

## **Type of Records in the Circuit Clerks Office**

(AD) ADOPTIONS

(CH) CHANCERY

Complaints for equitable relief in matters such as foreclosures, trusts, and title to real property.

(CC) CRIMINAL CONTEMPT

(CM) CRIMINAL MISDEMEANOR

A misdemeanor is defined as a crime that is punishable by a fine and by a term of imprisonment not to be served in a penitentiary and not to exceed one year; a crime that carries a less severe punishment than a felony.

(CF) CRIMINAL FELONY

A felony is defined as a crime that has a greater punishment imposed by statute than that imposed on a misdemeanor; a federal crime for which punishment may be death (if applicable) or imprisonment for more than one year.

(CV) CONSERVATION VIOLATION

(D) DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

We work with petitions for dissolution, invalidity of marriage, joint simplified dissolution of marriage, custody, visitation, legal separation and all civil order of protection and post decree issues.

(DT) DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Any charge where there is a violation of a statute, ordinance, or regulation governing driving under the influence of alcohol, drug, or combination thereof.

(ED) EMINENT DOMAIN

Eminent domain is defined as the right of the government to take property from a private owner for public use by virtue of the superior dominion of its sovereignty over all lands within its jurisdiction. The 5th amendment to the U.S. Constitution requires the government to compensate the owner of the property taken by eminent domain.

(F) FAMILY

The family division handles cases dealing with determining paternity of children, establishing child support for children of unmarried parents, and determining custody of children.

(J) JUVENILE

(JA) JUVENILE ABUSE NEGLECT

(JD) JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

The juvenile division has jurisdiction over all delinquent minors who, prior to their 17th birthday, have violated a federal or state law or municipal ordinance other than traffic, fishing, boating, and game law violations. Juvenile records are confidential and cannot be viewed by the general public. Only those individuals related to the court action may actually view the file.

(L) LAW

A law case is defined as a lawsuit that is brought into court for the purpose of seeking relief from or remedy for an alleged wrong when the damages exceed \$50,000.

(LM) LAW MAGISTRATE

A law case is defined as a lawsuit that is brought into court for the purpose of seeking relief from or remedy for an alleged wrong when the damages sought are \$50,000 or less.

(MH) MENTAL HEALTH

A mental health case determines whether or not a defendant has a mental illness for the purpose of convicting he/she for a crime.

(MR) MISCELLANEOUS REMEDY

Complaints seeking review of administrative decisions (other than of a tax commission) and a variety of other actions that include change of name, habeas corpus, and extradition.

(OP) ORDER OF PROTECTION

An order of protection is issued for the protection of a person or party against another individual.

(OV) ORDINANCE VIOLATION

A case in which violation of a local ordinance is charged.

(P) PROBATE

Cases involving estates of decedents and guardianship matters.

(SC) SMALL CLAIM

A small claim is a claim for the recovery of money or property whose value is below \$10,000.

TR TRAFFIC

Violation of traffic ordinances as described by Supreme Court Rule 501(f), except DUI cases.

(TX) TAX

Cases regarding annual tax sale and a variety of other actions relating to the collection of taxes.