# Revision History

| Version | Date | Changes | Author |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.1 | October 2020 | Revision history was not previously included. | Prepared by a Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions Working Group |
| 3.0 | December 2024 | Nature of Suit code 370 title was changed from Other Fraud (Excluded any property that is not real property) to Other Fraud (Includes any property that is not real property). | EDO (formerly JDAO) |
| 3.1 | June 2025 | Revision history added for reference. | EDO (formerly JDAO) |
| 3.2 | June 2026 | Changes to the Prisoner Litigation Nature of Suit Code Descriptions | EDO |

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## Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions

(Rev. 06/26)

### Contract

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **110** | **Insurance** | Action alleging breach of insurance contract, tort claim, or other cause related to an insurance contract, except for maritime insurance. |
| **120** | **Marine** | Action (Admiralty or Maritime) based on service, employment, insurance, or other contracts relating to maritime vessels and other maritime contractual matters. |
| **130** | **Miller Act** | Action based on performance and payment bonds agreed to by contractors on federal construction projects as required under the Miller Act, 40 U.S.C. § 3131-3134. |
| **140** | **Negotiable Instrument** | Action relating to an agreement to pay a specific amount of money, including promissory notes, loan agreements and checks. |
| **150** | **Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement Judgment** | Action to recover debt owed to the United States, including enforcement of judgments, based on overpayments and restitution agreements involving matters other than Medicare benefits, student loans and veterans' benefits. |
| **151** | **Medicare Act** | Action relating to Medicare payments, including actions for payments of benefits, to recover overpayments, and for judicial review of administrative decisions. |
| **152** | **Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans** (Excludes Veterans) | Action to recover debt owed to the United States from defaulted student loan. |
| **153** | **Recovery of Overpayment of Veterans' Benefits** | Action relating to payments of veterans' benefits, primarily including actions to recover overpayments. |
| **160** | **Stockholders' Suits** | Action brought by stockholder(s) of a corporation (including both stockholder derivative suits and direct actions based on plaintiff's rights as a stockholder), usually alleging claims based on contract and/or tort law and/or fiduciary obligations. |
| **190** | **Other Contract** | Action primarily based on rights and obligations under a contract not classifiable elsewhere under the specific natures of suit under "Contract." |
| **195** | **Contract Product Liability** Actions primarily alleging personal injury or property damage caused by a defective product should be classified under the appropriate nature of suit code under "TORTS." | Action concerning damages caused by a defective product, not primarily involving personal injury or property damage, and based primarily on breach of contract, breach of warranty, misrepresentation, and/or violation of consumer protection laws. |
| **196** | **Franchise** | Action arising from a dispute over a franchise agreement, typically alleging breach of contract, misrepresentation, or unfair trade practices. |

## Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions

(Rev. 06/26)

### Real Property

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **210** | **Land Condemnation** | Action by a governmental entity to take privately-owned real property (land or buildings) for public use of compensation. |
| **220** | **Foreclosure** | Action to enjoin foreclosure on real property by mortgage lender. |
| **230** | **Rent Lease & Ejectment** | Action for rental or lease payments owed on real property and/or to eject a party occupying real property illegally. |
| **240** | **Torts to Land** | Action alleging trespass to land, nuisance, contamination, or other unlawful entry on or interference with real property possessed by another. |
| **245** | **Tort Product Liability** | Action alleging harm by an unsafe product based on negligence, breach or warranty, misrepresentation, and strict tort liability. |
| **290** | **All Other Real Property** | Action primarily based on unlawful conduct relating to real property that cannot be classified under any other nature of suit. |

### Torts/Personal Injury

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **310** | **Airplane**<br>(Excludes airplane product liability claims) | Action alleging personal injury or wrongful death from an air crash or other occurrence involving an airplane. |
| **315** | **Airplane Product Liability** | Action alleging personal injury or death from an air crash or other occurrence involving an airplane and caused by a defective product. |
| **320** | **Assault, Libel & Slander**<br>(Excludes a government employee) | Action alleging intentional acts of assault, libel, trade libel or slander by a private party. |
| **330** | **Federal Employers' Liability** | Action for personal injury or wrongful death brought by a railroad employee or his survivors under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA), 45 U.S.C. § 51, et. seq. |
| **340** | **Marine**<br>(Excludes marine product liability claims) | Action (Admiralty and Maritime) alleging personal injury or death from an accident involving a water vessel or harbor/dock facilities, including suits brought under the Jones Act and the Limitation of Liability Act. |
| **345** | **Marine Product Liability** | Action (Admiralty and Maritime) alleging personal injury or wrongful death from an accident involving a water vessel or harbor/dock facilities and caused by a defective product. |
| **350** | **Motor Vehicle** | Action alleging personal injury or wrongful death from negligence involving a motor vehicle but not caused by a defective product. |

