



OPENING

COURTHOUSE DOORS

EDUCATORS' PORTFOLIO

RESOURCES FROM NEW YORK STATE COURTS

CENTER

FOR

COURT

INNOVATION

GUIDE TO COURT SYSTEM RESOURCES

Judges, other court system professionals, and the New York State Court System as a whole produce a range of publicly available materials that provide crucial information about the court system and the law. This portfolio gathers and organizes information that may be of particular interest to educators, either as background or in the classroom.

The materials referenced in this portfolio represent only a fraction of available information produced by courts in New York State. The following additional resources may also be of use to educators:

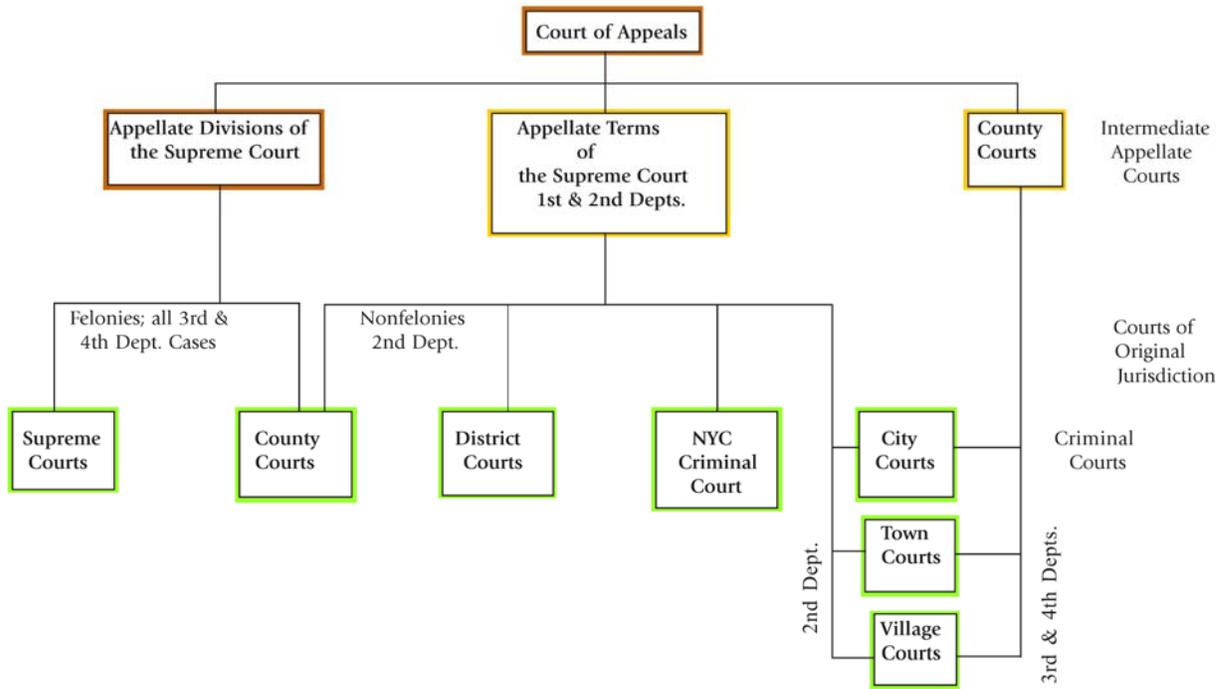
- **WWW.NYCOURTS.GOV**, the website of the New York State Unified Court System, provides a wealth of information about the courts, including the basic structure of the court system, court programs and services, law, court procedure and assessments of court practice and recommendations for reform.
- **MYCOURTS-NY** (<http://www.nycourts.gov/youth/>), is a website for youth and educators in New York State that offers information about courts, law and justice, including links to helpful resources and innovative programs that offer young people opportunities to play an active role in their communities. The **TEACHERS' AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS' CORNER** provides links to resources and web sites about law, courts and justice for teachers and educators.
- **THE NEW YORK STATE COURTS: AN INTRODUCTORY GUIDE** (<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/NYCourts-IntroGuide.pdf>) provides an overview of how New York State courts work and the kinds of work they do, including basic information on the structure of the courts, court programs and resources.

The Center for Court Innovation is interested in feedback on this resource. Please contact the Center at INFO@COURTINNOVATION.ORG with suggestions for future editions of the Educators' Portfolio.

