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Litigation

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and decided by a judge or jury in a court. Litigation is one way that people and companies resolve disputes.

Synonyms

[Civil action](#)

Cross-References

- [Arbitration](#)
- [Mediation](#)

Definition

Litigation is a lawsuit or a civil action brought before a court in which the plaintiff seeks a legal remedy. One or more defendants are required to respond to the plaintiff's complaint. If the plaintiff wins their case, damages may be awarded. If a lawsuit is not settled by agreement between the parties out of court, it would eventually be heard

References and Readings

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- Koocher, G. P. (1998). Glossary of legal terms of special interest in mental health practice. In G. Koocher, J. Norcross, & S. Hill (Eds.), *Psychologist's desk reference*. New York: Oxford University Press.