WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §53-4A-6

§53-4A-6. Return; pleadings; amendments.

Within such time as may be specified in the writ or as the court may fix, the state shall make its return. No other or further pleadings shall be filed except as the court may order. At any time prior to entry of judgment on the writ in accordance with the provisions of this article, the court may permit the petitioner to withdraw his petition. The court may make such orders as to amendment of the petition or return or other pleading, as to pleading over, or filing other or further pleadings, or extending the time for the making of the return or the filing of other pleadings, as shall seem to the court to be appropriate, meet and reasonable. In considering the petition, the return or other pleading, or any amendment thereof, substance and not form shall control.

WV Legislature