

How to Search for Massachusetts Trial Court Cases using the Internet

This document is for the public.

Getting Started

1. Go to www.masscourts.org. The home page states **Welcome to Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access**.



Figure 1. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access

2. Check the **I'm not a Robot** checkbox.
3. Click the button labeled **Click Here** to search public records.

How to Search for Massachusetts Trial Court Cases using the Internet

Using the Search Screen

Access Massachusetts Court Cases

Home Search

Search

Court Department* Court Division* Court Location*

BMC BMC Brighton BMC Brighton

Number of Results*

25

Figure 2. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access – Search Screen

4. Complete the search fields.
 - a) **Court Department:** Select the court department. As soon as you select it, other fields appear.
 - b) **Court Division:** Select the court division.
 - c) **Court Location:** If options appear, select the court location. Depending on the court, this field may populate automatically.
 - d) **Number of Results:** Optional. You can change the number of search results that appear.
5. You see four tabs: Name, Case Type, Case Number, Ticket/Citation Number.

Court Department* Court Division* Court Location*

BMC BMC Brighton BMC Brighton

Number of Results*

25

Name Case Type Case Number Ticket/Citation #

Figure 3. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access – Search Screen Tabs

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Searching by Case Number

If you know the case number (also known as the docket number), the **Case Number** tab provides the easiest way to find your case.

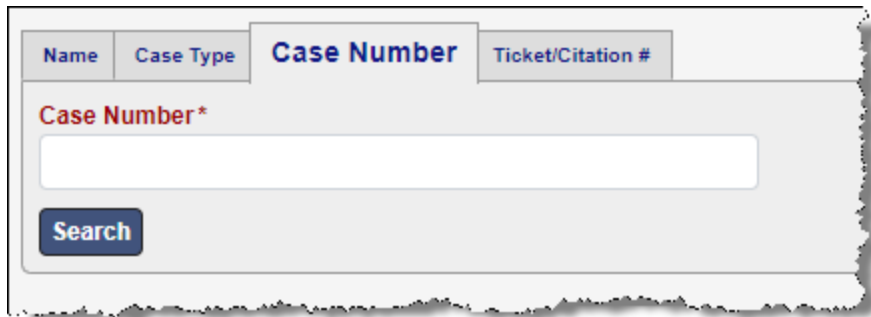


Figure 4. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access - Case Number tab

1. Click the **Case Number** Search tab.
2. **Case Number:** You must enter the exact match, with correct capitalization, spacing, and leading zeros. For example:

Land	07 TL 134560
Probate & Family	PL14E0125QC
District	1153CV000005
Housing	08H77SP000890
BMC	1504CV000002
Superior	1473CV00213

Click the hyperlinks to see more examples of case numbers for each court.

3. Click **Search**.

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Searching by Case Type

If you don't know the case number, you can use the Case Type tab to search for cases initiated in a specified 30-day period.

The screenshot shows the 'Case Type' search tab in the Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access system. At the top, there are four tabs: 'Name', 'Case Type' (which is selected), 'Case Number', and 'Ticket/Citation #'. Below the tabs, there are several search criteria sections:



- Begin Date*:** A text input field with a calendar icon, containing the placeholder 'MM/dd/yyyy'.
- End Date*:** A text input field with a calendar icon, containing the placeholder 'MM/dd/yyyy'.
- Case Type*:** A dropdown menu with a scroll bar, listing various case types: Civil, Criminal, Criminal Cross Site, Drug Court, Small Claims, Specialty TX, Summary Process, and Supplementary Process.
- Case Status:** A dropdown menu with a scroll bar, listing various case statuses: All Statuses, Activity Suspended, Closed, Closed Case Transferred, Covid 19 XXX Notice Issued, Covid JT assign pending, Disposed for Statistical Purposes, and Filed.
- Party Type:** A dropdown menu with a scroll bar, listing various party types: All Party Types, Defendant, Plaintiff, and Trustee.
- City/Town:** A dropdown menu with a scroll bar, listing various cities and towns: All Cities, Abington, Acton, Acushnet, Adams, Agawam, Alella, Barcelona, and Alford.

