

No. 123, S.]

[Published October 6, 1961.

CHAPTER 519

AN ACT to repeal chapter 254; to renumber 59.42 (9) and 66.12 (1) (b) and (3); to amend 66.12 (1) (a); and to create 59.42 (9) (b), 66.12 (1) (b) and (3) (a), title XXVIIA and chapter 299 of the statutes, relating to small claims and forfeiture procedure in county court.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 59.42 (9) of the statutes is renumbered 59.42 (9) (a).

SECTION 2. 59.42 (9) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

59.42 (9) (b) For returning to the circuit court the case file, and any transcript or agreed statement, and statement as to a law question only, pursuant to s. 299.30 (3), 50 cents.

SECTION 3. 66.12 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.12 (1) (a) An action for violation of a city or village ordinance, resolution or bylaw is a civil proceeding. All forfeitures and penalties imposed by any ordinance, resolution or bylaw of the city or village, *except as provided for in ss. 345.20 to 345.46*, may be collected in an action in the name of the city or village before the * * * *municipal* justice of the peace, * * * or a court of record, to be commenced by warrant or summons as *provided in s. 954.02*; but the marshal * * * , constable or police officer may arrest the offender in all cases without warrant, as provided in s. 954.03. The affidavit where the action is commenced by warrant * * * *may* be the complaint. The affidavit or complaint shall be sufficient if it alleges that the defendant has violated an ordinance, resolution or bylaw of the city or village, specifying the same by section, chapter, title or otherwise with sufficient plainness to identify the same. *All of the provisions of s. 954.034 pertaining to bail upon arrest shall apply to such actions. In arrests without a warrant or summons a statement on the records of the court of*

the offense charged shall stand as the complaint unless the court directs that formal complaint be issued; then the defendant's plea shall be guilty or not guilty and shall be entered as not guilty on failure to plead, which plea of not guilty shall put all matters in such case at issue, any other provision of law notwithstanding.

SECTION 4. 66.12 (1) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 66.12 (1) (c).

SECTION 5. 66.12 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

66.12 (1) (b) Local ordinances other than those provided in ss. 345.20 to 345.46 may contain a provision for stipulation of guilt of any or all offenses under such ordinances, and may designate the manner in which such stipulation is to be made and fix the penalty to be paid. When a person charged with an offense for which stipulation of guilt is authorized makes a timely stipulation and pays the required penalty to the designated official, such person need not appear in court and no witness fees or other additional costs shall be taxed unless the local ordinance so provides. The official receiving the penalty shall remit all moneys collected to the treasurer of the county, city, town or village in whose behalf the sum was paid within 20 days after its receipt by him; and in case of any failure in such payment, such treasurer may collect the same of such officer by action, in his name of office, and upon the official bond of such officer, with interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum from the time when it should have been paid. The governing body of the city, town, village or other municipal subdivision shall by ordinance designate the official to receive such penalties and the terms under which he shall qualify.

SECTION 6. 66.12 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 66.12 (3) (b).

SECTION 7. 66.12 (3) (a) of the statutes is created to read:

66.12 (3) (a) In forfeiture actions for violations of ordinances other than those provided in ss. 345.20 to 345.46 on default of appearance or on a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, the clerk's fee shall be not more than \$2, but if it is necessary to issue a warrant or summons and the action tried as a contested matter, additional fees may be added not to exceed \$3.50, except that a municipality need not advance clerk's fees, but shall be exempt from payment of such fees until defendant pays costs pursuant to this section. In contested matters in which the municipality prevails, costs shall be allowed to the municipality not to exceed \$15.

SECTION 8. Chapter 254 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 9. Title XXVIIA and chapter 299 of the statutes are created to read:

TITLE XXVIIA

**PROCEDURE IN COUNTY COURT IN SMALL CLAIMS
TYPE ACTIONS.**

CHAPTER 299.

