

Required Data Elements – Case Type Definitions

Case Type	Definition and Examples
Civil	Civil law cases involving disputes between individuals or organizations in compensation or action is granted to a party. Examples include tort, malpractice, small claims, evictions, civil non-traffic, and protective orders, appeals from limited jurisdiction courts, and administrative law cases.
Family	Cases involve issues between or concerning spouses, parents, and family members. Examples include dissolution, spousal maintenance, annulment, legal separation, child custody and child support, paternity, and protective orders.
Probate	Cases involving wills and estates, guardianships, conservatorships, adult adoptions, and mental health matters.
Juvenile Dependency	Cases initiated by the state or a third party in the interest of children who are believed to be without proper care. Examples include neglect, dependency, and termination of parental rights. Also includes emancipation and adoption.
Juvenile Delinquency	Cases involving juveniles and their alleged violation of the law. Examples include delinquency, traffic offenses and status offenses.
Criminal	Cases in which individuals are charged with conduct that is considered to be illegal according to state statute, or county or municipal codes. Examples include felonies, misdemeanors (that are not traffic), petty offenses and appeals from limited jurisdiction courts.
Traffic	Cases are those in which citations or violations have been issued for a violation of traffic or parking laws, or a violation of a local ordinance. Examples include criminal traffic, civil traffic, and parking violations.
Note	Some cases might be processed differently in some jurisdictions depending on local codes. For example, personal property seizures may be misdemeanor petty offenses (Criminal) in some jurisdictions and civil proceedings in others. Protective orders may be filed as a civil case or in a family law case depending on court policy.