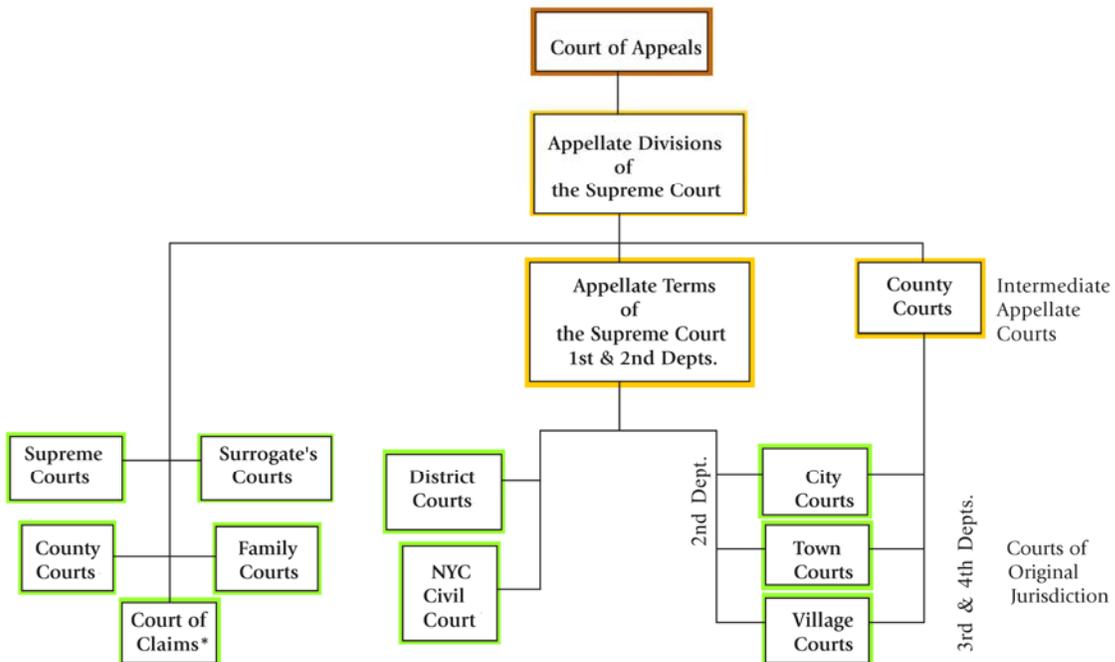
CENTER FOR COURT INNOVATION

The Center for Court Innovation is a unique public-private partnership that promotes new thinking about how the justice system can solve difficult problems like addiction, quality-of-life crime, domestic violence, and child neglect. The Center functions as the New York State Unified Court System's independent research and development arm, creating demonstration projects that test new approaches to problems that have resisted conventional solutions. Nationally, the Center disseminates the lessons learned from its experiments in New York, helping court reformers across the country launch their own problem-solving innovations. For more information about the work of the Center, visit WWW.COURTINNOVATION.ORG

CRIMINAL COURT STRUCTURE



CIVIL COURT STRUCTURE



Dual Constitutionalism in Practice and Principle

The forty-first Benjamin N. Cardozo Lecture, delivered by Hon. Judith S. Kaye, then Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York, on February 26, 1987.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Juidges/Dual_Constitutionalism.pdf

NY Times v. Sullivan and its Times: The Press and the Community

Video recording of a lecture from the Court of Appeals' lecture series.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/lecture.aspx>

Stephen G. Breyer, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States

Video of address by United States Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer at the Court of Appeals.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/breyer.aspx>

Teaching Tools: Citizenship and the Immigration Experience

Lesson plan designed to highlight some of the benefits and responsibilities of being or becoming a United States citizen.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/TT-mid-ImmigExper.pdf>

Teaching Tools: Fairness in the Classroom and in the Courtroom

Lesson plan about the importance of fairness in our society and how our emphasis on fairness leads us to value justice, due process, equality, and majority rule with respect for minority rights.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/TT-Mid-Fairness.pdf>

Teaching Tools: History and Judicial Review

Lesson plan about the importance of “due process” and equal treatment under the law in our society.

http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/TT-mid-Hist_JudReview.pdf

Teaching Tools: Justice, the Constitution and the Criminal Courtroom

Lesson plan designed to familiarize students with the concept of justice, including preservation of the Constitutional rights of people accused of committing crimes.

http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/TT-mid-Const_CrimClassrm.pdf