**PROCEDURE IN COUNTY COURT IN SMALL CLAIMS
TYPE ACTIONS.**

299.01 Applicability of chapter.

299.02 Counterclaims over \$500.

299.03 Intent.

299.04 Relation of this chapter to other procedural rules.

299.05 Summons.

- 299.06 Actions; how commenced, pleadings, appearances.
- 299.07 File of summons, forfeiture tickets, warrants.
- 299.10 Case file, case docket.
- 299.11 Territorial limitation on service in personal actions.
- 299.12 Limitation on personal jurisdiction.
- 299.13 Personal jurisdiction; service.
- 299.14 Failure of actual notice of suit by mail.
- 299.16 Jurisdiction in rem or quasi in rem.
- 299.20 Answer, counterclaim and cross complaint.
- 299.205 Affidavit of prejudice.
- 299.21 Trial.
- 299.22 Judgment on failure to appear or answer.
- 299.23 Reporter.
- 299.24 Judgment.
- 299.25 Costs.
- 299.26 Costs on appeal.
- 299.27 Adjournments.
- 299.28 New trial.
- 299.30 Appeal.
- 299.31 Agreed statement.

299.01 APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER. Subject to the limitations of ss. 299.11, 299.12 and 299.13, the procedure in this chapter shall be used in county court in the following actions:

- (1) UNLAWFUL DETAINERS. Unlawful detainer actions under ch. 291;
- (2) FORFEITURES. Actions to recover a forfeiture for the state, a county or a municipality except as a different procedure is provided in chs. 66, 238 and 345, or in any other forfeiture provision inconsistent herewith;
- (3) REPLEVINS. Actions for replevin under ch. 265 where the value of the property claimed does not exceed \$500.
- (4) OTHER CIVIL ACTIONS. Other civil actions where the amount claimed is \$500 or less, provided that such actions or proceedings are:
 - (a) For money judgments only except for cognovit judgments which shall be taken pursuant to s. 270.69; or
 - (b) For attachment or garnishment under chs. 266 and 267, except that ss. 266.09, 267.01 (2) and 267.22 shall not apply to proceedings under this chapter, and s. 267.16 shall apply only to third persons who come within the limitations of s. 299.12 (1) (b) or (c); or
 - (c) To enforce a lien upon personalty; or
 - (d) To recover a tax.

299.02 COUNTERCLAIMS FOR OVER \$500. The limitations of s. 299.01 shall apply to counterclaims and cross complaints.

299.03 INTENT. Sections 299.01 and 299.02 are procedural and not jurisdictional.

299.04 RELATION OF THIS CHAPTER TO OTHER PROCEDURAL RULES. (1) GENERAL. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the general rules of practice and procedure in title XXIV and title XXV shall apply to actions and proceedings under this chapter.

(2) FORMS. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, or where inconsistent with the provisions of ch. 291, the forms specified in title XXV shall be used.

299.05 SUMMONS. (1) CONTENTS. The summons shall state the nature of the demand substantially in the terms of one or more of the provisions of s. 299.01, and the dollar amount of damages, if any, the last known address of the parties and the name and address of plaintiff's attorney, if any.

(2) SIGNING. The process shall be signed by the clerk or by any attorney duly authorized to practice law in this state and shall be issued by the clerk only to an individual acting in his own behalf and appearing in his own proper person, or to attorneys, and not otherwise.

(3) RETURN DATE. Every summons shall specify a return date and time. The return date shall be not less than 8 days nor more than 17 days from the issue date, and service shall be made within the same period. The clerk shall set the day and hour at which the summons is returnable.

(4) CLERK TO FURNISH TIME OF RETURN. If a summons is signed by an attorney, he shall obtain from the clerk of court the hour and date within the limits of sub. (3) on which to make the summons returnable.

(5) NOTING DATE OF MAILING. After a copy of the summons has been mailed, the clerk shall note the date of mailing on the original.

(6) FORM. The summons shall be substantially in the following form:

State of Wisconsin, County Court _____ County.
A.B., Plaintiff
v. SUMMONS (Small Claims)
C.D., Defendant

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To said defendant:

You are hereby summoned to appear and plead to the plaintiff's complaint in the above court at _____ (village) in the (city) of _____, on the ____ day of _____, A.D. 19____, at _____ (A.M.) _____ o'clock (P.M.). [A copy of the complaint is hereto attached.] [The plaintiff will state his demand on that date.] In case of your failure to appear and to plead, a judgment may be rendered against you in accordance with the demands made by the plaintiff. The nature of the demand being made upon you is _____

(state in terms of s. 299.01)

and the amount of damages, if any, demanded is \$ _____

Dated: _____ 19 _____

Plaintiff's P.O. Address:

E.F.

