

## HOW A CIVIL CASE PROCEEDS THROUGH TRIAL

Incident happens

Injured person (Plaintiff) files a Complaint

Complaint served upon the Defendant along with a Summons

Defendant has limited time in which to file an Answer

Answer Filed

- Motion to Dismiss

- Counterclaim

- Cross Claim

Reply to Counterclaim/Cross Claim

Discovery

- Written Interrogatories

- Request for Production of Documents, etc.

- Deposition

Motion for Summary Judgment

- Moving party entitled to judgment as a matter of law

- No dispute as to any material fact

Pre-Trial Order

- Trial date set

- Listing of witnesses, evidence, important cases relied upon, etc.

## Trial

Selection of Jury

Voir dire

Challenges

Challenges for Cause

Peremptory Challenges

Plaintiff's Opening Argument

Defendant's Opening Argument

Plaintiff's Case-in-Chief

Witnesses

Direct examination

Cross-examination

Redirect examination

Re-cross examination

Introduction of evidence

Plaintiff rests

Defendant's Motion for Directed Verdict

Defendant's Case-in-Chief

Witnesses

Direct examination

Cross-examination

Redirect examination

Re-cross examination

Introduction of evidence

Defendant rests

Plaintiff's Rebuttal

Witnesses

Direct examination

Cross-examination

Redirect examination

Re-cross examination

Jury Instructions Selected

Jury Instructed

Plaintiff's Closing Argument

Defendant's Closing Argument

Plaintiff's Rebuttal Closing Argument

Jury Verdict

Motion for Judgment Notwithstanding Verdict

Additur

Remittur

Appeal

Notice of Appeal

Designation of Record

Ordering of Transcript

Appellant's Opening Brief

Appellee's Brief

Appellant's Reply Brief

Oral Arguments

Decision