At the bottom left of the search area, there is a blue 'Search' button.

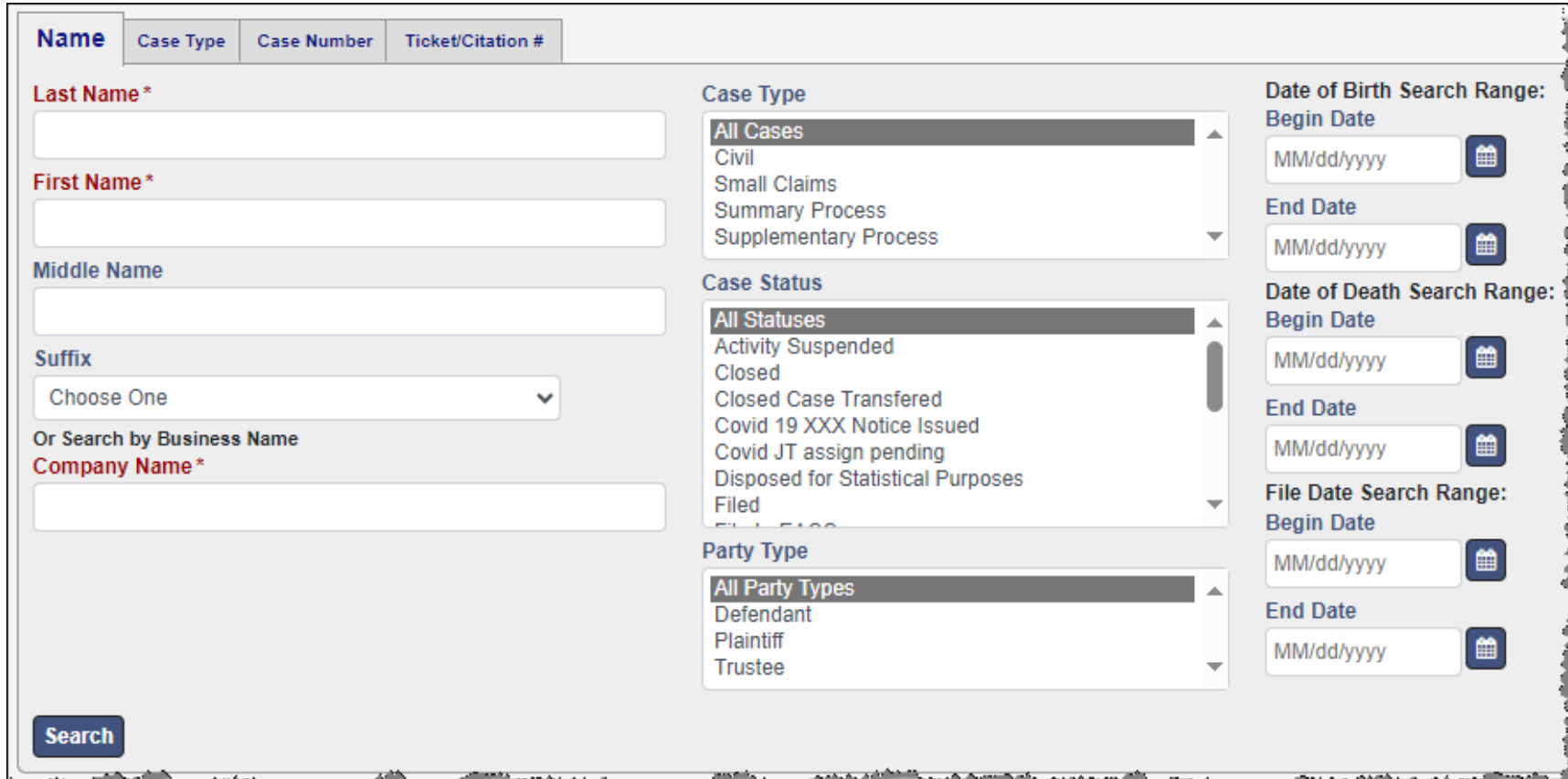
Figure 5. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access – Case Type Tab

1. Click the **Case Type** Search tab.
2. Complete the following fields.

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- a. **Begin Date field:** Click the calendar icon  to select the desired starting date.
 - b. **End Date field:** Click the calendar icon  to select the desired ending date. The date range cannot exceed one month.
 - c. **Case Type:** In the Case Type selection box, select the desired case type.
3. Click **Search**.

