

APPENDIX 4

COURT ABBREVIATIONS

This appendix contains abbreviations for federal courts. Abbreviations for state courts can be developed by consulting **Appendix 1** and **Rule 2** concerning abbreviations and spacing. In addition, abbreviations for state courts and territorial courts can be located at www.alwd.org. If you cannot find an entry for the court you wish to cite, consult **Appendix 3**, which contains general abbreviations.

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. Courts are listed hierarchically, with the highest court in the state appearing first. For appellate courts, follow item 2 in Rule 12.6(b) about adding departments or divisions whenever possible.

Court

Alabama Supreme Court
Alabama Court of Civil Appeals
Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals
Alabama Circuit Court
Alaska Supreme Court
Alaska Court of Appeals
Alaska Superior Court
Arizona Supreme Court
Arizona Court of Appeals
Arizona Superior Court
Arkansas Supreme Court
Arkansas Court of Appeals
Arkansas Circuit Court
Arkansas Chancery Court
California Supreme Court
California Court of Appeal
California Superior Court
Colorado Supreme Court
Colorado Court of Appeals
Colorado District Court
Connecticut Supreme Court
Connecticut Appellate Court
Connecticut Superior Court
Connecticut Circuit Court

Abbrev.

Ala.
Ala. Civ. App.
Ala. Crim. App.
Ala. Cir.
Alaska
Alaska App.
Alaska Super.
Ariz.
Ariz. App.
Ariz. Super.
Ark.
Ark. App.
Ark. Cir.
Ark. Ch.
Cal.
Cal. App.
Cal. Super.
Colo.
Colo. App.
Colo. Dist.
Conn.
Conn. App.
Conn. Super.
Conn. Cir.

Court

Delaware Supreme Court
 Delaware Superior Court
 Delaware Court of Chancery
 Delaware Family Court
 District of Columbia Court of Appeals
 District of Columbia Superior Court
 Florida Supreme Court
 Florida District Court of Appeal
 Florida Circuit Court
 Georgia Supreme Court
 Georgia Court of Appeals
 Georgia Superior Court
 Hawaii Supreme Court
 Hawaii Intermediate Court of Appeals
 Hawaii Circuit Court
 Idaho Supreme Court
 Idaho Court of Appeals
 Idaho District Court
 Illinois Supreme Court
 Illinois Appellate Court
 Illinois Circuit Court
 Indiana Supreme Court
 Indiana Court of Appeals
 Indiana Superior Court
 Iowa Supreme Court
 Iowa Court of Appeals
 Iowa District Court
 Kansas Supreme Court
 Kansas Court of Appeals
 Kansas District Court

Abbrev.

Del.
 Del. Super.
 Del. Ch.
 Del. Fam.
 D.C. App.
 D.C. Super.
 Fla.
 Fla. Dist. App.
 Fla. Cir.
 Ga.
 Ga. App.
 Ga. Super.
 Haw.
 Haw. App.
 Haw. Cir.
 Idaho
 Idaho App.
 Idaho Dist.
 Ill.
 Ill. App.
 Ill. Cir.
 Ind.
 Ind. App.
 Ind. Super.
 Iowa
 Iowa App.
 Iowa Dist.
 Kan.
 Kan. App.
 Kan. Dist.

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.ncsc.dni.us>.

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
 Court of Appeals of the State of Mississippi
 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
 North Carolina Court of Appeals
 North Carolina Superior Court

Abbrev.

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.
 N.C. App.
 N.C. Super.

Court

North Dakota Supreme Court

North Dakota Court of Appeals

(Note: The North Dakota Court of Appeals was a temporary court, effective July 1, 1987 through January 1, 2000.)

North Dakota District Court

Ohio Supreme Court

Ohio Court of Appeals

Ohio Court of Common Pleas

Oklahoma Supreme Court

Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals

Oklahoma Court of Appeals

Oklahoma District Court

Oregon Supreme Court

Oregon Court of Appeals

Oregon Circuit Court

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

Pennsylvania Superior Court

Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court

Rhode Island Supreme Court

Rhode Island Superior Court

South Carolina Supreme Court

South Carolina Court of Appeals

South Carolina Circuit Court

South Dakota Supreme Court

South Dakota Circuit Court

Tennessee Supreme Court

Tennessee Court of Appeals

Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals

Tennessee Circuit Court

Tennessee Criminal Court

Tennessee Chancery Court

Texas Supreme Court

Texas Court of Criminal Appeals

Texas Court of Appeals

Texas District Court

Texas Criminal District Court

Utah Supreme Court

Utah Court of Appeals

Utah District Court

Vermont Supreme Court

Vermont Superior Court

Vermont District Court

Virginia Supreme Court

Virginia Court of Appeals

Virginia Circuit Court

Washington Supreme Court

Washington Court of Appeals

Abbrev.**N.D.****N.D. App.****N.D. Dist.****Ohio****Ohio App.****Ohio Com. Pleas****Okla.****Okla. Crim. App.****Okla. App.****Okla. Dist.****Or.****Or. App.****Or. Cir.****Pa.****Pa. Super.****Pa. Cmmw.****R.I.****R.I. Super.****S.C.****S.C. App.****S.C. Cir.****S.D.****S.D. Cir.****Tenn.****Tenn. App.****Tenn. Crim. App.****Tenn. Cir.****Tenn. Crim.****Tenn. Ch.****Tex.****Tex. Crim. App.****Tex. App.****Tex. Dist.****Tex. Crim. Dist.****Utah****Utah App.****Utah Dist.****Vt.****Vt. Super.****Vt. Dist.****Va.****Va. App.****Va. Cir.****Wash.****Wash. App.**

Court

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

Abbrev.

