

APPENDIX 4

COURT ABBREVIATIONS

This appendix contains abbreviations for state and federal courts. If you cannot find an entry for the court you wish to cite, consult **Appendix 3**, which contains general abbreviations. Also, consult **Appendix 1** when using court abbreviations in case citations.

A. State Courts

The listed state courts include each state's court of last resort, any intermediate appellate court, and trial courts of general jurisdiction. It is important to note that some states, such as New York and Pennsylvania, have additional courts. Courts are listed hierarchically, with the highest court in the state appearing first. For appellate courts, follow **Rule 12.6(b)** about adding counties, departments, and divisions.

Court	Abbreviation
Alabama Supreme Court	Ala.
Alabama Court of Civil Appeals	Ala. Civ. App.
Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals	Ala. Crim. App.
Alabama Circuit Court	Ala. Cir.
Alaska Supreme Court	Alaska
Alaska Court of Appeals	Alaska App.
Alaska Superior Court	Alaska Super.
Arizona Supreme Court	Ariz.
Arizona Court of Appeals	Ariz. App.
Arizona Superior Court	Ariz. Super.
Arkansas Supreme Court	Ark.
Arkansas Court of Appeals	Ark. App.
Arkansas Circuit Court	Ark. Cir.
Arkansas Chancery Court	Ark. Ch.
California Supreme Court	Cal.
California Court of Appeal	Cal. App.
California Superior Court	Cal. Super.
Colorado Supreme Court	Colo.
Colorado Court of Appeals	Colo. App.
Colorado District Court	Colo. Dist.
Connecticut Supreme Court	Conn.
Connecticut Appellate Court	Conn. App.
Connecticut Superior Court	Conn. Super.
Connecticut Circuit Court	Conn. Cir.

Court	Abbreviation
Delaware Supreme Court	Del.
Delaware Superior Court	Del. Super.
Delaware Court of Chancery	Del. Ch.
Delaware Family Court	Del. Fam.
District of Columbia Court of Appeals	D.C. App.
District of Columbia Superior Court	D.C. Super.
Florida Supreme Court	Fla.
Florida District Court of Appeal	Fla. Dist. App.
Florida Circuit Court	Fla. Cir.
Georgia Supreme Court	Ga.
Georgia Court of Appeals	Ga. App.
Georgia Superior Court	Ga. Super.
Hawaii Supreme Court	Haw.
Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals	Haw. App.
Hawaii Circuit Court	Haw. Cir.
Idaho Supreme Court	Idaho
Idaho Court of Appeals	Idaho App.
Idaho District Court	Idaho Dist.
Illinois Supreme Court	Ill.
Illinois Appellate Court	Ill. App.
Illinois Circuit Court	Ill. Cir.
Indiana Supreme Court	Ind.
Indiana Court of Appeals	Ind. App.
Indiana Superior Court	Ind. Super.
Iowa Supreme Court	Iowa
Iowa Court of Appeals	Iowa App.
Iowa District Court	Iowa Dist.
Kansas Supreme Court	Kan.
Kansas Court of Appeals	Kan. App.

SIDEBAR A4.1**THE STRUCTURE OF STATE COURT SYSTEMS**

For more details about each court—such as the number of judges or justices—and for diagrams of each state’s judicial system, consult the most recent annual edition of *Federal-State Court Directory* (Robert S. Want ed., Want Pub. Co.) or of *BNA’s Directory of State and Federal Courts, Judges, and Clerks* (Judith A. Miller ed., BNA). In addition, the National Center for State Courts has compiled a list of state and federal court Web sites that can be accessed at <http://www.ncsconline.org>; *select* Information; *select* Court Web Sites.

Court

Kansas District Court
 Kentucky Supreme Court
 Kentucky Court of Appeals
 Kentucky Circuit Court
 Louisiana Supreme Court
 Louisiana Court of Appeal
 Louisiana District Court
 Maine Supreme Judicial Court
 Maine Superior Court
 Maryland Court of Appeals
 Maryland Court of Special Appeals
 Maryland Circuit Court
 Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court
 Massachusetts Appeals Court
 Trial Court of the Commonwealth
 Michigan Supreme Court
 Michigan Court of Appeals
 Michigan Circuit Court
 Minnesota Supreme Court
 Minnesota Court of Appeals
 Minnesota District Court
 Mississippi Supreme Court
 Mississippi Court of Appeals
 Mississippi Circuit Court
 Mississippi Chancery Court
 Missouri Supreme Court
 Missouri Court of Appeals
 Missouri Circuit Court
 Montana Supreme Court
 Montana District Court
 Nebraska Supreme Court
 Nebraska Court of Appeals
 Nebraska District Court
 Nevada Supreme Court
 Nevada District Court
 New Hampshire Supreme Court
 New Hampshire Superior Court
 New Jersey Supreme Court
 New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division
 New Mexico Supreme Court
 New Mexico Court of Appeals
 New Mexico District Court
 New York Court of Appeals
 New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division
 New York Supreme Court
 North Carolina Supreme Court