Searching by Name (Civil Cases Only)



The screenshot shows the search interface for Massachusetts Trial Court cases, specifically the 'Name' tab. At the top, there are four tabs: 'Name', 'Case Type', 'Case Number', and 'Ticket/Citation #'. The 'Name' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are several input fields and dropdown menus. On the left, there are fields for 'Last Name *', 'First Name *', 'Middle Name', and 'Suffix' (with a 'Choose One' dropdown). Below these is an option to search by business name with a 'Company Name *' field. In the center, there are three dropdown menus: 'Case Type' (with options: All Cases, Civil, Small Claims, Summary Process, Supplementary Process), 'Case Status' (with options: All Statuses, Activity Suspended, Closed, Closed Case Transferred, Covid 19 XXX Notice Issued, Covid JT assign pending, Disposed for Statistical Purposes, Filed), and 'Party Type' (with options: All Party Types, Defendant, Plaintiff, Trustee). On the right, there are three date search range sections: 'Date of Birth Search Range' (Begin Date and End Date), 'Date of Death Search Range' (Begin Date and End Date), and 'File Date Search Range' (Begin Date and End Date). Each date field has a calendar icon. At the bottom left, there is a 'Search' button.

Figure 6. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access – Name tab

- 1. On the **Name** tab, complete the following fields.

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- a. **Last Name:** Enter the last name, formatting it with an initial capital letter followed by lower case letters. The system requires two characters.
 - b. **First Name:** Enter the first name, formatting it with an initial capital letter followed by lower case letters. The system requires one character.
 - c. **Company Name:** If a company is involved, enter the company instead of the last name and first name of a party.
2. Click **Search**.

Using the Search Results

The search results look similar to the figure shown below.

Party/Company	Case Number	Case Type	File Date	Initiating Action	Party Type	Date of Birth	Case Status	Court	Affiliation
Fox, Elizabeth Ann	BA16P0005EA	Estates and Administration	01/06/2016	Informal Appointment of Personal Representative	Decedent		Closed	Barnstable Probate and Family Court	
Fox, Kenneth W	BA16P0005EA	Estates and Administration	01/06/2016	Informal Appointment of Personal Representative	Petitioner		Closed	Barnstable Probate and Family Court	
Fox, Kenneth W	BA16P0005EA	Estates and Administration	01/06/2016	Informal Appointment of Personal Representative	Personal Representative		Closed	Barnstable Probate and Family Court	

Figure 7. Massachusetts Trial Court Case Access – Search Results screen

If you don't see your case immediately, take the following steps.

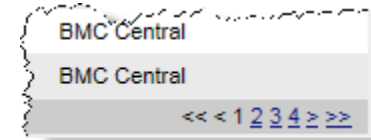
1. In the lower left, find the total results retrieved and the number of items displayed per page.

1601CV000557	Civil
1601CV000558	Civil

Showing 1 to 25 of 100

2. In the lower right, you see a navigation bar.

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Use the navigation bar to navigate through the pages.


3. Click the column headers to sort the search results.

Tip: The red up/down arrows next to the column headers indicate ascending/ descending order.

Each retrieved record represents a party in a case. Therefore, case numbers may appear multiple times in the search results.

To get more information about the case, click the case hyperlink.

Printing

In the upper-right corner, click the  print icon.

Reporting Errors

If you see an error in the case data, please:

1. Click [Request for Correction](#), complete the *Request for Correction* form, and save the form as a PDF.
2. Email the *Request for Correction* PDF to the [court department email address](#).

You can also print the *Request for Correction* form and mail it to the court or bring it to the court in person. See [Courthouse Locator](#).