

West's
Massachusetts
Civil Actions
and
Procedure



© 2025 Thomson Reuters

ISBN 979-8-350-21021-7

This publication was created to provide you with accurate and authoritative information concerning the subject matter covered; however, this publication was not necessarily prepared by persons licensed to practice law in a particular jurisdiction. The publisher is not engaged in rendering legal or other professional advice and this publication is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. If you require legal or other expert advice, you should seek the services of a competent attorney or other professional.

West's and Westlaw are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Thomson Reuters Westlaw is a trademark of Thomson Reuters and its affiliates.

PREFACE

Designed for use in the office or courtroom, this pamphlet brings together in one convenient publication the statutes and court rules relating to Massachusetts motor vehicle and traffic laws and regulations.

WHAT'S NEW

This product brings up to date statutes current through Chapter 407 of the 2024 Second Annual Session of the General Court, approved January 10, 2025.

The rules provisions include amendments received through May 1, 2025.

A combined index covering civil actions and procedure laws appears at the end of the pamphlet.

CONTACT US

For additional information or research assistance, contact the Reference Attorneys at 1-800-REF-ATTY (1-800-733-2889) or by Live Chat: Access via Westlaw. Contact our U.S. legal editorial department directly with your questions and suggestions by e-mail at editors.us-legal@tr.com.

Thank you for subscribing to this product. Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact Customer Service at 1-800-328-4880 or by submitting an online request through our Support center on legal.thomsonreuters.com. If you would like to inquire about related publications, or to place an order, contact us at 1-888-728-7677 or visit us at legal.thomsonreuters.com.

THE PUBLISHER

June, 2025

THOMSON REUTERS PROVUE™

This title is one of many now available on your tablet as an eBook.

Take your research mobile. Powered by the Thomson Reuters ProView™ app, our eBooks deliver the same trusted content as your print resources, but in a compact, on-the-go format.

ProView eBooks are designed for the way you work. You can add your own notes and highlights to the text, and all of your annotations will transfer electronically to every new edition of your eBook.

You can also instantly verify primary authority with built-in links to Westlaw® and KeyCite®, so you can be confident that you're accessing the most current and accurate information.

To find out more about ProView eBooks and available discounts, call 1-800-328-9352.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
93A. Regulation of Business Practices for Consumers Protection	1
176D. Unfair Methods of Competition and Unfair and Deceptive Acts and Practices in the Business of Insurance	7
223. Commencement of Actions, Service of Process.....	15
223A. Jurisdiction of Courts of the Commonwealth Over Persons in Other States and Countries	38
224. Arrest on Mesne Process and Supplementary Proceedings in Civil Actions	41
227. Proceedings Against Absent Defendants and Upon Insufficient Service	49
228. Survival of Actions and Death and Disabilities of Parties.....	52
229. Actions For Death and Injuries Resulting in Death	56
230. Actions By and Against Executors and Administrators	59
231. Pleading and Practice	62
231A. Procedure for Declaratory Judgments.....	99
231B. Contribution Among Joint Tortfeasors.....	101
231C. Structured Settlement Contracts.....	103
232A. Tender	107
233. Witnesses and Evidence.....	108
234A. Office of Jury Commissioner for the Commonwealth.....	137
235. Judgment and Execution	155
236. Levy of Executions on Land.....	166
246. Trustee Process	177
247. Replevin.....	192
248. Habeas Corpus and Personal Liberty.....	196
249. Audita Querela, Certiorari, Mandamus and Quo Warranto.....	202
250. Writs of Error, Vacating Judgment, Writs of Review	204
251. Uniform Arbitration Act for Commercial Disputes.....	205
259. Prevention of Frauds and Perjuries.....	209
260. Limitation of Actions.....	211
261. Costs in Civil Actions.....	221
262. Fees of Certain Officers	229

Special Acts—Norfolk and Middlesex Counties

[Barnstable, Berkshire, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire and Nantucket Counties]
(page 249)

	Page
Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure	253
Massachusetts Rules of Domestic Relations Procedure	385
District/Municipal Courts Supplemental Rules of Civil Procedure.....	429
District/Municipal Courts Rules for Appellate Division Appeal	435

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Special Rules of the District Courts of Massachusetts	453
Rules of the Superior Court	473
Appendix of Forms	502
Appendix of Administrative Directives	513
Guidelines for Appellate Division Proceedings	521
Standing Orders of the Superior Court	523
Special Rules of the Boston Municipal Court Department Sitting for Civil Business	549

Combined Index	I-1
----------------------	-----