

**BUSINESS  
LITIGATION SESSION (BLS)  
CIVIL ACTION  
COVER SHEET**

CIVIL DOCKET NUMBER  
(Court Use Only)

**Massachusetts Trial Court**



**Suffolk Superior Court  
Business Litigation Session**

PLAINTIFF(S)

DEFENDANT(S)

ATTORNEY NAME, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER,  
EMAIL ADDRESS, BOARD OF BAR OVERSEERS (BBO) NUMBER

(IF KNOWN) ATTORNEY NAME, FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE  
NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS, BBO NUMBER

CASE CATEGORY CODE AND CASE TYPE (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

BLS Case Category Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a jury case?: YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_

Case Type: \_\_\_\_\_

*At the initial Rule 16 Conference, a Special Tracking Order will be created for this case.*

Please provide a detailed statement of the facts and reasons why this case should be accepted into the Business Litigation Session, including the amount in controversy:

*If applicable, please identify the case docket number, case name, and county in which there is any related case or cases pending in the Superior Court or any other court.*

"I hereby certify that I have complied with the requirements of Rule 5 of the Supreme Judicial Court Uniform Rules on Dispute Resolution (SJC Rule 1:18) requiring that I provide my client(s) with information about court-connected dispute resolution services and discuss with them the advantages and disadvantages of the various dispute resolution methods."

Signature of Attorney of Record: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BUSINESS LITIGATION SESSION (BLS) CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET**  
**INSTRUCTIONS**

If you want to file a case in the Business Litigation Session (BLS), you must file a BLS Civil Action Cover Sheet (Cover Sheet) and a Complaint with the Suffolk County Civil Clerk's Office. On the Cover Sheet, you must state the reasons why you believe that the case should be accepted into the BLS, including the amount in controversy. If you do not fully and accurately complete the Cover Sheet, your case may be denied acceptance into the Business Litigation Session and transferred to another Superior Court Civil Session in Suffolk County. For more information, see Superior Court Administrative Directive 24-1 (Superior Court Business Litigation Sessions).

Cases that fall within any of the following categories will be considered for acceptance into the BLS in the sound discretion of the BLS Administrative Justice, based principally on the complexity of the case and the need for substantial case management.

Select one BLS Case Category Code that best describes your case and record it on the Cover Sheet:

- BA1 (a.1) claims relating to the governance and conduct of internal affairs of entities
- A04 (a.2) claims relating to employment agreements
- BA3 (a.3) claims relating to liability of shareholders, directors, officers, partners, etc.
- BB1 (b.1) shareholder derivative claims
- BB2 (b.2) claims relating to or arising out of securities transactions
- BC1 (c.1) claims involving mergers, consolidations, sales of assets, issuance of debt, equity and like interests
- BD1 (d.1) claims to determine the use or status of, or claims involving, intellectual property
- BD2 (d.2) claims to determine the use or status of, or claims involving, confidential, proprietary or trade secret information
- D11 (d.3) claims to determine the use or status of, or claims involving, restrictive covenants
- BE1 (e.1) claims involving breaches of contract or fiduciary duties, fraud, misrepresentation, business torts or other violations involving business relationships
- A99 (f.1) claims under the U.C.C. involving complex issues
- BG1 (g.1) claims arising from transactions with banks, investment bankers and financial advisers, brokerage firms, mutual and money funds
- BH1 (h.1) claims for violation of antitrust or other trade regulation laws, including class actions
- BH1 (h.2) claims of unfair trade practices involving complex issues, including class actions that do not involve personal injury
- B07 (i.1) professional malpractice claims other than claims for personal injury or death
- A99 (j.1) claims by or against a business enterprise to which a government entity is a party
- A99 (k.1) other claims involving complex issues or that require close case management, including but not limited to insurance coverage or reinsurance, construction, commercial lease disputes, real estate and consumer matters.

**Example:** BLS Case Category Code: BE1 (e.1) Case Type: breach of contract

**Plaintiff's Duty:** On the Cover Sheet, the plaintiff, or plaintiff's counsel, shall provide a detailed statement of the facts and reasons why this case should be accepted into the BLS. A copy of the completed Cover Sheet shall be served on all defendants, along with the Complaint and Summons.

**Defendant's Duty:** If a defendant contests entry into the BLS, the defendant shall file with the Answer (or dispositive motion), a Statement specifying why the action does not belong in the BLS. The Statement shall be served with the Answer (or dispositive motion).