

Form 1

Begin Coding Cases - Coder Information (Field (Form) Title)

Begin Entering Data (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains fields that relate to the identification of the coder (i.e. coder initials), the identification number of the coder, and the number of the case being coded.

Form 2

Identification Variables (Field (Form) Title)

Identification Variables (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains fields that relate to the case title, the identification of the original plaintiff and the original defendant in the case, the docket number, the number of docket numbers being reviewed in the court's opinion, which regional reporter the case can be found in, the volume and page number of the reporter, and the year, month, and date of the state supreme court decision.

Form 3

Basic Case Information (Field (Form) Title)

Basic Case Information (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains fields that relate to the past history of the case. Issues coded include: whether or not the case involved arbitration or mediation, agency action taken prior to litigation (including the name of the agency involved and the whether or not the state supreme court reversed the agency's action), the court that heard the case for the first time (including the day, month, and year of that decision), the court being reviewed by the state supreme court, and the manner in which the state supreme court took jurisdiction.

Form 4

Participants (Field (Form) Title)

Participants (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains fields that relate to the attributes of the case and the participants involved. The following information, pertaining to the attributes of the case, is coded: whether or not the case is a class-action suit, whether or not there were amicus curiae briefs filed in the supreme court, whether or not there are multiple petitioners/appellants or respondents/appellees, and whether or not the criminal defendant (if it is a criminal case) was represented by a public defender or a state appointed counsel. In regards to the participants in the case, coders identify the first and second petitioner/appellant and the first and second respondent/appellee. For each petitioner/appellant and respondent/appellee, coders identify the general category (i.e. natural person, private business, private organization or association, local or county government, state government, and educational institution). Once the coder has identified the general category, the coder then selects the specific description (contained in the drop list) that identifies the petitioner/appellant or respondent/appellee. If there are more than two petitioner/appellants or respondent/appellees, information will only be coded about the first two petitioner/appellants and respondent/appellees.

Form 5

General Category for Issues Classification (Field (Form) Title)

General Category for Issues Classification (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information pertaining to the general classification of cases. Coders are to indicate the general issue category of the case (i.e. criminal cases, civil government, civil private, juvenile, or non-adversarial cases).

Form 6

Criminal Appeals - Issue Classification (Field (Form) Title)

Criminal Appeals - Issue Classification (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information about the type(s) of convictions reviewed in criminal cases, the total number of convictions reviewed, whether or not the case involved a crime for which the death penalty was considered as a possible punishment by the trial court but was not imposed, whether or not the case involved a crime for which the death penalty was imposed by the trial court, and whether or not the case involved matters relating to bail and probation/parole.

Form 7

Criminal Cases Legal Issues (Field (Form) Title)

Criminal Cases Legal Issues (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information about the type of legal issue(s) reviewed in criminal cases and the total number of legal issues reviewed by the state Supreme Court.

Form 8

Outcome Variables - Criminal Appeals (Field (Form) Title)

Outcome Variables - Criminal Appeals (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information relating to the outcome of criminal cases. The following information is coded: the form of the court majority, the form of the court's opinion, the state Supreme Court's disposition of the lower court, the winning party in the state Supreme Court, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturned any convictions in the case, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturned a sentence in the case, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturned a death sentence in the case, whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the US Constitution, what type of law was challenged, whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional, and whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the state constitution, what type of law was challenged, and whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional.

Form 6

Civil Government Issue Classification (Field (Form) Title)

Civil Government Issue Classification (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information about the type(s) of substantive issues involved in civil government cases. Coders identify whether or not the case involves a general category of issues (i.e., elections, first amendment issues, government regulation, practice of law, public contracts, privacy issues, or torts). After identifying the general category, coders select the appropriate detailed category corresponding to the general category.

Form 7

Civil Cases Legal Issues (Field (Form) Title)

Civil Cases Legal Issues (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information about the type of legal issue(s) reviewed in civil cases and the total number of legal issues reviewed by the state Supreme Court.