Abbreviation

Kan. Dist.
Ky.
Ky. App.
Ky. Cir.
La.
La. App.
La. Dist.
Me.
Me. Super.
Md.
Md. Spec. App.
Md. Cir.
Mass.
Mass. App.
Mass. Cmmw.
Mich.
Mich. App.
Mich. Cir.
Minn.
Minn. App.
Minn. Dist.
Miss.
Miss. App.
Miss. Cir.
Miss. Ch.
Mo.
Mo. App.
Mo. Cir.
Mont.
Mont. Dist.
Neb.
Neb. App.
Neb. Dist.
Nev.
Nev. Dist.
N.H.
N.H. Super.
N.J.
N.J. Super. App. Div.
N.M.
N.M. App.
N.M. Dist.
N.Y.
N.Y. App. Div.
N.Y. Sup.
N.C.

Court	Abbreviation
North Carolina Court of Appeals	N.C. App.
North Carolina Superior Court	N.C. Super.
North Dakota Supreme Court	N.D.
North Dakota Court of Appeals	N.D. App.
Note: The North Dakota Court of Appeals was a temporary court, effective July 1, 1987 through January 1, 2000.	
North Dakota District Court	N.D. Dist.
Ohio Supreme Court	Ohio
Ohio Court of Civil Appeals	Ohio App.
Ohio Court of Common Pleas	Ohio Com. Pleas
Oklahoma Supreme Court	Okla.
Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals	Okla. Crim. App.
Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals	Okla. App.
Oklahoma District Court	Okla. Dist.
Oregon Supreme Court	Or.
Oregon Court of Appeals	Or. App.
Oregon Circuit Court	Or. Cir.
Pennsylvania Supreme Court	Pa.
Pennsylvania Superior Court	Pa. Super.
Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court	Pa. Cmmw.
Rhode Island Supreme Court	R.I.
Rhode Island Superior Court	R.I. Super.
South Carolina Supreme Court	S.C.
South Carolina Court of Appeals	S.C. App.
South Carolina Circuit Court	S.C. Cir.
South Dakota Supreme Court	S.D.
South Dakota Circuit Court	S.D. Cir.
Tennessee Supreme Court	Tenn.
Tennessee Court of Appeals	Tenn. App.
Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals	Tenn. Crim. App.
Tennessee Circuit Court	Tenn. Cir.
Tennessee Criminal Court	Tenn. Crim.
Tennessee Chancery Court	Tenn. Ch.
Texas Supreme Court	Tex.
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals	Tex. Crim. App.
Texas Court of Appeals	Tex. App.
Texas District Court	Tex. Dist.
Texas Criminal District Court	Tex. Crim. Dist.
Utah Supreme Court	Utah
Utah Court of Appeals	Utah App.
Utah District Court	Utah Dist.
Vermont Supreme Court	Vt.
Vermont Superior Court	Vt. Super.
Vermont District Court	Vt. Dist.
Virginia Supreme Court	Va.
Virginia Court of Appeals	Va. App.
Virginia Circuit Court	Va. Cir.

Court

Washington Supreme Court
 Washington Court of Appeals
 Washington Superior Court
 West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals
 West Virginia Circuit Court
 Wisconsin Supreme Court
 Wisconsin Court of Appeals
 Wisconsin Circuit Court
 Wyoming Supreme Court
 Wyoming District Court

Abbreviation

Wash.
 Wash. App.
 Wash. Super.
 W. Va.
 W. Va. Cir.
 Wis.
 Wis. App.
 Wis. Cir.
 Wyo.
 Wyo. Dist.

B. Federal Courts**Court**

United States Supreme Court

Abbreviation

U.S.

United States Courts of Appeals**Court**

First Circuit
 Second Circuit
 Third Circuit
 Fourth Circuit
 Fifth Circuit
 Sixth Circuit
 Seventh Circuit
 Eighth Circuit
 Ninth Circuit
 Tenth Circuit
 Eleventh Circuit
 D.C. Circuit
 Federal Circuit

Abbreviation

1st Cir.
 2d Cir.
 3d Cir.
 4th Cir.
 5th Cir.
 6th Cir.
 7th Cir.
 8th Cir.
 9th Cir.
 10th Cir.
 11th Cir.
 D.C. Cir.
 Fed. Cir.

United States District Courts**Court**

Middle District of Alabama
 Northern District of Alabama
 Southern District of Alabama
 District of Alaska
 District of Arizona
 Eastern District of Arkansas
 Western District of Arkansas
 Central District of California
 Eastern District of California
 Northern District of California
 Southern District of California
 District of the Canal Zone

Abbreviation

M.D. Ala.
 N.D. Ala.
 S.D. Ala.
 D. Alaska
 D. Ariz.
 E.D. Ark.
 W.D. Ark.
 C.D. Cal.
 E.D. Cal.
 N.D. Cal.
 S.D. Cal.
 D.C.Z.

Note: The D.C.Z. ceased to exist on March 31, 1982.

