

## Addresses

### Providence/Bristol County

*Licht Judicial Complex*

250 Benefit Street, Providence, RI 02903

*Garrahy Judicial Complex*

1 Dorrance Plaza, Providence, RI 02903

### Kent County

*Noel Judicial Complex*

222 Quaker Lane, Warwick, RI 02886

### Washington County

*McGrath Judicial Complex*

4800 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI 02880

### Newport County

*Murray Judicial Complex*

45 Washington Square, Newport, RI 02840

### Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal

670 New London Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

## General Contact Information

### Supreme Court

Clerk (401) 222-3272

Office of Court Interpreters (401) 222-8710

### Superior Court

Providence/Bristol County (Licht) (401) 222-3230

Kent County (Noel) (401) 822-6900

Washington County (McGrath) (401) 782-4121

Newport County (Murray) (401) 841-8330

### Family Court

Providence/Bristol County (Licht) (401) 458-5272

Kent County (Noel) (401) 822-6725

Washington County (McGrath) (401) 782-4111

Newport County (Murray) (401) 841-8340

### District Court

6th Division (Garrahy) (401) 458-5400

3rd Division (Noel) (401) 822-6750

4th Division (McGrath) (401) 782-4131

2nd Division (Murray) (401) 841-8350

**Workers' Compensation Court** (401) 458-5000

Garrahy Judicial Complex

**Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal** (401) 275-2700

Pastore Complex - Cranston

## Useful Information

**Access to Justice Office** (401) 615-2469

**Office of Court Interpreters** (401) 222-8710

**Providence/Bristol County**

**Domestic Clerk (Divorces)**

*(Family Court)* (401) 458-3200

**Providence/Bristol County**

**Restraining Orders**

*(Family Court)* (401) 458-3372

**Juvenile Services** *(Family Court)* (401) 458-3290

**Bureau of Child Support** (401) 458-4400

**Enforcement**

**Small Claims Clerk**

*(District Court)*

(401) 458-5402

**Mental Health Advocate** (401) 462-2003

**Office of the Attorney**

**General** (401) 274-4400

[www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov)

**Office of the Public Defender** (401) 222-3492

[www.ripd.org](http://www.ripd.org)

**Rhode Island Legal Services** (401) 274-2652

Newport (401) 846-2264

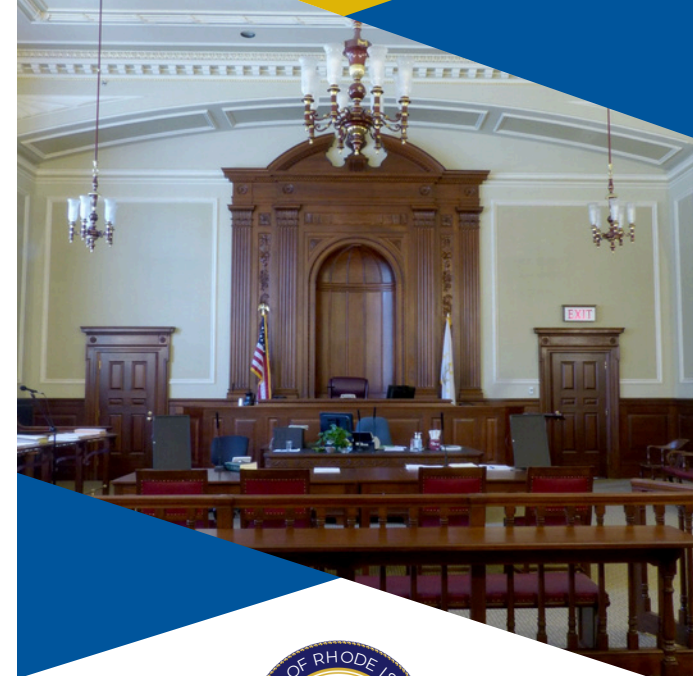
[www.helpirilaw.org](http://www.helpirilaw.org)

**Rhode Island Bar Association** (401) 421-5740

**Lawyer Referral and Volunteer**

**Lawyer Program** [www.ribar.com](http://www.ribar.com)

*Revised March 2025*



# Your Day in Court

*An Introductory Guide to the Rhode Island Judiciary*

Like the judge and court personnel, all parties play important roles in creating a positive and respectful environment in our courts. While in court, you have the right to be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity by everyone that you encounter. In return, you have an obligation to follow the court rules and to treat all those that you encounter with courtesy and respect.