Form 8

Features of Civil Government Cases (Field (Form) Title) **Outcome Variables Civil Government (Table (Excel) Title)**

Abstract: This form contains information relating to the outcome of civil government cases. The following information is coded: the form of the court majority, the form of the court's opinion, the state Supreme Court's disposition of the lower court, the winning party in the state Supreme Court, whether or not the state Supreme Court reduced liability or overturned a verdict, whether or not the state Supreme Court reduced or overturned a monetary award, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturned an injunction or other order, whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the US Constitution, what type of law was challenged, whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional, and whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the state constitution, what type of law was challenged, and whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional.

Form 6

Civil Private Issue Classification (Field (Form) Title) **Civil Private Issue Classification (Table (Excel) Title)**

Abstract: This form contains information about the type(s) of substantive issues involved in civil private cases. Coders identify whether or not the case involves a general category of issues (i.e., domestic relations, estates, contracts, and torts). After identifying the general category, coders select the appropriate detailed category corresponding to the general category.

Form 7

Civil Cases Legal Issues (Field (Form) Title) **Civil Cases Legal Issues (Table (Excel) Title)**

Abstract: This form contains information about the type of legal issue(s) reviewed in civil cases and the total number of legal issues reviewed by the state Supreme Court.

Form 8

Features of Civil Private Cases (Field (Form) Title) **Outcome Variables Civil Private (Table (Excel) Title)**

Abstract: This form contains information relating to the outcome of civil private cases. The following information is coded: the form of the court majority, the form of the court's opinion, the state Supreme Court's disposition of the lower court, the winning party in the state Supreme Court, whether or not the state Supreme Court reduced liability or overturned a verdict, whether or not the state Supreme Court reduced or overturned a monetary award, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturned an injunction or other order, whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the US Constitution, what type of law was challenged, whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional, and whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the state constitution, what type of law was challenged, and whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional.

Form 6

Outcome Variables Juvenile Cases (Field (Form) Title) **Outcome Variables Juvenile Cases (Table (Excel) Title)**

Abstract: This form contains information relating to the issues reviewed by the state Supreme Court in juvenile cases and the outcome of juvenile cases. The following information is coded: were the following issues reviewed by the Supreme Court (delinquency, truancy, curfew, runaway, and gang related activities), the form of the court majority, the form of the court's opinion, the state Supreme Court's disposition of the lower court, the winning party in the state Supreme Court, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturn a finding of delinquency, whether or not the state Supreme Court overturned a probation/confinement sentence, whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the US Constitution, what type of law was challenged, whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional, and whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the state constitution, what type of law was challenged, and whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional.

Form 6

Features of Miscellaneous Cases (Field (Form) Title)

Outcome Variables for Miscellaneous Cases (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information relating to the issues reviewed by the state Supreme Court in non-adversarial cases and the outcome of non-adversarial cases. The following information is coded: does the case involve certification, if the case does involve certification which court is certifying the case, does the case involve an advisory opinion, does the case involve non-adversarial matters regarding the bar, or other non-adversarial cases, the form of the court majority, the form of the court's opinion, whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the US Constitution, what type of law was challenged, whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional, and whether or not there was a constitutional challenge to a law passed by another branch of government under the state constitution, what type of law was challenged, and whether or not the law was declared unconstitutional.

Form 9

Justice Voting - Sitting Justices (Field (Form) Title)

Justice Voting - Sitting Justices (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information regarding sitting justice involvement and behavior. The first field relates to whether or not the court sat en banc. The following information is coded for each justice (1-9) respectively: name, vote, opinion behavior, if justice concurs - with whom, and if justice dissents - with whom. If the name of a justice does not appear in the drop list of justice names, there is space for the coder to enter the name.

Form 10

Justice Voting - Substitute/Ad Hoc Justices (Field (Form) Title)

Justice Voting - Substitute/Ad Hoc Justices (Table (Excel) Title)

Abstract: This form contains information regarding substitute/ad hoc justice involvement and behavior. The following information is coded for each substitute/ad hoc justice (1-9) respectively: name, is ad hoc justice retired, substitute, or other, vote, opinion behavior, if justice concurs - with whom, and if justice dissents - with whom. If the name of a substitute/ad hoc justice does not appear in the drop list of justice names, there is space for the coder to enter the name.