

Finding Maryland Legal Forms

MLA/DLA Conference 2023

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Maryland Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

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Learning Objectives

- Understand what "form" might mean in legal reference
- Locate court forms published by the Maryland Judiciary
- Locate resources of legal forms and templates
- Identify guidance to help complete forms



The Question: I need a form...

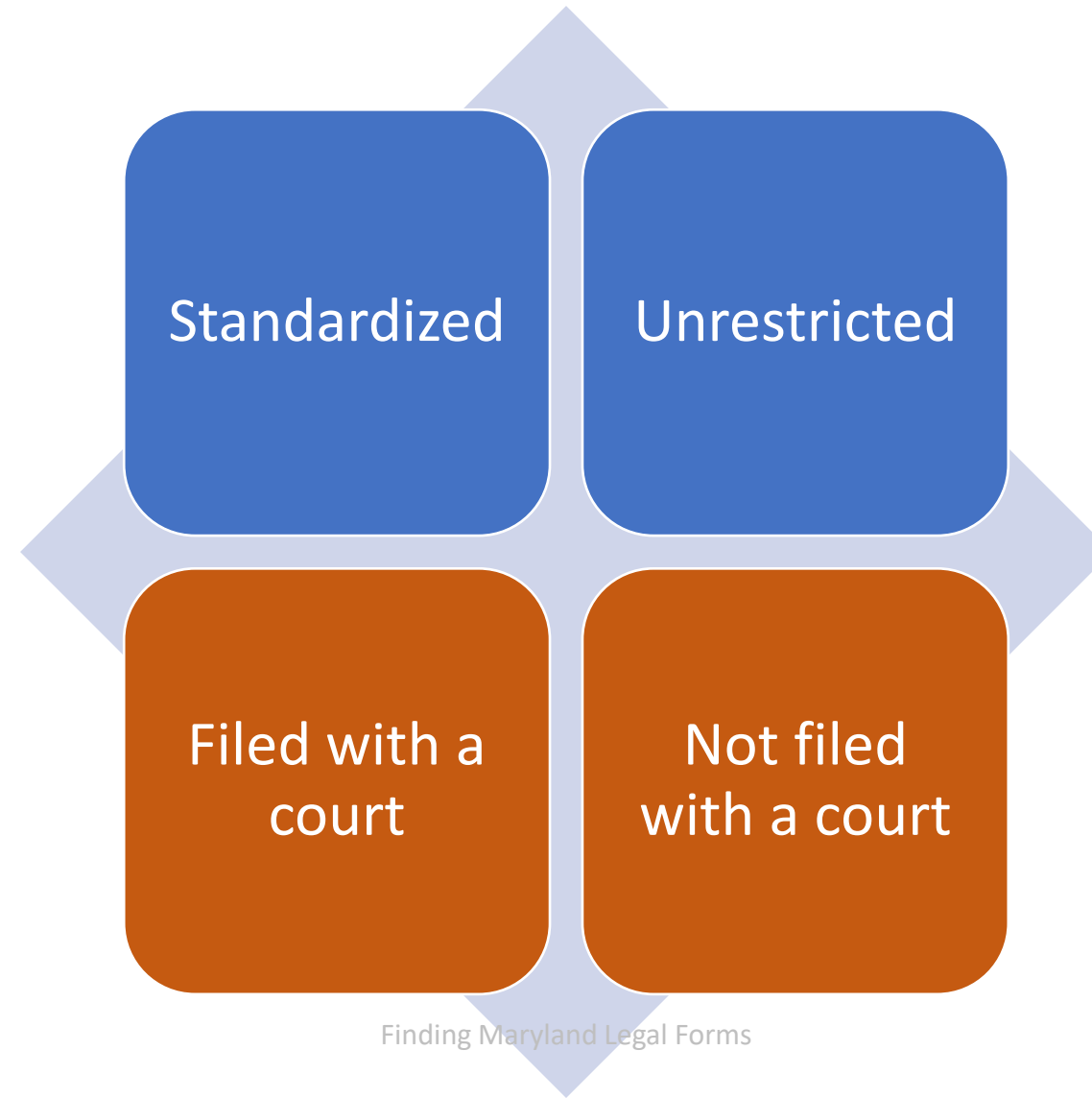


- ...to get a divorce...
- ...for a will...
- ...to change my alimony...
- ...to file a motion...
- ...to remove my record...

