

**House Research Department**

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**The Minnesota Judiciary**  
**A Guide for Legislators**

This publication describes the structure, functions, personnel, and finances of the judicial branch of state government. It does not address substantive or procedural aspects of criminal or civil law.

The purpose of the publication is to help legislators understand the court system so that they can better evaluate proposals for affecting the structure, function, staffing, or financing of any of its components. The publication is organized as a quick reference document that presents descriptive information in a series of charts.

The publication reflects state law and constitutional provisions in effect on August 1, 2008, unless otherwise noted.