

APPENDIX

States With Specialized Business Courts

STATE	COURT NAME	YEAR	ENABLING AUTHORITY	MODEL	CASE TYPES / SCOPE	KEY FEATURES AND OUTCOMES
A. Standalone Courts—Constitutionally or Statutorily Created						
Delaware (Chancery)	Court of Chancery	1792	Del. Const. art. IV, § 1; 10 Del.C. §§ 341 et seq.	Unique (equity jurisdiction)	Corporate governance, fiduciary duty, M&A, partnership, LLC, trust, commercial contract (equity)	Bench trials only; 7 chancellors; over 200 years of published opinions create preeminent corporate law body. No jury right in equity.
Delaware (CCLD)	Complex Commercial Litigation Division (New Castle County Superior Court)	2010	Admin. Directive No. 2010-3 (May 1, 2010)	Baseline (case type)	Any case for \$1 million or more; any case involving an exclusive choice of court agreement or judgment resulting from exclusive choice of court agreement; any case designated by the President Judge (exclusive of certain case types)	Complements Chancery; handles legal (not equity) disputes. Created to capture cases Chancery cannot hear.
Georgia	State-Wide Business Court	2020	OCGA §§ 15-5A-1 et seq.	Baseline (17 enumerated types + threshold)	Breach of contract; shareholder disputes; trade secrets; securities; IP; cybersecurity; commercial real property (≥\$1M); other (≥\$500K)	1 judge and 1 division. BCR 2-4(a) amended Aug. 1, 2021: direct filing without prior defendant consent (30-day objection window). 86 cases in first 33 months. Statewide court, but local courts may create their own dockets or programs (Metro Atlanta Business Court, created in 2005, is still operating).
Texas	Texas Business Court	2024	Tex. Gov't Code §§ 25A.001 et seq.	Baseline (case type + threshold)	Qualifying business and commercial cases (≥\$5M); qualified transactions (≥\$5M); publicly traded companies (no amount in controversy); IP, trade secrets, and arbitration enforcement	10 trial judges, 5 funded divisions. Fifteenth Ct. of Appeals (3 justices) exclusive appellate court. 56 filings through 12/31/24; 120+ by early 2025. HB 40 (June 1, 2025) expanded jurisdiction substantially by broadening definition of “qualified transactions” and including IP, trade secrets, and arbitration enforcement. No direct constitutional challenge filed.
Utah	Business and Chancery Court	2024	Utah Code Ann. §§ 78A-5a-101 et seq.	Baseline (case type + threshold)	Statutorily enumerated business disputes ≥\$300K, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, business governance, dissolution, derivative shareholder actions	Operational Oct. 1, 2024; 1 judge. Statewide jurisdiction; bench trials only. Every opinion and order must be published on court’s website; proposed ruling on motion must be issued within 48 hours before the day on which oral argument is held.

