MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH

CASE SEARCH IDENTIFIERS FOR MAINE ECOURTS (Docket Numbers)

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A. MAINE ECOURTS – "GO-LIVE" DATES BY COURT LOCATION AND CASE TYPE

The Maine Judicial Branch is in the process of rolling out an electronic filing and case management system to the state. The "go-live" date represents the date that the eFiling system is deployed and becomes operational in each court. The following table provides the go-live dates and case type(s) associated with each court.¹

GO-LIVE DATE	COURT LOCATION	CASE TYPES
11/16/2020	Business and Consumer Docket (BCD)	Civil
	Bangor District Court	Family
	Penobscot County Superior Court	Child Protection
		Mental Health
10/23/2023	Androscoggin County Superior Court	Civil
	Lewiston District Court	Family
		Child Protection
		Mental Health
04/01/2024	Farmington District Court	Civil
	Franklin Superior Court	Family
	Oxford Superior Court	Child Protection
	Rumford District Court	Mental Health
	South Paris District Court	
06/10/2024	Bangor District Court	Protection from Abuse
	Lewiston District Court	Protection from Harassment
	Farmington District Court	
	Rumford District Court	
	South Paris District Court	

¹ This list will be updated as the electronic filing and case management system rolls out across the state.

New	*New*	*New*
06/16/2025	Androscoggin County Unified Criminal Docket	Civil Violations
	Androscoggin Superior Court	Criminal
	Lewiston District Court	Juvenile

B. FORMAT OF THE CASE SEARCH IDENTIFIER (DOCKET NUMBER)

The case identifier, or case number, used to access the electronic case files through Maine eCourts is composed of:

- 1. A five-letter alphabetic prefix This represents 1) the venue (court location) and 2) the jurisdiction (District Court DC, Superior Court SC, Unified Criminal Docket UCD);
- 2. A two- or three-letter alphabetical code This represents the type of action/case type;
- 3. A four-digit numerical series This represents the year the action was initiated; and
- 4. A five-digit number This represents the number in order of filing in the court where it was initiated

The four codes described above are separated by dashes: [COURT LOCATION/JURISDICTION]-[CASE TYPE CODE]-[NUMERICAL YEAR]-[CASE NUMBER]

The alphabetical prefix and code are dependent on where the action was initiated and when the action was initiated: specifically, if it was before or after the go-live date listed below.

5. <u>Alphabetic Prefix – Venue and Jurisdiction</u>

The alphabetic prefix representing the court will differ depending on the date the action was initiated and where. However, the alphabetical prefix for District Court matters is the same regardless of when or where the case began. See the table below.

a. Civil/Real Estate Actions – Superior Court

Date of Case Initiation	Superior Court	Alphabetic Prefix
On/Before 11/15/2020	Business and Consumer Docket	BCD
On/After 11/16/2020	Business and Consumer Docket	BCD
On/Before 11/15/2020	Penobscot County Superior Court	BANSC
On/After 11/16/2020	Penobscot County Superior Court	PENSC
On/Before 10/22/2024	Androscoggin Superior Court	AUBSC
On/After 10/23/2024	Androscoggin Superior Court	ANDSC
On/Before 03/29/2024	Franklin Superior Court	FARSC
On/After 04/01/2024	Franklin Superior Court	FRASC
On/Before 03/29/2024	Oxford Superior Court	SOPSC
On/After 04/01/2024	Oxford Superior Court	OXFSC

b. All Actions – District Court

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Date of Case Initiation	District Court Location	Alphabetic Prefix
All	Bangor District Court	BANDC
All	Business and Consumer Docket	BCD
All	Farmington District Court	FARDC
All	Lewiston District Court	LEWDC
All	Rumford District Court	RUMDC
All	South Paris District Court	SOPDC

c. Criminal and Civil Violations – Unified Criminal Docket (UCD)

Date of Case Initiation	UCD Location	Alphabetic Prefix
On/After 07/01/2015	Androscoggin County	ANDCD

d. Criminal Actions – Superior Court (Pre-UCD)

Date of Case Initiation	Superior Court Location	Alphabetic Prefix
Before 07/01/2015	Androscoggin County	AUBSC

6. Alphabetic Code – Type of Action/Case Type

The alphabetical prefix is followed by an alphabetic code that represents the case type. This is either two- or three-letters, depending on the date the case was initiated. Cases initiated prior to the go-live date have a two-letter code and cases initiated after the go-live date have a three-letter code.

PLEASE NOTE: The "Special Action" case type designation is eliminated with implementation of the electronic system. All case types that were previously assigned a Special Action docket number will be assigned the code indicated below.

a. Case Type Codes – Before and After Go-Live

Case Type	Code Before Go-Live	Code On/After Go-Live
80B, 80C, and District Court Appeals	AP	APP
to Superior Court		
Adoption	FM	ADP
Child Protection	PC	CPC
Civil	CV	CIV
Civil Violations	VI	CVI
Criminal	CR	CRM
Divorce with Children	FM	DWC
Divorce without Children	FM	DIV
Emancipation	FM	EMN
Forcible Entry and Detainer (Eviction)	SA	FED
Guardianship	FM	GSP
Grandparents' Rights	FM	GPR

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Judicial Separation	FM	JDS
Juvenile	JV	JUV
Mental Health	MH	MTH
Minor Name Change	FM	MNC
Money Judgment	SA	MNJ
Other Family Matters	FM	OFM
Parental Rights & Responsibilities	FM	PRR
Parentage	FM	PAR
Protection from Abuse	PA	PFA
Protection from Harassment	PA	PFH
Real Estate	RE	REA
Recovery of Personal Property	SA	CIV
Register Foreign Judgment – Family	FM	RFJ
Small Claims	SC	SMC

7. Four-Digit Numerical Series – Year of Case Initiation

The case type code is followed by a four-digit number representing the year the case was initiated.

8. <u>Five-Digit Sequential Number – Filing Number</u>

The four-digit year is followed by a five-digit number. This is a unique number assigned to the case within that year and case type, and it represents the case number in order of filing in the court where it was initiated.

C. TIPS FOR FINDING A CASE IN MAINE ECOURTS

- It is not necessary to use upper case letters or dashes when searching for a case. However, if any dashes are used, the system will require that all dashes are used.
- > All four digits of the year <u>must</u> be entered when searching for a case.
- > Users are not required to enter the preceding zeros in the five-digit sequential number.
- Examples To find LEWDC-SMC-2022-00001, any of the following can be entered to locate the case:
 - \circ lewdcsmc20221
 - o lewdc-smc-2022-1
 - LEWDC-SMC-2022-00001
 - o LEWDCSMC20221

D. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Need additional help?

- Email M-F 8AM-4PM: <u>eCourtsHelp@courts.maine.gov</u>;
- > Call the eCourts Helpline M-TH 10AM-2PM: (207) 213-2813;
- Contact a court clerk M-F 8AM-4PM. Go to <u>www.courts.maine.gov/courts/find-by-town.html</u> to find contact information for the clerk's office.
- > Visit the <u>eFileMaine Training & Resources</u> page for additional information.