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

B. Federal Courts**Court**

United States Supreme Court

Abbrev.

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

Abbrev.

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

Abbrev.

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.)

District of Colorado
 District of Connecticut
 District of Delaware

D. Colo.
 D. Conn.
 D. Del.

Court

District of D.C.
 Middle District of Florida
 Northern District of Florida
 Southern District of Florida
 Middle District of Georgia
 Northern District of Georgia
 Southern District of Georgia
 District of Guam
 District of Hawaii
 District of Idaho
 Central District of Illinois
 Northern District of Illinois
 Southern District of Illinois
 Northern District of Indiana
 Southern District of Indiana
 Northern District of Iowa
 Southern District of Iowa
 District of Kansas
 Eastern District of Kentucky
 Western District of Kentucky
 Eastern District of Louisiana
 Middle District of Louisiana
 Western District of Louisiana
 District of Maine
 District of Maryland
 District of Massachusetts
 Eastern District of Michigan
 Western District of Michigan
 District of Minnesota
 Northern District of Mississippi
 Southern District of Mississippi
 Eastern District of Missouri
 Western District of Missouri
 District of Montana
 District of Nebraska
 District of Nevada
 District of New Hampshire
 District of New Jersey
 District of New Mexico
 Eastern District of New York
 Northern District of New York
 Southern District of New York
 Western District of New York
 Eastern District of North Carolina
 Middle District of North Carolina
 Western District of North Carolina
 District of North Dakota
 District of the Northern Mariana Islands
 Northern District of Ohio
 Southern District of Ohio
 Eastern District of Oklahoma
 Northern District of Oklahoma

Abbrev.

D.D.C.
 M.D. Fla.
 N.D. Fla.
 S.D. Fla.
 M.D. Ga.
 N.D. Ga.
 S.D. Ga.
 D. Guam
 D. Haw.
 D. Idaho
 C.D. Ill.
 N.D. Ill.
 S.D. Ill.
 N.D. Ind.
 S.D. Ind.
 N.D. Iowa
 S.D. Iowa
 D. Kan.
 E.D. Ky.
 W.D. Ky.
 E.D. La.
 M.D. La.
 W.D. La.
 D. Me.
 D. Md.
 D. Mass.
 E.D. Mich.
 W.D. Mich.
 D. Minn.
 N.D. Miss.
 S.D. Miss.
 E.D. Mo.
 W.D. Mo.
 D. Mont.
 D. Neb.
 D. Nev.
 D.N.H.
 D.N.J.
 D.N.M.
 E.D.N.Y.
 N.D.N.Y.
 S.D.N.Y.
 W.D.N.Y.
 E.D.N.C.
 M.D.N.C.
 W.D.N.C.
 D.N.D.
 D.N. Mar. I.
 N.D. Ohio
 S.D. Ohio
 E.D. Okla.
 N.D. Okla.

Court

Western District of Oklahoma
District of Oregon
Eastern District of Pennsylvania
Middle District of Pennsylvania
Western District of Pennsylvania
District of Puerto Rico
District of Rhode Island
District of South Carolina
District of South Dakota
Eastern District of Tennessee
Middle District of Tennessee
Western District of Tennessee
Eastern District of Texas
Northern District of Texas
Southern District of Texas
Western District of Texas
District of Utah
District of Vermont
Eastern District of Virginia
Western District of Virginia
District of the Virgin Islands
Eastern District of Washington
Western District of Washington
Northern District of West Virginia
Southern District of West Virginia
Eastern District of Wisconsin
Western District of Wisconsin
District of Wyoming

Abbrev.

W.D. Okla.
D. Or.
E.D. Pa.
M.D. Pa.
W.D. Pa.
D.P.R.
D.R.I.
D.S.C.
D.S.D.
E.D. Tenn.
M.D. Tenn.
W.D. Tenn.
E.D. Tex.
N.D. Tex.
S.D. Tex.
W.D. Tex.
D. Utah
D. Vt.
E.D. Va.
W.D. Va.
D.V.I.
E.D. Wash.
W.D. Wash.
N.D.W. Va.
S.D.W. Va.
E.D. Wis.
W.D. Wis.
D. Wyo.

Military Courts

Court

United States Court of
Appeals for the Armed Forces

Abbrev.

Armed Forces App.

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**DISSECTING A 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 B**. Consult **Rule 2** for information about how to space the abbreviation.

Court

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

Abbrev.

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

Abbrev.

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