THE COURT SYSTEM IN NEW YORK STATE

A New Judicial Article for New York

Article reviewing the history of the judicial article of the New York State Constitution.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/A_New_Judicial_Article_for_New_York.pdf

Fulton County Court House

Publication chronicling the history of the Fulton County Courthouse, the oldest existing courthouse in New York State.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Courts/Fulton_County_Court_House.pdf

Historical Society Journal

News, information, and literary journal with articles of historical substance and scholarship related to the history of the New York State court system.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/history/newsletters.htm>

Pioneering African Americans in the Courts and the Legal Community: Past and Present

Publication providing photographs and biographies of notable African-Americans in the history of the New York State court system and legal community.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Pioneer.pdf>

Short History of the New York State Court System

Article chronicling the history of the New York State court system.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/History/Short_History_of_NY_Court_System.pdf

The Family Court: A Short History

Article presenting the history of Family Court in New York State.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/family_ct/History_Fam_Ct.htm

The Judiciary

Article sketching the judicial history of New York.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/History/Browne_The_Judiciary.pdf

COURT OF APPEALS

Court of Appeals Hall: Restoration and Renovation

Booklet chronicling the construction of and renovations to the hall of the Court of Appeals.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/renovation/Restore_Book.pdf

There Shall Be a Court of Appeals

Publication chronicling the history of the Court of Appeals.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Courts/There_Shall_Be.pdf

APPELLATE DIVISIONS

Materials to commemorate the 100th anniversaries of the Appellate Divisions of the New York State Supreme Court.

First Department: <http://www.courts.state.ny.us/courts/ad1/centennial/index.shtml>

Second Department: http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Courts/App_Div_Sec_Dept_100th_Anniv.pdf

Third Department: http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Courts/App_Div_Third_Dept_100th_Anniv.pdf

Fourth Department: http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Courts/App_Div_Fourth_Dept_100th_Anniv.pdf

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Looking Back on a Glorious Past : 1691-1991

Publication commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the founding of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Events/Glorious_Past.pdf

The Supreme Court of the State of New York

Letters and addresses commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Events/250th_Anniversary_Founding_NY_Supreme_Court.pdf

COURT OF APPEALS

Court of Appeals of the State of New York

Pamphlet briefly describing the history and work of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York.

http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Courts/COA_Pamphlet.pdf

Annual Reports of the Clerk of the Court to the Judges of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York

Annual reports chronicling the work of the Court of Appeals, including an overview of matters filed with and decided by the Court, a summary of administrative accomplishments, highlights of selected decisions, detailed statistics and other information.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/crtnews.htm#ANNUAL>

APPELLATE COURTS

New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division: First Department

Web site providing information about the formation, history and jurisdiction of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department.

<http://courts.state.ny.us/courts/ad1/centennial/index.shtml>

Appellate Court Second Judicial Department: About the court

Web site providing information about the formation, history and jurisdiction of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Department.

<http://courts.state.ny.us/courts/ad2/aboutthecourt.shtml>

An Overview of the Appellate Division, Third Department

Web site providing information about the formation, history and jurisdiction of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ad3/Aboutcourt.html>

The Briefing and Argument of an Appeal

Article first published in September 1937 in the New York State Bar Association Bulletin.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Juidges/Carswell.pdf>

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Criminal Justice System Handbook

Handbook designed to help court users and litigants understand how the criminal justice system works in New York State, from arrest through appeal.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/litigants/crimjusticesyshandbk.shtml>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently asked questions about the New York State court system.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/youth/faqs/index.html>

Glossary of Legal Terms

Glossary defining hundreds of legal words and terms.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/lawlibraries/glossary.shtml>

TOWN AND VILLAGE COURTS

Town and Village Courts: Frequently Asked Questions

Web page answering common questions about Town and Village courts.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/townandvillage/faqs.shtml>

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Community Dispute Resolution Centers

Brochure providing basic information about Community Dispute Resolution Centers and how mediation works.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ip/adr/Publications/Brochures/cdrpc.pdf>

PROBLEM-SOLVING COURTS

Problem-Solving Courts brochure

Brochure providing basic information about problem-solving courts, including community courts, sex offender courts, domestic violence courts, integrated domestic violence courts, drug treatment courts, and mental health courts.

http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/problem_solving/PSC-FLYER4Fold.pdf

Center for Court Innovation

Website providing information about the court system's independent research and development arm, which creates demonstration projects to test new ideas.