Plaintiff's Attorney (if any):

Clerk of County Court
[or]
G.H.

(Name)

Plaintiff's Attorney

(P.O. Address)

Defendant's P.O. Address:

299.06 ACTIONS; HOW COMMENCED, PLEADINGS, APPEARANCES. (1) **PLEADINGS.** Pleadings may be oral or written and need not be verified under s. 263.24 unless verification is expressly required by another statute. The court may by order or rule require written pleadings in a particular or all cases, and may require by order or rule that the same be verified.

(2) (a) An individual may commence an action either in his own proper person and in his own behalf, or by an attorney regularly authorized to practice in the circuit courts of this state, but not otherwise. Actions on behalf of any other party shall be commenced only by attorneys regularly authorized to practice in the circuit courts of this state.

(b) Any party to any action or proceeding before said court may appear and prosecute the same in his own proper person or by an attorney regularly authorized to practice in the circuit courts of this state but not otherwise.

299.07 FILE OF SUMMONS; FORFEITURE TICKETS; WARRANTS. The clerk shall keep a file of summons issued by him, of forfeiture tickets filed with him, and of warrants for arrests issued by him.

299.10 CASE FILE, CASE DOCKET. (1) **CLERK TO MAINTAIN DOCKET AND CASE FILE.** The clerk shall maintain a docket of small claims cases under this chapter, which docket may be in loose leaf or card form, and a case file for each case in which there are papers other than the ones listed in s. 299.07 to be filed.

(2) **ENTRIES; WHAT TO CONTAIN.** Entries in the docket shall include:

(a) The number of the case;

(b) The title of every action including the full names of the parties and their addresses, if known. If service is by mail, the clerk shall also enter the date when the summons is mailed to any defendant, and the name of the person to whom mailed;

(c) The names of attorneys, if any, appearing in the action;

(d) Type of action by reference to s. 299.01;

(e) Nature of plea in forfeiture actions;

(f) The judgment or final order entered, date of entering it and the amount of forfeiture or damages, costs and fees due to each person separately;

(g) Satisfaction of forfeiture, or commitment for nonpayment of forfeiture or judgment;

(h) The date of mailing notice of entry of judgment or final order as provided in s. 299.24;

(i) Such additional entries as may be necessary to supply essential information not contained in the case file or reporter's record.

(3) **CORRECTING DOCKET.** The judge has power at any time to order the docket corrected or any omission or additional entry supplied if he is satisfied that an error or omission exists, or that one or more additional entries are needed.

(4) **TIME OF DOCKET ENTRIES.** Entries in the docket shall be made not later than the time of the entry of the judgment or final order, or as soon thereafter as possible. No docket entries need be made in uncontested cases where the action is for a money forfeiture charging violation of a parking regulation.

299.11 TERRITORIAL LIMITATION ON SERVICE IN PERSONAL ACTIONS. Service of process by mail in actions under this chapter to obtain a judgment against a party personally shall be limited to the territorial limits of the county. In matters involving \$200 or more personal service of process to obtain a personal judgment may be made outside the county but within the state. Section 345.09 shall not apply to actions under this chapter.

299.12 LIMITATION ON PERSONAL JURISDICTION. (1) SERVICE BY MAIL. Jurisdiction over a person served pursuant to s. 299.13 (1) may be obtained only under the following circumstances:

(a) *Defendant's location or place of operation.* When the defendant at the time the action is commenced:

1. Is a natural person present within the county when served; or
2. Is a natural person having his usual place of abode within the county; or
3. Is a corporation or an unincorporated association or a member of a partnership engaged in substantial business activities within the county.

(b) *Motor vehicle, action arising out of the use of.* When the action regardless of defendant's domicile arises out of the use or operation of a motor vehicle in the county.

(2) **PERSONAL SERVICE.** Jurisdiction over a person served pursuant to s. 299.13 (2) may be obtained:

(a) *In matters involving \$200 or less.* When the defendant at the time the summons is served:

1. Is a natural person present within the county when served; or
2. Is a natural person having his usual place of abode within the county; or
3. Is a corporation or an unincorporated association or a member of a partnership engaged in substantial business activities within the county.

