

## 1.00 | INTRODUCTION

If you are reading this guide, you are probably thinking about bringing or defending a lawsuit without a lawyer's help. Federal court can be an intimidating place, and there are a lot of things you need to think about and know before bringing or defending a lawsuit.

This guide will not answer all of your questions about how to represent yourself in a lawsuit. Instead, it summarizes basic steps required to file and pursue a lawsuit or defend a lawsuit filed against you. Also remember that this is just a guide. It is not a set of rules or an official document. You should not cite it as authority.

If you are reading this guide on a computer, you can click on any red-colored, italicized text to access another website that will have more information on the topic. If you find a broken link, just use a keyword search to find the website. If you are reading this guide in hardcopy, you cannot take advantage of the links, but know that any italicized text indicates there is a website with more information on the topic.

