

Audition Copy for Appellate Court Videos

Hello. This five-part video series is about appealing the decision of a Maryland circuit court to the Appellate Court of Maryland. In Part-I, we will explain whether you can appeal your case, and if doing so is right for you. We will also discuss what types of cases can be appealed, how to appeal them, and the process the court will follow to reach a decision.

One more thing before we start. You can represent yourself or hire a lawyer. But, remember, appeals can be very complicated. Consider hiring a lawyer to represent you. I will share some resources at the end of the video that you may find helpful.

Let's get started. First, what is an appeal?

If you disagree with the final decision of your court case, you may be able to appeal. This means asking a higher court to review the decision. This does not mean your appeal is a new trial. The purpose is to ensure the lower court applied the law correctly in your case. Therefore, when the Appellate Court reviews your case, you cannot call witnesses or show new evidence.

Next, let's discuss whether you can appeal to the Appellate Court.

Whether you can appeal to the Appellate Court of Maryland depends on several factors. This includes:

- Which lower court heard your case
- If the lower court entered a final judgment
- The type of case
- And the date of the final judgment.

Most cases decided by a circuit court may be appealed to the Appellate Court of Maryland. Please take note. If your case was decided by the District Court, your process for filing an appeal is different. Most District Court decisions are appealed to the circuit court. For more information on appealing after a District Court decision, visit the People's Law Library of Maryland.

With a few exceptions, you cannot appeal a case until the circuit court enters a final judgment. A final judgment is a decision that ends the circuit court case. Check the law or talk with a lawyer if you are unsure whether the court has issued a final or otherwise appealable judgment. If you have questions, you can contact the Maryland Court Help Center. Call 410-260-1392.

That's it for now. I hope this information is helpful.