(b) *In matters involving over \$200.* When the defendant at the time the summons is served:

1. Is a natural person present within the state when served; or
2. Is a natural person having his usual abode within the state; or
3. Is a corporation or an unincorporated association or member of a partnership engaged in substantial business activities within the state.

299.13 PERSONAL JURISDICTION; SERVICE. The summons shall be served as to any defendant in either of the following ways:

(1) **MAILING.** By mailing in the manner following: Service by mail upon a natural person whose usual place of abode is in the county may be made by leaving the original and necessary copies with the clerk of court, together with 50 cents for each defendant to cover the expense of mailing, except that a municipality need not advance the mailing fee, but shall be exempt from payment of such fee until the defendant pays costs pursuant to s. 299.25. The court may by rule require the use of registered mail with return receipt requested, in which event the fee prescribed shall be \$1.50 for each defendant. The clerk shall mail a copy to each defendant at his last residence address as specified in the summons. Service of the summons is considered completed when it is mailed, unless the envelope enclosing the summons has been returned unopened to the clerk prior to the return date. All mailing of summonses shall be done in envelopes upon which the clerk's return address appears, with a request to return to that address.

(2) **PERSONAL SERVICE.** By service upon the defendant within the state as follows:

(a) In any manner authorized in s. 262.06 (1) (a) or (b), or (2), except that there shall be no service by publication.

(b) Upon a domestic or foreign corporation by personally serving the summons upon an officer, director or agent of the corporation within the state. In lieu of delivering the copy of the summons to the officer specified, the copy may be left in the office of such officer, director or agent, which is located in the state, with the person who is apparently in charge of the office.

(c) Upon partnership by serving a summons individually upon each general partner in the state known to the plaintiff, in any manner pre-

scribed in s. 262.06 (1) (a) or (b) or (2), except that there shall be no service by publication. A judgment rendered after such service is a binding adjudication against the partnership as to its assets anywhere.

(d) Upon an unincorporated association (other than a partnership) by serving a summons individually upon any officer or director in the state known to the plaintiff, in any manner prescribed in s. 262.06 (1) (a) or (b) or (2), except that there shall be no service by publication. A judgment rendered after such service is a binding adjudication against the association as to its assets anywhere.

(3) COURT RULING. The court may by rule require that service of the summons be made as prescribed in sub. (2).

299.14 FAILURE OF ACTUAL NOTICE OF SUIT BY MAIL. (1) PETITION; HEARING; TRIAL ON MERITS. In any action, where service of summons is made by mailing, a defendant, at any time within 15 days of receiving actual knowledge of the pendency of the action or of the entry of judgment therein against him (if judgment has been entered), may, by written verified petition, on forms provided by the court, petition to set aside the judgment if one has been entered and for an opportunity to be heard upon the merits. Thereupon the court shall set the matter for hearing at a time that will give the parties reasonable opportunity to appear and, if judgment has been entered, shall stay all proceedings on the judgment. At the time of the hearing the questions raised by the petition shall first be heard and determined by the court. If the court grants the petition, the court shall proceed to try the matter upon the merits, or, if judgment has been entered, shall vacate the judgment and proceed to try the matter upon the merits. If the court denies the petition, it shall, if judgment has been entered, revoke its order staying proceedings thereon or, if a judgment has not been entered, it may, in its discretion, give the defendant opportunity to be heard upon the merits.

(2) EFFECT OF ACTUAL APPEARANCE. This section shall not apply to a defendant who actually appeared and submitted to the jurisdiction of the court without filing application as provided in sub. (1).

299.16 JURISDICTION IN REM OR QUASI IN REM. (1) SERVICE. In addition to the notice required by the statute involved, the defendant must be given notice by service of the summons in the principal action upon him as follows:

(a) If the defendant can be served within the state in the manner prescribed for service of a summons in s. 299.13 (2), he shall be so served.

(b) If the defendant cannot be served under par. (a) the summons may be published in a newspaper published in this state, likely to give notice to the defendant once; but the return date shall not be less than 15 nor more than 24 days from the date of the publication.

(2) JUDGMENT. No personal judgment shall be entered against a defendant unless based on service as provided in s. 299.13.

