

OVERVIEW OF COURT RECORD ACCESS IN NEW ENGLAND STATES

STATE	TYPES of e-Records	Avail. ONLINE/REMOTE	Avail. AT THE COURTHOUSE	(Related and direct) AUTHORITIES
<p>Connecticut https://www.jud.ct.gov/faq/courtrec.html</p>	<p>Supreme and Appellate, civil, family, criminal, motor vehicle, housing, and small claims cases.</p>	<p>Some variety by case type, <i>but generally:</i> Access to Court Generated and Filings [& Paper based documents]</p> <p><u>Attorneys who have an appearance on the case, and self-represented parties</u> can view pleadings, orders and other documents that are paperless.</p>	<p>Court orders, notices, pleadings and other documents during normal business hours by anyone at any Judicial District courthouse and at many geographical area*****</p>	<p>Guide - Access Guidelines to Court Records (available at http://www.jud.ct.gov/faq/courtrec2.html)</p> <p>Connecticut Annotated Statutes, Sec. 1-210 (Formerly Sec. 1-19) - Access to Public Records. Exempt Records (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-210) (adopted in 1957; amended in 1963, 1967, 1969, 1971, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016).</p> <hr/> <p>*****Although the Connecticut Judicial Branch website directs nonparties/attorneys who are not of record to the courthouse to view filings and court orders that are paperless, those that are paper based appear on the internet. As a nonparty, I reviewed pleadings and court orders in a variety of case types. LOH.</p>
<p>Massachusetts http://www.mass.gov/courts/case-legal-res/case-information/search-public-case-info-gen.html</p>	<p>Civil, Small Claims, Summary Process, Supplementary Process, Land Court Cases, Administrative Civil Actions, Actions w/ State/Municipality, Business Litigation, Civil Actions with Incarcerated Party,</p>	<p>Court Generated Information (none in abuse prevention and harassment proceedings, sexually dangerous person proceedings, and other exceptions).</p> <p><u>Through the Attorney Portal.</u> MA Licensed Attorneys /registered who have entered an appearance: a calendar and case information.</p>	<p>Court Generated Information & Filings Some exceptions, including Criminal Record Information (CORI records) and Protection from abuse information</p>	<p>In 2016, the SJC approved Trial Court Rule XIV - Uniform Rules on Public Access to Court Records. However, Massachusetts has not made significant statutory changes to adjust for the current electronic climate.</p> <p>Trial Court Rule XIV - Uniform Rules on Public Access to Court Records (MA Orders 2016-40) (issued July 20, 2016, effective November 1, 2016).</p>

All states have certain nonpublic or confidential case types AND sealed or impounded materials are not available. For a recent overview of court access Council for Court Excellence (SJI funded) report *Remote Public Access to Electronic Court Records: A Cross-Jurisdictional Review for the D.C. Courts* (April 2017) found at http://www.courtexcellence.org/uploads/publications/RACER_final_report.pdf

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	Contract/Business Cases, Criminal Complaint, Equitable Remedies, Indictment, Miscellaneous Civil Actions, Probation Transfer, Real Property, Tort.			
<p>New Hampshire https://www.courts.state.nh.us/rules/misc/misc-8.htm</p>	<p>NH has a mix of paper and electronic records. E-filing became effective as follows: Small Claims (2014) Guardianship (2015) Estate (2017) Supreme Court (end of 2017) Additional case types in the Superior and Circuit Courts will</p>		<p>Court Generated Information & Filings <i>Parties to the case and Attorneys of record court docket & pleadings. No orders.</i></p>	<p>New Hampshire Court Rules - Guidelines for Public Access to Court Records (N.H. Record Access I) (effective December 9, 1992).https://www.courts.state.nh.us/rules/misc/misc-8.htm</p> <p>NH's e-Court Program http://www.courts.state.nh.us/nh-e-court-project/index.htm</p> <p>came largely as a result of a year-long study - January 2011 Report of the Judicial Branch Innovation Commission http://www.courts.state.nh.us/cio/innovationcomm/FinalReport.pdf. - specifically, see Recommendation #14 – “Create Direct Public Access to Court Records,” p.55)</p>

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	be implemented incrementally over the next few years.			
Rhode Island https://www.courts.ri.gov/Pages/access-caseinfo.aspx	Supreme, Superior, Family, District, and Workers' Compensation Courts and the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal Courts.	Access to the register of actions or docket. <u>Attorneys who have entered an appearance:</u> documents and information about a case in which they are named a party. <u>State/Federal Agency Access:</u> Court authorization varies.	Public: all public electronic case information. <u>Attorneys who have entered an appearance</u> to all documents and information about those cases. <u>Self-represented litigants and parties:</u> all documents and information about a case in which they are named a party	In re Rhode Island Judiciary Rules of Practice Governing Public Access to Electronic Case Information (January 29, 2016) https://www.courts.ri.gov/Courts/SupremeCourt/SupremeMiscOrders/Public Access Rules.pdf Rhode Island Court Rules, Scope of Rules and Mandatory Electronic Filing - One Form of Action, Rule 1 - Scope of Rules and Mandatory Electronic Filing (RI R.C.P. Rule 1); Article X - Rules Governing Electronic Filing (RI Sup. Ct. Art. X, Rule 1) (adopted February 14, 2014, effective March 1, 2014; amended October 31, 2014; January 29, 2016).

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Vermont https://secure.vermont.gov/vtcdas/user	Some Criminal, Family Division & Civil.	Calendar info. for all of Vermont's Criminal, Family, and Civil Divisions. Case summaries and docket chronologies for the Civil Divisions in Superior Court. No Criminal and Family Division cases info. Case documents in cases are not accessible; VT does not currently maintain case documents in electronic format.	Still paper records: It is a strategic goal of the Judiciary to move to electronic case files, but we have not achieved it yet.	Vermont Rules for Electronic Filing Rule 10 - Access to Electronic Cases Files (V.R.E.F. Rule 10) (added August 17, 2010, effective October 1, 2010; amended August 30, 2011, effective October 31, 2011); Access to Public Records, Chapter 5, Subchapter 3 of Vermont Statutes Annotated (1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320) (added 1975, No. 231 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; amended 2011, No. 59, § 1; 2015, No. 29, § 1).

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