



# Clark County Law Library



## Nevada Court Systems and Processes

Understanding and using the court system can be overwhelming. There are laws, rules, forms, and legal terms to research and follow. In order to follow the correct procedures, it is important to know:

- Whether a case is Civil or Criminal.
- Which laws, codes, or statutes apply to a case.
- What you are trying to accomplish.

**Jurisdiction** - You will need to determine which court is appropriate for your situation. Information about Nevada courts may be found through links provided on the Nevada Legal Research page of our website at [www.ClarkCountyNV.Gov/LawLibrary](http://www.ClarkCountyNV.Gov/LawLibrary).

**Procedures** - Court Rules provide rules of procedure for the Nevada courts. These rules govern issues including; but not limited to, court styling, how days are calculated and appellate procedure. The Court Rules of Nevada are available online at [www.leg.state.nv.us/CourtRules](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/CourtRules).

**Laws** - Codes and/or Statutes are helpful to determine whether a law has been broken, which court to use, how to proceed, and how much time is allowed to act. It may be necessary to research Federal, State, County, or City laws, which are available through links to our Research pages on the left side of [www.ClarkCountyNV.Gov/LawLibrary](http://www.ClarkCountyNV.Gov/LawLibrary).

**Resources** - Civil and Criminal Flow Charts display the basic court progression for Civil and Criminal cases. The Civil Law Self-Help Center provides Civil Case Tracks for Justice and District Court

through their webpage at [www.CivilLawSelfHelpCenter.org](http://www.CivilLawSelfHelpCenter.org).

Legal Dictionaries and Encyclopedias provide specific legal information and definitions for terms commonly used during the court process, and self-help books are written to inform non-attorneys.

**Additional Resources** - Legal Assistance is provided by several agencies working with specific issues. Our staff can refer you to not-for-profit agencies offering legal assistance.

The Law Library's catalog is accessible from our webpage under Useful Information. Library staff can suggest research material, but cannot interpret laws, select material, or tell you how to proceed with a legal matter.

If you are in need of legal advice, the State Bar of Nevada offers a free Lawyer Referral Service that can be reached by calling 702-382-0504 or online at [nvbar.org/for-the-public/find-a-lawyer/lrs/](http://nvbar.org/for-the-public/find-a-lawyer/lrs/).

Nevada courts handle specific types of cases and are subject to court rules that outline procedures as specified in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Information about each court is available on the website provided. The Nevada Revised Statutes and Court Rules are available online at [www.leg.state.nv.us/law1.cfm](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/law1.cfm).

The Nevada Supreme Court's website has information about the Nevada court system, found here: [nvcourts.gov/Supreme/Court Information/About the Nevada Judiciary/](http://nvcourts.gov/Supreme/Court%20Information/About%20the%20Nevada%20Judiciary/) The following page has summarized information from site.