

**Practice Pointer - The Supreme Court may not be the highest court in a state. This is the case in New York.**

## **The U.S. Supreme Court**

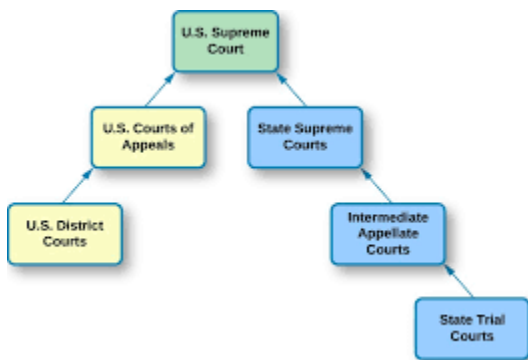


## **The Supreme Court in New York**



### **What is The U.S. Supreme Court?**

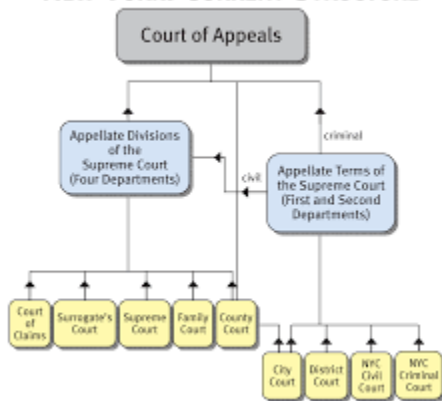
The U.S. Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States. This court includes nine justices who were appointed by the president and were confirmed by the U.S. Senate. In order for this court to take on a case, it will have to grant certiorari which considers whether they should stand by an appellate court's decision. The Supreme Court can also deny certiorari which makes the appellate court's decision final. The Supreme Court is a court of last resort and by law the only court who has authority to hear an appeal of a highest state court's decision when a considerable federal constitution issue is presented. The U.S. Supreme Court also has original jurisdiction over issues between two states. Many people use The Supreme Court decisions when researching. You should consider that the next time you decide to brief a case.



### **How is The Supreme Court different in New York?**

In New York State, The Supreme Court is a trial court. It has general jurisdiction for civil cases and criminal cases statewide. In New York State, each county has its own branch of the Supreme Court. The highest court in New York State is the court of Appeals. The court of Appeals is located in Albany, New York and consists of seven judges.

#### **NEW YORK: CURRENT STRUCTURE**



***Why is this Practice Pointer Important to know?***

It is important to know and understand this pointer so that people would not be confused when it comes to the unique New York State court system. Also, it is good to understand in a matter of if a person wants to file their case, it is filed in the appropriate court. In New York State, the Supreme Court will always be considered the lowest court, given in most other U.S. states it is considered the highest court.

Presentation by *Sherona Stevens*

Sources:

The Legal Research and Writing Handbook : A Basic Approach For Paralegals (8th ed.2018) By Andrea B. Yelin and Hope Viner Samborn (chapter 1,pg 12)  
New York State Unified Court System website,  
<http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/nyc/supreme/>