

## WHERE TO OBTAIN COURT RECORDS AND RUN BACKGROUND CHECKS

Court records are housed with the “Clerk of the Court” for most courts. States vary as to the service or entity to order records online. Always call the Clerk of the Court for specific instructions. States and the FBI can also run criminal background checks. Most immigration agencies want fingerprint based background checks.

### **Washington State Courts:**

There are a lot of different types of courts in Washington

[https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/)

For a complete detailed directory of courts, see: [https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/courtdirectory.pdf](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/courtdirectory.pdf)

Case locator: <https://dw.courts.wa.gov/>

<https://www.courts.wa.gov/jislink/> (need a subscription in most cases)

### **Counties where we have held clinics:**

King County Courts – directory: [https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/orgs/190.html](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/orgs/190.html)

Pierce County Courts- directory: [https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/orgs/286.html](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/orgs/286.html)

Clark County Courts – directory: [https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/orgs/266.html](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/orgs/266.html)

Franklin County Courts – directory: [https://www.co.franklin.wa.us/clerk/court\\_records.php](https://www.co.franklin.wa.us/clerk/court_records.php)

Kittitas County Courts – directory: <https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/courts/default.aspx>

Skagit County Courts – Dist court: <https://skagitcounty.net/Departments/DistrictCourt/main.htm>

Skagit Superior Court: <https://skagitcounty.net/Departments/SuperiorCourt/main.htm>

Whatcom County Courts – directory: <https://www.whatcomcounty.us/1411/Courts-Law>

Yakima County Courts – directory: [https://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/orgs/254.html](https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/orgs/254.html)

### **Nearby states:**

#### **Oregon State Courts:**

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/Pages/other-courts.aspx>

Records: <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/how/Pages/find.aspx>

Oregon background checks: <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/cjis/Pages/CCH.aspx>

#### **California State Courts:**

<https://www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm>

<https://www.courts.ca.gov/9149.htm>

California background checks: <https://oag.ca.gov/fingerprints/record-review>

<https://oag.ca.gov/fingerprints/visaimmigration>

#### **Idaho State Courts:**

<https://isc.idaho.gov/main/local-district-courts>

Court records to order online: <https://mycourts.idaho.gov/>

County courts: [https://isc.idaho.gov/files/county\\_courthouse\\_directory.pdf](https://isc.idaho.gov/files/county_courthouse_directory.pdf)

<https://icourt.idaho.gov/>

<https://mycourts.idaho.gov/odysseyportal/Home/Dashboard/29#>

Background checks: <https://www.isp.idaho.gov/BCI/pillPages/fingerprinting.html>

### **Federal Courts, Including US Supreme Court. (WA, ID, OR, CA, AZ, NV, AL, HI, MT are in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals)**

<https://www.uscourts.gov/about-federal-courts/federal-courts-public/court-website-links>

<https://www.uscourts.gov/court-locator>

<https://www.uscourts.gov/court-records> (requires Pacer account)

US Supreme Court: <https://www.supremecourt.gov/>

### **Can't find your case or history? Obtain a FBI and/or Washington WATCH Report:**

\***FBI Identity History Summary** (criminal background checks; may have immigration encounter history as well):

<https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks>

\***Washington Access to Criminal History (WATCH):** <https://fortress.wa.gov/wsp/watch/> May have traffic violations, too. \* [Best to obtain using fingerprint submission](#)