299.20 ANSWER; COUNTERCLAIM AND CROSS COMPLAINT. (1) PLEADING ON RETURN DATE OR ADJOURNED DATE. On the return date of the summons or any adjourned date thereof the defendant may answer, demur or otherwise plead to the complaint.

(2) CROSS COMPLAINT. In the case of more than one defendant, any cross complaint by one defendant against another who has appeared shall be made or filed on the return date or any adjourned date.

(3) INTERPLEADER, PROCEDURE WHEN GRANTED. If the court grants a motion for interpleader, from that time the entire action may be tried by circuit court procedure.

299.205 AFFIDAVIT OF PREJUDICE. On the return date of the summons or at least 2 weeks prior to the trial date, upon the filing by any party of an affidavit that he has good reason to, and does, believe that he cannot have a fair trial on account of the prejudice of the judge, naming him, the judge shall thereupon be disqualified to act in relation to that matter. In a county having more than 3 branches such affidavit may name 2 judges. The case shall then be referred to the clerk who, in multi-branch courts, shall request a judge from another branch of that court to attend and hold court in such matter. In single branch courts, or in multi-branch courts in the event no other judge is able to serve, the clerk shall request the chief justice of the supreme court, pursuant to s. 251.182, to designate and assign another judge to attend and hold court in such matter.

299.21 TRIAL. (1) DETERMINATION OF METHOD OF TRIAL. On the return date or at least 5 days prior to trial either party may file a written demand for trial by jury. The court shall determine whether, in a case triable by jury, either party demands a trial by a jury of 6, or by a jury of 12. In the absence of such demand trial shall be to the court.

(2) **TRIAL BY COURT.** If the parties agree to trial by the court, the case may, with the consent of all the parties, be tried on the return day.

(3) **12-MAN JURY TRIAL; FEES AND SUIT TAX; PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR OR TRANSFER.** If either party demands a trial by a jury of 12, the additional clerk's fee provided in s. 59.42 (2) and the \$5 suit tax shall be paid immediately by the demanding party, and upon payment of the same the court shall place the case on the 12-man jury trial calendar of the county court, or shall forthwith transfer the case to circuit court for trial.

(4) **12-MAN JURY; PROCEDURE; COMPLAINT.** After such placement or transfer for trial by a 12-man jury, the parties shall proceed as if the action had originally been begun as a proceeding under title XXV; the plaintiff shall when no complaint has been previously served and filed, accordingly, file and serve a written complaint within 20 days of the date of the order for placement or transfer.

(5) **12-MAN JURY WAIVED IF NOT DEMANDED.** If neither party demands a trial by a jury of 12, the right to trial by a jury of 12 is waived forever.

(6) **6-MAN JURY; FEES; PROCEDURE.** If either party demands a trial by a jury of 6 and there is no demand for a trial by a jury of 12, the demanding party shall pay a jury fee of \$12 immediately, and the trial shall proceed in the same manner as jury trials under title XXV except that unless one of the parties demands a county-wide jury, the members of the jury may all be residents of the municipality in which the court is held.

(7) **POPULOUS COUNTIES.** In counties having a population of 500,000 or more all juries shall be drawn from the circuit court jury panel regardless of a juror's residence.

299.22 JUDGMENT ON FAILURE TO APPEAR OR ANSWER.

(1) **WHEN PLAINTIFF FAILS TO APPEAR.** If the plaintiff fails to appear and plead on the return date or on the date set for trial, the court may enter a judgment for the defendant dismissing the action, on motion of the defendant or on its own motion.

(2) **WHEN DEFENDANT FAILS TO APPEAR.** If the defendant fails to appear and plead on the return date or on the date set for trial, the court may enter a judgment upon due proof of facts which show the plaintiff entitled thereto.

(3) **PLAINTIFF'S PROOF WHERE ACTION AROSE ON CONTRACT FOR RECOVERY OF MONEY.** In any action arising on contract for the recovery of money only, if the defendant fails to appear and answer or to appear at the time set for trial, the plaintiff may file with the judge or clerk a verified complaint, or an affidavit of the facts, or may offer sworn testimony or other evidence to the clerk or judge, and either may enter judgment thereon.

299.23 REPORTER. The testimony in the trial of any contested action shall be taken by a phonographic reporter or other court approved method. In all other matters proceedings shall be reported as the court directs.