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Wyoming	Chancery Court	2019	Wyo.Stat. §§ 5-13-101 et seq.	Baseline (business + trust)	Business entity disputes, trusts, commercial disputes, LLC/partnership, corporate governance, securities	First full-time judge (Burningham) sworn in Jan. 2, 2025. Cases: 15 (2022), 31 (2023), 47 (2024). 150-day target for case resolution. HB 54 (2025) allows assignment of district/circuit cases to chancery judges. Courtroom in Casper.
B. Dedicated Divisions Within Existing Trial Courts						
Arizona	Commercial Court (Maricopa County)	2015 (pilot program); 2019 (permanent)	Admin. Order 2015-15 (pilot program), superseded by Admin. Order 2017-17; Admin. Order 2018-64 (permanent)	Baseline	Commercial disputes ≥\$300K	4 judges. Mean disposition 373 days versus 415 in pre-Commercial Court baseline sample (but median identical at 345). Attorney surveys overwhelmingly positive. Made permanent 2019.
Florida	Business Court Divisions (multiple circuits)	Varies	Admin. Order 2019-08-02 (9th Jud.Cir.); Admin. Order No. 1-06-40, reaffirmed and expanded by Admin. Order No. 16-12 (11th Jud.Cir.); Admin. Order S-2008-105, superseded by Admin Order S-2013-021 (13th Jud.Cir.); Admin Order No. 2013-11-Civ (17th Jud.Cir.)	Varies by circuit	Complex business disputes	No statewide court, but numerous circuits have created their own.
Illinois	Commercial Calendar (Cook County)	1993	Cook County Ill. Gen. Admin. Order 92-2 (Sept. 14, 1992)	Baseline	Complex commercial disputes	Among earliest business courts nationally. Judges developed expertise through regular handling of commercial disputes.
Indiana	Commercial Courts	2016 (pilot program); 2019 (permanent)	Indiana Supreme Court Case No. 19S-MS-295 (permanent); rules substantially revised Sept. 2024	Baseline (case type)	Business/commercial; multiple enumerated categories	11 courts (Tippecanoe added July 2025). Rule revision Sept. 2024. Orders on MTD/SJ in roughly 24-26 days.
Iowa	Business Specialty Court	2013	Iowa S.Ct. Memorandum of Operation (Dec. 21, 2012), amended Memorandum of Operation (Aug. 19, 2025); Senate File 639	Baseline (case type + threshold)	Technology licensing, IP, securities, trade secrets, noncompete, commercial real property, business torts ≥\$200K	9 judges. Growth: 12 (2013) to 47 (2023, record). Transfer by consent or motion. Biannual review: high satisfaction; substantial majority will seek future assignment.

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Kentucky	Business Court Docket (Jefferson County)	2019	Judicial Order No. 2019-06 (Apr. 9, 2019)	Gatekeeping	Complex business disputes (enumerated case types)	One judicial district.
Maine	Business and Consumer Docket	2008	Admin. Order JB-07-1 (Nov. 4, 2008)	Hybrid	Jury and nonjury civil actions, family matters not involving children, specialized and differentiated judicial management	
Maryland	Business and Technology Case Management Program	2003	Md.R. 16-308; Admin. Order (Baltimore City 1998; expanded statewide)	Gatekeeping/complexity	Complex business, technology, commercial disputes	Cases designated by judges based on complexity. Pioneered gatekeeping model.
Massachusetts	Business Litigation Session of the Superior Court	2000	Mass.Super.Ct. Admin. Dir. No. 24-1	Baseline (generally ≥\$50k)	Complex business/commercial	Suffolk County (2000) to statewide (2009). 88% satisfied (2003). 853 cases and 300+ written decisions in first 3 years. Admin. Dir. 24-1 (2024) updated procedures.
Michigan	Business courts (by circuit)	2012	Mich. Comp. Laws §§ 600.8031-.8039	Baseline	Business/commercial per statute	Multiple counties (Wayne, Kent, Oakland, Washtenaw, Saginaw, Kalamazoo, Genesee, Muskegon). Any circuit court with three or more judges must create a Specialized Business Court Docket.
Nevada	Business Court (Clark and Washoe Counties)	2000	Nev. EDCR 1.33 (Jan. 1, 2001, amended on Oct. 2, 2006), and Nev. WDCR 1.161 (Jan. 1, 2001) (Clark Cnty.); Nev. WDCR 2.1, amended by order of the NV S.Ct. on Oct. 2, 2006 (Washoe County)	Gatekeeping	Qualifying business matter per rule	Reno (Washoe) and Las Vegas (Clark). Judicial discretion in assignment.
New Hampshire	Business and Commercial Business Docket	2008	N.H. Rev.Stat.Ann. 491:7-a	Baseline (≥\$50K)	Business or commercial dispute meeting threshold	Statewide docket within New Hampshire Superior Court.
New Jersey	Complex Business Litigation Program	2015	Order from N.J. Sup.Ct. (Nov. 13, 2014)	Gatekeeping	Complex business disputes designated by presiding judge	Statewide since 2015; replaced county pilots. New Jersey Supreme Court rejected earlier legislative effort for statutory division.