People think there's a form for every legal action.

This is not true!

What can "form" mean?



What do you need to know?

- Where, geographically?
- What court?
- What type of matter?
- Narrow the topic
- Narrow the goal
- Check list of known locations



What can you offer – or not?

Cannot

- The perfect form
- Answers to fill-in-the-blanks

Can

- Samples to choose from
- Materials that address the topic

It's not your fault if there isn't a form available!

Where might forms be?



- Maryland Rules
- Maryland Code (Statutory Forms)
- Maryland Courts – website
- Other sources – websites, books, databases

A Word about Commercial Sites

- Cost?
- Are they free elsewhere?
- Are they offering too much information?
- Who wrote them?



Maryland Courts Website



- Where to find forms, generally
- Court Forms Locator
- Guide and File
- Court Help Topics

People's Law Library of Maryland

- [Find Court and Legal Forms](#)
- Articles link to forms, where related (work in progress)
- [Clinic calendar](#) for help completing forms



Maryland Rules

- What are they?
- Who makes them?
- Why are they important?
- What's in them?
- How do I use them?

Gateway to Maryland Law

The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library has an extensive collection of primary and secondary sources focusing on Maryland law. Many of these resources are available online, but some require physical presence at the Library to access.

[Maryland Code](#) | [County and Municipal Codes](#) | [Court Rules](#) | [Case Law](#) | [Regulations](#) | [Attorney General Opinions](#) | [State Publications](#) | [Task Force Reports](#) | [Incorporated by Reference](#) | [Law Reviews and Journals](#)

Maryland Code and Court Rules

The Maryland Code is a compilation of the statutes currently in effect and is generally organized by subject (e.g., Criminal Law Article, Family Law Article). The Supreme Court of Maryland, the highest court in Maryland, exercising court rulemaking power. The current Code and Rules are available online through multiple sources.

- **Current Code and Rules** from Westlaw ([Video Tutorial](#) to Search Rules)
- **Current Code and Rules** from LexisNexis
- **Current Code** from the Maryland General Assembly

Maryland Rules

- [Title 1. General Provisions](#)
- [Title 2. Civil Procedure—Circuit Court](#)
- [Title 3. Civil Procedure—District Court](#)
- [Title 4. Criminal Causes](#)
- [Title 5. Evidence](#)
- [Title 6. Settlement of Decedents' Estates](#)
- [Title 7. Appellate and Other Judicial Review in Circuit Court](#)
- [Title 8. Appellate Review in the Court of Appeals and Court of Special Appeals](#)
- [Title 9. Family Law Actions](#)
- [Title 10. Guardians and Other Fiduciaries](#)
- [Title 11. Juvenile Causes](#)
- [Title 12. Property Actions](#)
- [Title 13. Receivers and Assignees](#)
- [Title 14. Sales of Property](#)
- [Title 15. Other Special Proceedings](#)
- [Title 16. Court Administration](#)
- [Title 17. Alternative Dispute Resolution](#)
- [Title 18. Judges and Judicial Appointees](#)
- [Title 19. Attorneys](#)
- [Title 20. Electronic Filing and Case Management](#)
- [Appendix](#)

Where are the Rules? Gateway to Maryland Law!

