

About This Form

- 1. Not Legal Advice.** This form does not provide legal advice. No form substitutes for having or consulting a lawyer. If you are not a lawyer and are suing or have been sued, it is best to have or consult a lawyer if possible.
- 2. No Guarantee.** Following the form does not guarantee that the pleading is legally or factually correct or sufficient.
- 3. No Guidance on Timing or Parties.** The form does not give any guidance on when certain kinds of pleadings or claims or defenses have to be raised, or who has to be sued. Some pleadings, claims, or defenses have to be raised at a certain point in the case or within a certain period of time. And there are limits on who can be named as a party in a case and when they have to be added. Lawyers and people representing themselves must know the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the caselaw setting out these and other requirements. The current Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are available, for free, at www.uscourts.gov.
- 4. Privacy Requirements.** Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5.2 addresses the privacy and security concerns over public access to electronic court files. Under this rule, papers filed with the court should not contain anyone's full social-security number or full birth date; the name of a person known to be a minor; or a complete financial-account number. A filing may include only the last four digits of a social-security number and taxpayer identification number; the year of someone's birth; a minor's initials; and the last four digits of a financial-account number.
- 5.** Except as noted in this form, plaintiff need not send exhibits, affidavits, witness statements, or any other materials to the Clerk's Office with this complaint.
- 6.** In order for your complaint to be filed, it must be accompanied by the filing fee or an application to proceed in *forma pauperis*.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
_____ DIVISION

(Write the full name of each plaintiff who is filing this complaint. If the names of all the plaintiffs cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

-against-

(Write the full name of each defendant who is being sued. If the names of all the defendants cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

Complaint for a Civil Case

Case No. _____
(to be filled in by the Clerk's Office)

REQUEST FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff requests trial by jury. ____ Yes ____ No

I. The Parties to This Complaint

A. The Plaintiff(s)

Provide the information below for each plaintiff named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Name _____
Street Address _____
City and County _____
State and Zip Code _____
Telephone Number _____
E-mail Address _____

B. The Defendant(s)

Provide the information below for each defendant named in the complaint, whether the defendant is an individual, a government agency, an organization, or a corporation. For an individual defendant, include the person’s job or title (if known). Attach additional pages if needed.

Defendant No. 1

Name _____
Job or Title
(if known) _____
Street Address _____
City and County _____
State and Zip Code _____
Telephone Number _____
E-mail Address
(if known) _____

Defendant No. 2

Name _____
Job or Title
(if known) _____
Street Address _____
City and County _____

State and Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address _____
(if known)

II. Basis for Jurisdiction

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction (limited power). Generally, only three types of cases can be heard in federal court. Provide the designated information for this type of case. *(Check all that apply)*

- Federal question

List the specific federal statutes, federal treaties, and/or provisions of the United States Constitution that are at issue in this case.

- Suit against the Federal Government, a federal official, or a federal agency

List the federal officials or federal agencies involved, if any.

- Diversity of Citizenship

These are cases in which a citizen of one State sues a citizen of another State or nation and the amount at stake is more than \$75,000. In a diversity of citizenship case, no defendant may be a citizen of the same State as any plaintiff.

A. The Plaintiff(s)

The plaintiff, *(name)* _____, is a citizen of the State of *(name)* _____.

(If more than one plaintiff is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional plaintiff.)

B. The Defendant(s)

1. If the defendant is an individual

The defendant, *(name)* _____, is a citizen of the State of *(name)* _____. *Or* is a citizen of *(foreign nation)* _____.

2. If the defendant is a corporation

The defendant, *(name)* _____, is incorporated under the laws of the State of *(name)* _____, and has its principal place of business in the State of *(name)* _____. *Or* is incorporated under the laws of *(foreign nation)* _____, and has its principal place of business in *(name)* _____.

(If more than one defendant is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional defendant.)

C. The Amount in Controversy

The amount in controversy----the amount the plaintiff(s) claims the defendant(s) owes or the amount at stake----is more than \$75,000, not counting interest and costs of court, because *(explain)*:

III. Statement of Claim

Write a short and plain statement of FACTS that support your claim. Do not make legal arguments. You must include the following information:

- What happened to you?
- What injuries did you suffer?
- Who was involved in what happened to you?

- How were the defendants involved in what happened to you?
- Where did the events you have described take place?
- When did the events you have described take place?

If more than one claim is asserted, number each claim and write a short and plain statement of each claim in a separate paragraph. Attach additional pages if needed.

IV. Relief

State briefly and precisely what damages or other relief you want from the Court. Do not make legal arguments.

Do you claim the wrongs alleged in your complaint are continuing to occur at the present time?

Yes [] No []

Do you claim actual damages for the acts alleged in your complaint?

Yes [] No []

Do you claim punitive monetary damages?

Yes [] No []

If you indicated that you claim actual damages or punitive monetary damages, state the amounts claimed and the reasons you claim you are entitled to recover these damages.

V. Certification and Closing

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint: (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation; (2) is supported by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law; (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11.

I agree to provide the Clerk's Office with any changes to my address where case-related papers may be served. I understand that my failure to keep a current address on file with the Clerk's Office may result in the dismissal of my case.

Date of signing: _____, 20__.

Signature of Plaintiff _____

Printed Name of Plaintiff _____