading known as the petition or the complaint. This document usually outlines what grievance, complaint or case a plaintiff believes he or she has against a defendant. In addition to spelling out the complaint, this pleading typically also includes a demand for judgment against the defendant that includes what the plaintiff wants to see from the defendant.

Another type of pleading common to civil cases is the summons, which notifies the defendant that he, she or it, in the case of an organization, is being sued. Following the summons, the defendant might file answers, which is a documented response to either the petition or documents requiring information or responses. Other common pleadings include counterclaims, cross claims and replies.

As you can see, the types of pleadings are numerous – and we've only touched on some of the documents that are common to most civil cases. Not only do you have to understand which document is appropriate, most documents used in court have specific formatting and content requirements.