

## 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. Note that not all courts listed in this appendix have corresponding reporters.

### 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)** and **Appendix 1B** about adding counties, departments, and divisions. The green star (★) next to a court name is a signal that the court is divided and that you should follow the format in **Appendix 1** and should consult **Appendix 1B** on appellate courts for additional guidance.

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.

**Court**

Connecticut Supreme Court  
 Connecticut Appellate Court  
 Connecticut Superior Court  
 Connecticut Circuit 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

**Abbreviation**

Conn.  
 Conn. App.  
 Conn. Super.  
 Conn. Cir.  
 Del.  
 Del. Super.  
 Del. Ch.  
 Del. Fam.  
 D.C.  
 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.

**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* (Barbara Rogers ed., CQ Press) or of *BNA’s Directory of State and Federal Courts, Judges, and Clerks* (Catherine A. Kitchell 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.

<b>Court</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
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.
Kansas District Court	Kan. Dist.
Kentucky Supreme Court	Ky.
Kentucky Court of Appeals	Ky. App.
Kentucky Circuit Court	Ky. Cir.
Louisiana Supreme Court	La.
Louisiana Court of Appeal	La. App.★
Louisiana District Court	La. Dist.
Maine Supreme Judicial Court	Me.
Maine Superior Court	Me. Super.
Maryland Court of Appeals	Md.
Maryland Court of Special Appeals	Md. Spec. App.
Maryland Circuit Court	Md. Cir.
Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court	Mass.
Massachusetts Appeals Court	Mass. App.
Trial Court of the Commonwealth	Mass. Cmmw.
Michigan Supreme Court	Mich.
Michigan Court of Appeals	Mich. App.
Michigan Circuit Court	Mich. Cir.
Minnesota Supreme Court	Minn.
Minnesota Court of Appeals	Minn. App.
Minnesota District Court	Minn. Dist.
Mississippi Supreme Court	Miss.
Mississippi Court of Appeals	Miss. App.
Mississippi Circuit Court	Miss. Cir.
Mississippi Chancery Court	Miss. Ch.
Missouri Supreme Court	Mo.
Missouri Court of Appeals	Mo. App.★
Missouri Circuit Court	Mo. Cir.
Montana Supreme Court	Mont.
Montana District Court	Mont. Dist.
Nebraska Supreme Court	Neb.
Nebraska Court of Appeals	Neb. App.
Nebraska District Court	Neb. Dist.
Nevada Supreme Court	Nev.
Nevada District Court	Nev. Dist.
New Hampshire Supreme Court	N.H.
New Hampshire Superior Court	N.H. Super.
New Jersey Supreme Court	N.J.
New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division	N.J. Super. App. Div.
New Mexico Supreme Court	N.M.
New Mexico Court of Appeals	N.M. App.
New Mexico District Court	N.M. Dist.

**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

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 Civil Appeals  
 Ohio Court of Common Pleas

Oklahoma Supreme Court  
 Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals  
 Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals  
 Oklahoma District Court

Oregon Supreme Court  
 Oregon Court of Appeals  
 Oregon Circuit Court

Pennsylvania Supreme Court  
 Pennsylvania Superior Court  
 Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court  
 Pennsylvania District and County Courts

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

**Abbreviation**

N.Y.  
 N.Y. App. Div.★  
 N.Y. Sup.★

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

N.D.  
 N.D. App.

N.D. Dist.

Ohio  
 Ohio App.★  
 Ohio Com. Pleas

Okla.  
 Okla. Crim. App.  
 Okla. Civ. App.  
 Okla. Dist.

Or.  
 Or. App.  
 Or. Cir.

Pa.  
 Pa. Super.★  
 Pa. Cmmw.★  
 Pa. Dist. or Pa. Co.★

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.

**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  
 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**

Vt.  
 Vt. Super.  
 Vt. Dist.  
 Va.  
 Va. App.  
 Va. Cir.  
 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

**Abbreviation**

M.D. Ala.  
 N.D. Ala.  
 S.D. Ala.  
 D. Alaska  
 D. Ariz.  
 E.D. Ark.  
 W.D. Ark.

**Court**

Central District of California  
 Eastern District of California  
 Northern District of California  
 Southern District of California  
 District of the Canal Zone

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

District of Colorado  
 District of Connecticut  
 District of Delaware  
 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

**Abbreviation**

C.D. Cal.  
 E.D. Cal.  
 N.D. Cal.  
 S.D. Cal.  
 D.C.Z.  
  
 D. Colo.  
 D. Conn.  
 D. Del.  
 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.

**Court**

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  
 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

**Abbreviation**

E.D.N.C.  
 M.D.N.C.  
 W.D.N.C.  
 D.N.D.  
 D.N. Mar. Is.  
 N.D. Ohio  
 S.D. Ohio  
 E.D. Okla.  
 N.D. Okla.  
 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.

**SIDEBAR A4.2****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.

**Court**

Southern District of West Virginia  
 Eastern District of Wisconsin  
 Western District of Wisconsin  
 District of Wyoming

**Abbreviation**

**S.D.W. Va.**  
**E.D. Wis.**  
**W.D. Wis.**  
**D. Wyo.**

**Military Courts****Court**

United States Court of  
 Appeals for the Armed Forces  
 United States Court of  
 Appeals for Veterans Claims  
 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**