

2.01 | WHERE TO FILE

The United States District Court for the Western District of New York comprises two divisions: Buffalo and Rochester. Generally, a case must be filed in the division where the defendant resides or where the claim arose. In cases based on diversity of citizenship (i.e., when the plaintiffs and defendants are residents of different states), suit may be brought in the division where the plaintiff resides. However, because pro se cases are randomly assigned, your case may be heard by a judge located in either division.

The Buffalo Division includes the counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming.

The Rochester Division includes the counties of Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates.

The complaint and other pleadings filed must be delivered or mailed to the Clerk's office in the appropriate division at the addresses listed below. Do not send papers concerning your case directly to the judge.

Buffalo Division:

Office of the Clerk
200 United States Courthouse
2 Niagara Square
Buffalo, New York 14202

Rochester Division:

Office of the Clerk
2120 United States Courthouse
100 State Street
Rochester, New York 14614-1387

(or deliver to the Intake Clerk located on the 2nd floor)

(or deliver to the Intake Clerk located on the 2nd floor)

*(US District Court, New York, Western District // Buffalo, NY 14202
Pro Se Litigation Guidelines)*

