

Dockets: Story of a lawsuit

Docket: A formal record in which a judge or court clerk briefly notes all the proceedings and filings in a court case.

Examples of materials found in a docket:

- Cover Sheet
- Complaint
- Answer
- Court Orders
- Motions
- Order on Motions
- Briefs
- Supporting affidavits
- Exhibits
- Minutes of Conference Calls

Dockets are maintained throughout the pendency of an action and do not necessarily end after the final disposition of the action. However, not all docket materials are available online.

Identify as much information about the case as possible.

- The full names of the parties.
- The docket or case numbers of the original case as well as any appeals.
- The location of the court in which the case was filed as well as any appeals.
- The date (exact or approximate) of the case and any appeals.
- The names of judges and/or attorneys involved in the case.

Where dockets may be found:

Federal Courts:

- Pacer
- Bloomberg
- Westlaw
- Lexis
- High profile cases may be on the court's website or an involved organization like the ACLU.

State Courts:

- Bloomberg
- Westlaw
- Lexis
- <http://legaldockets.com/>
- <https://iapps.courts.state.ny.us/webcivil/ecourtsMain>