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New York	Commercial Division (counties)	1993 (pilot program in Manhattan); 1995 (permanent)	22 NYCRR § 202.70	Baseline (≥\$500K most counties)	Commercial disputes ≥\$500K; enumerated categories	Most influential modern business court. 29% disposition increase (1992-96); number of cases settling before trial increased 85%; total number of cases pending reduced by 26%; ADR resulted in 43% settlement rate.
North Carolina	Business Court	1996	N.C.Super.Ct.R. 2.1-2.2	Hybrid (mandatory + discretionary)	Mandatory complex business cases; discretionary designation	5 full-time judges. 138 new cases (2024). Sua sponte transfer over parties' objection. PepsiCo reincorporated in NC partly due to court.
Ohio	Commercial Dockets (counties)	2009	Sup.R. 49.01-49.12	Baseline	Complex commercial case per local criteria	Cuyahoga (Cleveland), Lucas (Toledo), Hamilton (Cincinnati)—discontinued 2017, revived 2024).
Pennsylvania	Commerce Case Management Program (Philadelphia); Commerce and Complex Litigation Center (Pittsburgh)	2000 (Philadelphia); 2007 (Pittsburgh)	General Court Regulations Relating to Commerce Cases Admin. Docket 01-2000 (Philadelphia); Admin. Order No. 13 of 2007 (AD07-000013), Allegheny Local R. 249 (Pittsburgh)	Baseline	Qualifying business case per criteria (Philadelphia); Commercial or complex cases as defined by rules (Pittsburgh)	Philadelphia: 97% would choose venue (2005); 90% very satisfied. Among most-studied business courts.
Rhode Island	Business Calendar	2001	Admin. Order No. 2001-09, replaced by Admin Order. No. 2011-10 (July 29, 2011)	Baseline	Business/commercial dispute (enumerated criteria)	Dedicated calendar within Superior Court; case does not have to be complex.
South Carolina	Business Court	2007 (pilot program); 2019 (permanent)	S.C.S.Ct. Admin. Order 2007-09-07-01 (Sept. 7, 2007) (pilot); S.C.S.Ct. Admin. Order 2019-01-30-01 (Jan. 30, 2019) (permanent)	Hybrid	Complex business; designation by chief business court judge	Pilot in 3 counties (2007) expanded statewide (2014), became permanent in 2019.
Tennessee	Business Court (Davidson County)	2015	Tenn. Supreme Court Judicial Order No. ADM2015-00467 (Mar. 16, 2015), continued by ADM2017-00638 (Dec. 22, 2017)	Baseline	Business disputes per rule	1 chancellor. 145 cases since founding. Nashville-based.

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West Virginia	Business Court Division	2012	W.Va. Code § 51-2-15; W.Va. Trial Ct.R. 29.01-29.12	Gatekeeping	Complex business; assignment by presiding judge	Up to 7 circuit judges. 145 cases since inception. 2023 proposed amendments for statewide hearings.
C. Complex Litigation Programs (Not Business-Specific)						
California	Complex Civil Litigation Program	2000 (six counties)	Cal.R.Ct. 3.400–3.403	Complex litigation (not business-specific)	Business disputes among mass torts, class actions, construction defects; general definition for complexity and factors to consider	Expressly chose complex litigation over dedicated business court model.
Connecticut	Complex Litigation Docket	1998	98-R-1182	Complex litigation (not business-specific)	Complex cases broadly; includes business disputes	Determined complex litigation docket better suits its needs than business court.
Minnesota	Complex Case Program	2013	Minn.R. 146	Complex litigation (not business-specific)	Complex cases including commercial disputes	
Oregon	Complex Litigation Court	2010	Chief Justice Order No. 10-066	Complex litigation (not business-specific)	Complex cases broadly defined	Offers parties targeted case management and trial by experienced civil trial judges. Participation is voluntary; the parties, along with managing panel and presiding judge in current district, must agree.

Wisconsin: Commercial Docket Pilot Project ended by 4-3 vote of Wisconsin Supreme Court, Oct. 7, 2024. Not counted among current states.

Oklahoma: SB 632 creating business courts struck down 6-2 by Oklahoma Supreme Court, Oct. 7, 2025 (*White & Waddell v. State*). Legislature exceeded constitutional boundaries; appointed judges violated election requirements. Task Force Final Report issued Dec. 2025; legislature may pursue constitutional amendment in 2026.