<http://www.courtinnovation.org>

New York Judges Then and Now

Publication commemorating the contributions of Hispanics to the New York State judiciary.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/NYJudges.pdf>

Q&A with Chief Judge Kaye

Web page presenting questions and answers with Honorable Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York.

http://www.nycourts.gov/youth/q_a/index.html

The Public Service of the State of New York

Biographies of judges of New York State.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Library/Juidges/Chadbourne.pdf>

State of the Judiciary Addresses

Annual addresses by the chief judge highlighting the work of the courts, especially new initiatives and notable accomplishments from the past year.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/stateofjudiciary/>

Pioneering African Americans in the Courts and the Legal Community: Past and Present

Publication providing photographs and biographies of notable African-Americans in the history of the New York State court system and legal community.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/pdf/Pioneer.pdf>

HISTORICAL CASES

People v. Gillette

The Record, Points of Counsel and other archival material from the murder case of People v. Gillette.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/gillette.htm>

Dreiser's "An American Tragedy": The Law and the Arts

Video recording of a lecture from the Court of Appeals' lecture series.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/Dreiser.aspx>

The Crown v. Zenger

Background information and materials from the trial of John Peter Zenger.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/zenger.htm>

The Lemmon Slave Case

Background and materials related to the Lemmon Slave Case, which led to a Court of Appeals ruling abolishing slavery in New York.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/lemmon.htm>

CONTEMPORARY DECISIONS

Court of Appeals

Decisions by the Court of Appeals are available to the general public on the day of their release.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/ctapps/latdec.htm>

Other Courts

Website providing links to many decisions of courts in New York State.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/decisions/index.shtml>

JURY SERVICE

Democracy in Action: The Jury System and Jury Service in New York

Provides information about the history of jury service, the importance of the jury system, the juror selection process and the juror's role during trials.

To request a copy, contact the Office of Public Affairs at 212-428-2116

Grand Juror Handbook

Handbook for citizens summoned to serve as grand jurors in New York State, answering commonly asked questions about grand jury service.

<http://www.nyjuror.gov/general-information/hbGrandJuror42007.pdf>

Grand Juror Orientation Video: Protect and Uphold

Video presenting the purpose and responsibilities of grand jury service.

<http://www.nyjuror.gov/general-information/juror-orientation-videog2.php>

Petit Juror Handbook

Handbook providing basic information about petit jury service and answering commonly asked questions.

<http://www.nyjuror.gov/general-information/hbPetitJuror42007.pdf>

Petit Juror Orientation Video: Your Turn

Video presenting the purpose and responsibilities of petit jury service.

<http://www.nyjuror.gov/general-information/juror-orientation-videop2.php>

Teaching Tools: Justice and the Jury Experience

Lesson plan focused on the history of the jury system, the role that the jury plays in the American system of justice, and the importance of citizen service on juries.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/newHS-TT-JuryExp.pdf>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Get Involved

Interactive web page listing law-related activities across New York State for youth who are interested in law, courts, and justice.

http://www.nycourts.gov/youth/get_involved/index.html

Public events calendar

On-line calendar providing information about New York State Unified Court System events open to and of interest to the public.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/calendar.shtml>

Student Ambassador Program

Program description and application information for the New York State court system's Student Ambassador Program, an internship program that places high school, college, and law school students under the guidance of judicial and non-judicial personnel.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/SAProgram07.pdf>

The New York State Court System's Annual Media Contest to Promote Jury Service: Overview

Document outlining the objective of and submission process for the High School Media Contest to Promote Jury Service.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/resourcelibrary.shtml>

PUBLIC SERVICE: CAREERS IN THE COURT SYSTEM

Be a New York State Court Officer

Video presenting information about the roles and responsibilities of court officers.

<http://media.courts.state.ny.us/video/6jd/CrtOfficer.aspx>

Careers in the Courts

Web pages containing information about careers in the courts, including available positions, job descriptions, and application forms.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/careers/>

A Guide to the Website: Careers in the New York State Courts

Document summarizing www.nycourts.gov/careers, which provides information regarding current job openings, examinations, and benefits.

<http://www.nycourts.gov/admin/publicaffairs/pdfs/Careers%20WebGuide%E2%80%93932007.pdf>

Keynote Address at Volunteer Ceremony, Suffolk County Supreme Court

Chief Judge Kaye's keynote address at a ceremony to honor 9/11 volunteers at the Suffolk County Supreme Court.

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/history/911/suffolkvolunteers.htm>