

### 33.3 Time Limits

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**Misdemeanor and noncapital felony cases in superior court.** Judges in superior court are authorized to limit the time of closing argument to “not less than one hour on each side” in misdemeanor cases and “not less than two hours on each side” in noncapital felony cases. On motion of a party, the trial judge, in his or her discretion, may allow additional time if the interests of justice require it. G.S. 7A-97.

**Capital cases.** The trial judge may not limit the time of closing argument in capital cases “otherwise than by consent,” but the judge may limit the number of attorneys who address the jury to three on each side. G.S. 7A-97.