299.24 JUDGMENT. (1) **ENTRY OF JUDGMENT OR ORDER; NOTICE OF ENTRY THEREOF.** When judgment or an order appealable under s. 274.33 (3) is rendered, the judge or clerk shall immediately enter it in the case docket and note the date thereof which shall be the date of entry of judgment or order. The clerk shall mail a notice of entry of judgment or order to the parties or their attorneys at their last known address within 3 days of its entry.

(2) **TRANSCRIPTS OF JUDGMENTS; FILING AND DOCKETING; EFFECT; DOCKETING AGAINST SURETY WHERE EXECUTION STAYED.** (a) The clerk of the circuit court shall, upon the production to him of a duly certified transcript of a judgment, rendered by any county judge, forthwith file the same and docket such judgment in the docket of the court in the manner prescribed in s. 270.74. When the transcript shows that execution was stayed, with the name of the surety thereof, the clerk shall docket the judgment against such surety as well as the judgment debtor, and such surety shall be bound thereby as a judgment debtor and his property be subject to lien and be liable thereon to the same extent as his principal. Every such judgment, from the time of such filing of the transcript thereof, shall be deemed the judgment of the circuit court, be equally under the control thereof and be carried into execution, both as to the principal judgment debtor and his surety, if any, in the same manner and with like effects as the judgments thereof, except that no action can be brought upon the same as a judgment of such court nor execution issued thereon after the expiration of the period of the lien thereof on real estate as provided by s. 270.79.

(b) Section 270.79 shall apply with respect to such judgments.

299.25 COSTS. The clerk shall without notice to the parties tax and insert in the judgment as costs in favor of the party recovering judgment the following:

(1) **SUIT TAX.** A suit tax of \$1 as provided in s. 271.21.

(2) **CLERK'S FEE.** A clerk's fee of \$2, except that a municipality need not advance this fee, but shall be exempt from payment of such fee until defendant pays costs pursuant to this section.

(3) **MAILING FEE.** A mailing fee of 50 cents or \$1.50 as provided in s. 299.13 (1).

(4) **RETURN OF CASE FILE.** A fee of 50 cents for returning the case file and transcript or statement as specified in s. 59.42 (9) (b).

(5) **GARNISHEE FEE.** A garnishee fee of \$1.

(6) **SERVICE FEES.** Lawful fees or charges of the sheriff, constable or other person for serving the summons or any other document.

(7) **WITNESS FEES.** Amounts necessarily paid out for witness fees, including travel, as prescribed in s. 325.05 with respect to circuit court procedure. The fees for witnesses and their travel shall not exceed 50 per cent of the amount recovered unless an order is entered specifying the amount to be paid in excess of 50 per cent and the reasons therefor.

(8) **6-MAN JURY FEE.** A \$12 fee for a 6-man jury if demanded under s. 299.21 (6).

(9) **12-MAN JURY FEE.** A \$24 fee for a 12-man jury if demanded under s. 299.21 (3).

(10) **ATTORNEY'S FEES.** Attorney's fees except when the amount thereof is otherwise specially provided for:

(a) On a judgment for \$50 or less, there shall be no attorney's fees; on a judgment for more than \$50 and less than \$100, \$5; on a judgment for \$100 and less than \$200, \$10; on a judgment for \$200 and not more than \$500, \$25.

(b) In an action of replevin and attachment the value of the property recovered shall govern the amount of the attorney's fees taxable. In an action of unlawful detainer the attorney's fees taxable shall be fixed by the court.

(c) If judgment is for the defendant, the amount claimed in the complaint, the value of the property sought to be recovered or the amount recovered on the defendant's counterclaim, in the court's discretion, shall govern the amount of the attorney's fees that the defendant shall recover, and he shall not be entitled to recover for cost items he has not advanced.

(d) No attorney's fees shall be taxed in behalf of any party unless he appear by an attorney.

299.26 COSTS ON APPEAL. On appeal to the circuit court, the appellant shall pay to the clerk of court a suit tax of \$5 as provided in s. 271.21 and a filing fee of \$8 as provided in s. 59.42 (2) (c).

299.27 ADJOURNMENTS. (1) ON REQUEST. A party who appears on the return date shall be given, on request, an adjournment of at least 7 days, or such longer period as the court grants.

