NORTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 2004

SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP case types:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, capital criminal, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

15 judges sit in panels

CSP case types:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT A
(47 districts for administrative purposes; 65 districts for elective purposes)

106 judges (includes 13 special judges) and 100 clerks with estate jurisdiction

CSP case types:
- Tort, contract, real property rights (over $10,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil cases. Exclusive estate, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Felony, misdemeanor, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (39 districts for administrative purposes; 40 districts for elective purposes)

235 judges and 716 magistrates

CSP case types:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($0/$10,000). Exclusive small claims ($4,000), mental health, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.
- Preliminary hearings.

Jury trials in civil cases only.

Court of limited jurisdiction