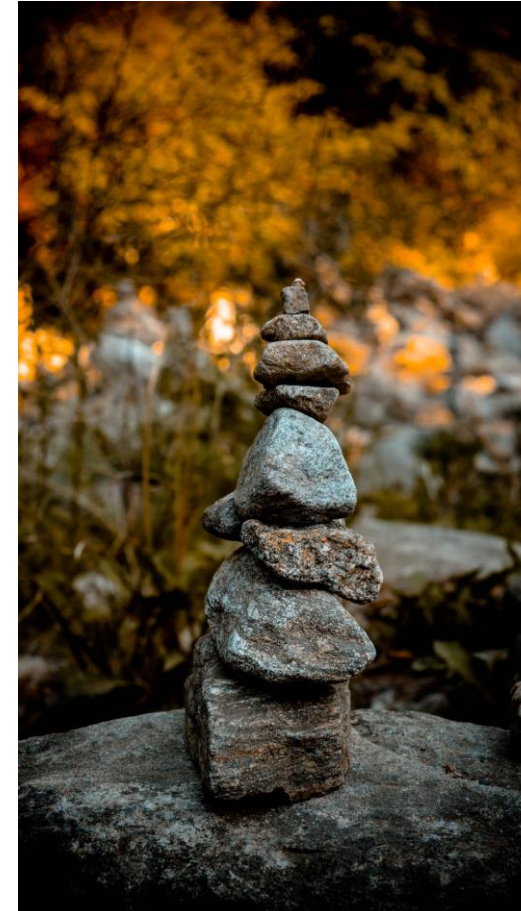
Let's take a look...



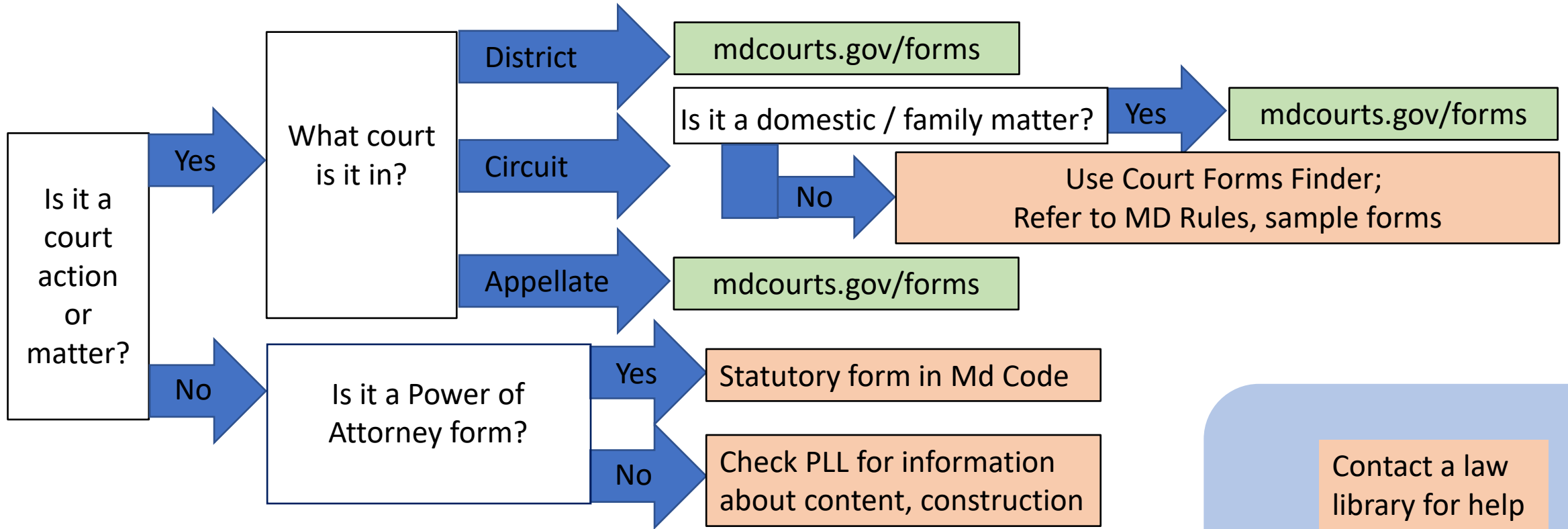
- [Maryland Courts](#)
- [People's Law Library](#)
- [Maryland Rules](#)

Additional Sources

- Gale Legal Forms
- Government agency websites
- Federal court sites
- Print publications - examples



Checklist for Finding Maryland Court Forms



Contact a law library for help

Check MD Courts website for form

Law Libraries

mdcourts.gov/ccll





Maryland Law Libraries


Thurgood Marshall State Law Library 

Circuit Court Law Libraries

Allegany County


Charles County 

Prince George's County 

Anne Arundel County 


Dorchester County

Queen Anne's County

Baltimore City 

Frederick County

St. Mary's County

Baltimore County 

Garrett County

Somerset County


Calvert County


Harford County

Talbot County

Caroline County

Howard County 


Washington County 

Carroll County 


Kent County

Wicomico County

Cecil County

Montgomery County 

Worcester County

 indicates the library is staffed.