(2) FOR CAUSE. For good cause shown to the court by either party, the court may extend the time within which any act may be done, except the time for the taking of an appeal.

(3) SAME; TERMS. No continuance under sub. (2) shall be granted, unless by consent of the parties, except upon such terms as the court deems just.

299.28 NEW TRIAL. (1) ERRORS; VERDICT CONTRARY TO LAW OR EVIDENCE; INTEREST OF JUSTICE. Any party not in default may move to set aside a verdict and for a new trial because of errors in the trial, or because the verdict is contrary to law or to the evidence, or in the interest of justice. Such motion must be made and heard within 20 days after the verdict is rendered, unless the court by order made before its expiration extends such time for cause. Such motion, if not decided within 10 days of the date of hearing, shall be deemed overruled. The entry of judgment by the court without deciding a pending motion for a new trial shall be deemed to overrule the motion.

(2) NEWLY DISCOVERED EVIDENCE. A motion to set aside a verdict or to open up a judgment and for a new trial founded upon newly discovered evidence may be heard upon affidavits and the proceedings in the action. Such a motion may be made at any time within one year from the verdict or finding. An appeal may be taken from the order granting or denying the motion, to the circuit court, which shall affirm or reverse the order. The order so appealed from shall be in writing and shall specify the grounds for granting the new trial, or state the court's reasons for denying it.

299.30 APPEAL. (1) DEFAULT JUDGMENTS. There shall be no appeal from default judgments unless allowed by order of the circuit court after motion duly made and upon good cause shown within 20 days after the mailing of notice of entry of judgment, as appears in the case docket. Default judgments for purposes of this section shall include pleas of guilty and forfeitures of bail in ordinance violation cases.

(2) WHERE TRIED BY 12-MAN JURY. If an action was tried with a 12-man jury under title XXV, any appeal shall be taken under ch. 274.

(3) **OTHER JUDGMENTS.** Except as provided in s. 291.11, within 20 days after the date of mailing of notice of entry of the judgment, as appears in the case docket, any appeal other than one specified in sub. (2) may be taken to the circuit court by any party to an action or proceeding from any final judgment by filing a notice of appeal signed by appellant or his attorney with the clerk of the court which tried the case under this chapter, and by serving a copy of the notice of appeal on all parties bound by the judgment who appeared in the action or their attorneys. Execution may be stayed under ch. 274. Within 40 days after notice of appeal is filed the appellant shall file with the clerk of court either a transcript of the reporter's notes of the trial or an agreed statement on appeal, or a statement that his appeal can be supported by the case file without the transcript. The appellant shall pay the cost of preparing the transcript.

(4) **CLERK TO MAKE RETURNS.** Within 10 days after the transcript, or agreed statement under s. 299.31, or statement that the appeal can be supported by the case file without the transcript, is filed with the clerk, the clerk shall return the case file, and any transcript or agreed statement, or statement as to the appeal being supported by the case file alone, which has been filed with him, to the circuit court, and shall notify the parties of such filing in the circuit court.

(5) **CIRCUIT COURT POWER ON APPEAL.** On appeal, the circuit court has power similar to that of the supreme court under ch. 274 to review and to affirm, reverse, or modify the judgment appealed from, and in addition the circuit court may order a new trial in whole or in part, which shall be in the circuit court.

(6) **MOTIONS IN APPELLATE COURT.** At any time after the filing in the circuit court of the return on an appeal, any party to the action or proceeding, upon notice under s. 269.31, may move that the judgment appealed from be affirmed, or modified and affirmed as modified, or that the appeal be dismissed, or may move for a new trial or a reversal. This motion shall state concisely the grounds upon which it is made and shall be heard on the record.

299.31 AGREED STATEMENT. In lieu of a transcript on appeal, the oral proceedings may be presented in an agreed statement signed by all the parties to the appeal. This shall be a condensed statement in narrative form of all or such portions of the oral proceedings as are necessary to a determination of the questions on appeal.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect on the first Monday in January, 1962, and shall apply regardless of when the cause of action arose or when the action was commenced. It shall apply to all subsequent proceedings in actions pending on the first Monday in January, 1962.

Approved September 22, 1961.