Court	Abbreviation
District of Colorado	D. Colo.
District of Connecticut	D. Conn.
District of Delaware	D. Del.
District of D.C.	D.D.C.
Middle District of Florida	M.D. Fla.
Northern District of Florida	N.D. Fla.
Southern District of Florida	S.D. Fla.
Middle District of Georgia	M.D. Ga.
Northern District of Georgia	N.D. Ga.
Southern District of Georgia	S.D. Ga.
District of Guam	D. Guam
District of Hawaii	D. Haw.
District of Idaho	D. Idaho
Central District of Illinois	C.D. Ill.
Northern District of Illinois	N.D. Ill.
Southern District of Illinois	S.D. Ill.
Northern District of Indiana	N.D. Ind.
Southern District of Indiana	S.D. Ind.
Northern District of Iowa	N.D. Iowa
Southern District of Iowa	S.D. Iowa
District of Kansas	D. Kan.
Eastern District of Kentucky	E.D. Ky.
Western District of Kentucky	W.D. Ky.
Eastern District of Louisiana	E.D. La.
Middle District of Louisiana	M.D. La.
Western District of Louisiana	W.D. La.
District of Maine	D. Me.
District of Maryland	D. Md.
District of Massachusetts	D. Mass.
Eastern District of Michigan	E.D. Mich.
Western District of Michigan	W.D. Mich.
District of Minnesota	D. Minn.
Northern District of Mississippi	N.D. Miss.
Southern District of Mississippi	S.D. Miss.
Eastern District of Missouri	E.D. Mo.
Western District of Missouri	W.D. Mo.
District of Montana	D. Mont.
District of Nebraska	D. Neb.
District of Nevada	D. Nev.
District of New Hampshire	D.N.H.
District of New Jersey	D.N.J.
District of New Mexico	D.N.M.
Eastern District of New York	E.D.N.Y.
Northern District of New York	N.D.N.Y.
Southern District of New York	S.D.N.Y.
Western District of New York	W.D.N.Y.
Eastern District of North Carolina	E.D.N.C.
Middle District of North Carolina	M.D.N.C.
Western District of North Carolina	W.D.N.C.
District of North Dakota	D.N.D.
District of the Northern Mariana Islands	D.N. Mar. Is.

Court	Abbreviation
Northern District of Ohio	N.D. Ohio
Southern District of Ohio	S.D. Ohio
Eastern District of Oklahoma	E.D. Okla.
Northern District of Oklahoma	N.D. Okla.
Western District of Oklahoma	W.D. Okla.
District of Oregon	D. Or.
Eastern District of Pennsylvania	E.D. Pa.
Middle District of Pennsylvania	M.D. Pa.
Western District of Pennsylvania	W.D. Pa.
District of Puerto Rico	D.P.R.
District of Rhode Island	D.R.I.
District of South Carolina	D.S.C.
District of South Dakota	D.S.D.
Eastern District of Tennessee	E.D. Tenn.
Middle District of Tennessee	M.D. Tenn.
Western District of Tennessee	W.D. Tenn.
Eastern District of Texas	E.D. Tex.
Northern District of Texas	N.D. Tex.
Southern District of Texas	S.D. Tex.
Western District of Texas	W.D. Tex.
District of Utah	D. Utah
District of Vermont	D. Vt.
Eastern District of Virginia	E.D. Va.
Western District of Virginia	W.D. Va.
District of the Virgin Islands	D.V.I.
Eastern District of Washington	E.D. Wash.
Western District of Washington	W.D. Wash.
Northern District of West Virginia	N.D.W. Va.
Southern District of West Virginia	S.D.W. Va.
Eastern District of Wisconsin	E.D. Wis.
Western District of Wisconsin	W.D. Wis.
District of Wyoming	D. Wyo.

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DISSECTING A FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT ABBREVIATION

The abbreviation for “District” is “D.” Many states have more than one district; these districts are designated by geography. The choices may be Central (C.), Eastern (E.), Middle (M.), Northern (N.), Southern (S.), or Western (W.). To formulate the abbreviation for a United States District Court, put the geographic designation before “D.,” and then add the state abbreviation. For state abbreviations, see **Appendix 3(B)**. Consult **Rule 2** for information about how to space the abbreviation.

Military Courts

Court

United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces
 United States Court of Veterans Appeals
 United States Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals
 United States Army Court of Criminal Appeals
 United States Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals
 United States Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals

Abbreviation

Armed Forces App.

Vet. App.
A.F. Crim. App.
Army Crim. App.
Coast Guard Crim. App.
Navy-Marine Crim. App.

Bankruptcy Courts

Each United States District Court has a corresponding bankruptcy court. To cite a bankruptcy court, add Bankr. to the district court abbreviation.

Examples

Bankr. N.D. Ala.
 Bankr. D. Mass.

Other Federal Courts

Court

Court of Federal Claims
 Court of Customs and Patent Appeals
 Court of Claims
 Claims Court
 Court of International Trade
 Tax Court

Abbreviation

Fed. Cl.
Cust. & Pat. App.
Ct. Cl.
Cl. Ct.
Ct. Intl. Trade
Tax