Help with completing forms

- Court Help Centers
- PLL Legal Services Directory
- PLL Legal Clinic Calendar
 - Lawyer in the Library
 - General civil clinics
 - Family law help centers in Circuit Courts



Questions?



mdcourts.gov/lawlib

410-260-1430

lawlibrary@mdcourts.gov

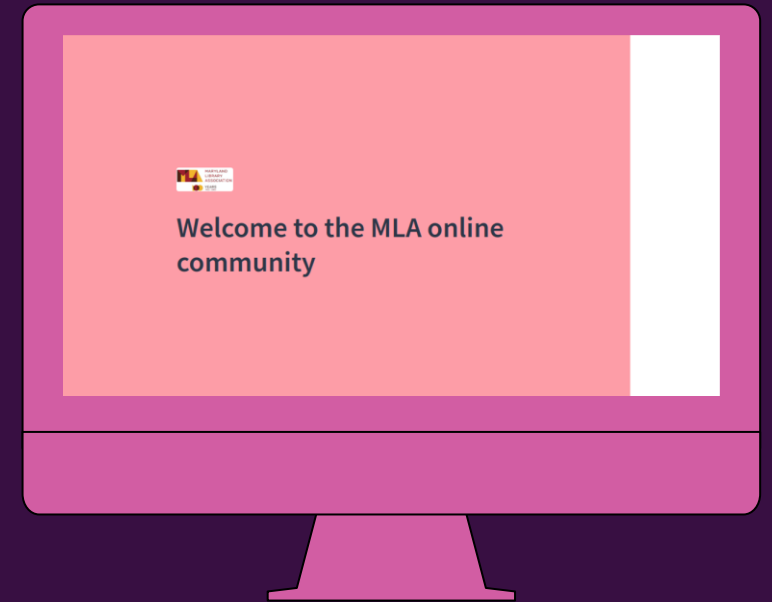


Evaluate this session

Connect online

Want to keep the conference conversation going between sessions? Join us on MLA's virtual platform, MLA Connect, by visiting [MLA.Tradewing.com](https://mla.tradewing.com).

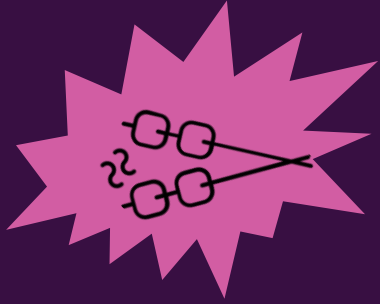
Non MLA members can still make an account and access the conference portion of the site.



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De-stress after a day of sessions with these social events!



S'Mores & Reception
Weds. 5:30-7 pm



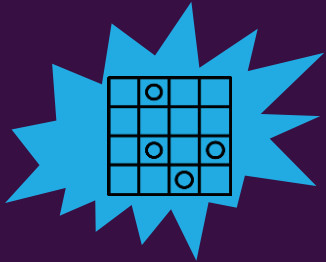
BCMLA Meet & Greet
Weds. 7-9 pm



De-Stress with Pets
Thurs. 2-5 pm



Pre-Banquet Happy Hour
Thurs. 5:15 pm



Happy Hour & Networking
Weds. 7-9pm



Yoga
Thurs. 7-8 am



Pub Quiz
Thurs. 8-10 pm



Karaoke
Thurs. 8-11pm

Support MLA & win!

50/50 Raffle

Pulled Friday 10:45am

Find Nay, KennethWayne, Kelsey, or Anita!

Silent Auction

Thursday 8am - Friday 10:45am

Visit the exhibit hall to see the baskets and bid!



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