[www.courts.ri.gov](http://www.courts.ri.gov)

## Courtroom Etiquette

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- Dress appropriately for court. Do not wear hats, T-shirts, halter tops, shorts, or torn jeans. Be certain that your clothing is neat and clean.
- You need to be on time for court. Failure to appear in a timely manner may result in a warrant for your arrest or other court orders against you.
- Arrive at the courthouse thirty (30) minutes ahead of your scheduled court time. You will need this time to clear security and locate your courtroom.
- Turn off all pagers and cellular telephones upon entering your assigned courtroom.
- Do not bring food or drinks into the courthouse.
- Cameras or other recording devices are not allowed in the courthouse without prior permission.
- Sit and wait quietly in the courtroom until your case is called. Do not talk, chew gum, or read a book or newspaper. Watch and observe.
- Address the judge as “Your Honor” or “Judge” and stand when speaking to the judge. Do not approach the judge.

### Be Prepared

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- Bring all court notices and necessary paperwork with you to court.
- Upon entering the courthouse, you will be greeted and screened by the Capitol Police. Be prepared to clear security. Do not bring weapons into the courthouse. You will have to pass through a metal detector. You may be asked to empty your pockets and to remove your belt and/or shoes.

- Be sure to make arrangements for the care of young children.
- Your case may not be heard and finished in one day. As the case may need to be continued or postponed, you may need to return to court on several occasions before your case is concluded.
- Please note that some Family Court hearings are confidential and are closed proceedings. You may be asked to leave the courtroom.
- Be prepared to pay court fines when ordered to do so.
- Be prepared to pay filing fees if you are filing a petition or complaint.

### Interpreters

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- If you do not speak fluent English and need an interpreter, please contact the Office of Court Interpreters by telephone at (401) 222-8710 or via email at [interpreterfeedback@courts.ri.gov](mailto:interpreterfeedback@courts.ri.gov) prior to your scheduled court date. Court telephone numbers are located on the back side of this brochure.
- If you are in need of a sign language interpreter or assistive listening equipment, please call the court Clerk’s Office before your scheduled hearing to make these arrangements.

### Disability

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- If you have a disability and are in need of information regarding access to the courthouse, please call the court where your case will be heard prior to your scheduled court date. Court telephone numbers are listed on the back side of this brochure.
- If you cannot use the elevator, ask the Capitol Police for directions to the stairway.

## Parking

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- Free parking is available at some courthouses but not others, so plan accordingly.
- **Garrahy Judicial Complex and Licht Judicial Complex:** Private lots and garages for a fee and on-street parking (most with meters)
- **Noel Judicial Complex:** Free parking
- **McGrath Judicial Complex:** Free parking
- **Murray Judicial Complex:** On-street parking with meters
- **Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal:** Free parking

### Resources

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- General information booths are located on the first floor of each courthouse. This is where you can obtain information to assist you in locating your assigned courtroom. Information is also available at the Clerk’s Office for each court.
- On our website under “Public Resources” you can select the heading of “[Your Day in Court](#).” Here you will find guidance on representing yourself, what court employees can do to help you, and what employees cannot do. There is a section on frequently asked questions as well as a series of links for help in obtaining legal assistance. There are resources for getting a case expunged from your record, court forms, and how to look up a court rule, state law or conduct legal research.

You can obtain more information about the state courts on the Judiciary’s website at [www.courts.ri.gov](http://www.courts.ri.gov).