



# KNOW YOUR COURT

COURT JURISDICTIONAL CHANGES  
COMING JANUARY 1, 2020

## COUNTY COURT FAQs

**Question:** What's happening with dollar limits on county civil cases?

**Answer:** Starting January 1, 2020, the county court jurisdictional threshold increases to \$30,000.

**Q:** Are there changes to small claims cases?

**A:** Yes. As of January 1, 2020, small claims cases can include disputes up to \$8,000.

**Q:** Will people filing civil cases have to do anything differently?

**A:** Yes. Filers need to specify a dollar amount in dispute on a civil cover sheet for claims greater than \$8,000. Electronic filers to the E-Portal will be prompted to do so.

**Q:** How will these changes affect mediation?

**A:** Current rules are maintained, limiting the provision of subsidized court mediation services to county court cases with an amount in controversy up to \$15,000.

**Q:** What is going to happen to appeals of county court cases?

**A:** Appeals of county court orders or judgments with an amount in controversy greater than \$15,000 will continue to be heard by the district courts of appeal.

**Q:** Why is this all happening?

**A:** Changes to county court civil case dollars amounts were made by the Florida legislature and signed into law by the governor in 2019. This jurisdictional amount was last changed in 1992. The Florida Supreme Court amended rules to change the small claims case amounts, an amount last changed in 1996.