



# Court Jurisdiction

## Minnesota Judicial Branch

### Vision

*The general public and those who use the court system will refer to it as accessible, fair, consistent, responsive, free of discrimination, independent, and well managed.*

### Mission

*To provide justice through a system that assures equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies.*

## MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH

135 Minnesota Judicial Center  
25 Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

[www.mncourts.gov](http://www.mncourts.gov)

THE THREE LEVELS OF COURTS IN MINNESOTA AND THE JURISDICTION OF EACH IS DEPICTED BELOW:

### MINNESOTA SUPREME COURT (7 MEMBERS)

#### Appeals from:

Court of Appeals decisions  
Trial court decisions in all first degree murder convictions and other decisions if Supreme Court chooses to bypass the Court of Appeals  
Tax Court decisions  
Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

#### Original Actions:

Writs of Prohibition\*\* Writs of Habeas Corpus\*\*\* Writs of Mandamus\*\*\*\*  
Legislative election disputes

### MINNESOTA COURT OF APPEALS (19 MEMBERS)

#### Appeals from:

Trial court decisions, except first-degree murder convictions  
Decisions of Commissioner of Economic Security  
Administrative agency decisions, except Tax Court & Workers' Compensation Court

#### Original Actions:

Writs of mandamus or prohibition, which order a trial judge or public official to perform a specified act, such as permitting media coverage of a hearing.

### MINNESOTA TRIAL (DISTRICT) COURTS (296 JUDGESHIPS, 10 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS)

Civil Actions  
Criminal Cases  
Family  
Juvenile  
Probate  
Violations of city ordinances

#### Appeals from:

Conciliation Court\*

Conciliation Division: Civil disputes up to \$15,000

\*Called trial de novo-actually a new trial, not just a review of the conciliation court.

\*\*Writ of prohibition-asks that a governmental body or official be prevented from doing something that might cause harm.

\*\*\*Habeas corpus a complaint alleging that someone has been unlawfully confined and is asking for release.

\*\*\*\*Mandamus asks that a governmental body or official be commanded to perform a specific act.