

Required Data Elements – Case Type Definitions – Approved at May 2023 Meeting

Case Type	Definitions	Examples
Civil	Cases involving disputes between individuals or organizations seeking compensation, specific performance, injunctive relief, or other remedies.	Examples include tort, malpractice, small claims, evictions, civil non-traffic, protective orders, appeals from limited jurisdiction courts, and administrative law cases
Family	Cases involving 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, termination of parental rights, 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, and petty offenses.
Criminal Traffic	Cases involving a moving violation that are classified as either a misdemeanor or felony according to state statute, or county or municipal codes.	Examples include felony or misdemeanor driving under the influence (DUI), speeding in a school zone, vehicular manslaughter, and driving on a suspended license.
Civil Traffic	Cases in which citations have been issued for a violation of traffic or parking laws, or a violation of a local ordinance.	Examples include speeding, unlawful lane change, running a red light, or non-moving violations such as a parking meter violation or crossing the street illegally.
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.