**Torts/Personal Injury (continued)**

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **355** | **Motor Vehicle Product Liability** | Action alleging personal injury or wrongful death involving a motor vehicle and caused by a defective product. |
| **360** | **Other Personal Injury** | Action primarily based on personal injury or death caused by negligence or intentional misconduct, including suits brought against the United States under the Federal Tort Claims Act, and which cannot be classified under any other nature of suit. |
| **362** | **Personal Injury – Medical Malpractice** | Action alleging personal injury or wrongful death caused by negligence in medical care provided by a doctor or other health care professional. |
| **365** | **Personal Injury – Product Liability**<br>(Excludes a marine or airplane product) | Action alleging personal injury or death resulting from a defective product. |
| **367** | **Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability** | Action alleging personal injury or death caused by a defective medical or pharmaceutical product. |
| **368** | **Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability** | Action alleging personal injury or death caused by exposure to asbestos products. |

**Personal Property**

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **370** | **Other Fraud**<br>(Includes any property that is not real property) | Action primarily based on fraud relating to personal property that cannot be classified under any other nature of suit. |
| **371** | **Truth in Lending**<br>Actions relating to fraud or misrepresentation in the transfer of real property should be classified under nature of suit 290, "All other Real Property," or, if foreclosure is involved, under nature of suit 220, "Foreclosure." | Action alleging violation of the federal Truth in Lending Act arising from consumer loan transactions involving personal property including automobile loans and revolving credit accounts. |
| **380** | **Other Personal Property Damage** | Action primarily based on damage to personal property caused by harmful conduct such as negligence, misrepresentation, interference with business relationships or unfair trade practices. |
| **385** | **Property Damage Product Liability** | Action alleging damage to personal property caused by a defective product. |

**Civil Rights**

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **440** | **Civil Rights (non-prisoner)** | Action alleging a civil rights violation other than the specific civil rights categories listed below and not classifiable under any other nature of suit category under Prisoner and Detainee Petitions (NOS 500-series codes). |
| **441** | **Voting** | Action filed under Civil Rights Act, 52 U.S.C. § 10101, and Voting Rights Act, 52 U.S.C. § 10301. |

**Civil Rights (continued)**

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **442** | **Employment** | Action filed under Age Discrimination in Employment Act 29:621:634, Equal Employment Opportunity Act (Title VII) 42:2000E, Performance Rating Act of 1950 5:4303. |
| **443** | **Housing/Accommodations** | Action filed under the Fair Housing Act (Title VII), 42 U.S.C. § 3601 & 3602. |
| **445** | **Americans With Disabilities – Employment** | Action of discrimination against an employee with disabilities of any type in the workplace, filed under 42 U.S.C. § 12117. |
| **446** | **Americans With Disabilities – Other** | Action of discrimination against an individual with disabilities in areas other than employment, filed under 42 U.S.C. § 12133 (exclusion or discrimination in provision of services, programs, or activities of a public entity) or 42 U.S.C. § 12188 (public accommodations). |
| **448** | **Education** | Action filed under the individuals with Disabilities Educations Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1401 and Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. seq. |

**Prisoner Petitions/Habeas Corpus**

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **463** | **Alien (Immigration) Detainee** | Immigration habeas petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. All cases filed with this nature of suit code are restricted to case participants and public terminals. Petition is filed by an alien detainee. |
| **510** | **Motions to Vacate Sentence** | Action by a prisoner to vacate or modify a sentence imposed in federal court, other than a death sentence, under 28 U.S.C. § 2255. |
| **530** | **General** (Excludes death sentence) | Action under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 or § 2254 challenging the legality of confinement or punishment by a person currently in custody. Action may be filed by a federal or state prisoner, pretrial detainee, or civilly committed person. Examples: Illegalities that occurred in trial (such as ineffective assistance of counsel); sentencing (including fines and restitution orders); disciplinary proceedings in prison (such as loss of good time credits); involuntary commitment to a non-criminal inpatient medical or other facility pursuant to a court order under state or federal law. |
| **535** | **Death Penalty** | Action by a federal or state prisoner challenging a capital conviction or sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (state prisoner) or § 2255 (federal prisoner). Includes a claim that a prisoner has become incompetent while awaiting execution. |

## Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions

(Rev. 06/26)

### Prisoner Petitions/Other

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **540** | **Mandamus & Other** | Action by a prisoner or detainee currently in custody seeking mandamus relief to compel a judge, a government official, or an agency to perform a duty owed to the plaintiff. This also includes an action by a prisoner or detainee currently in custody that is not classifiable under any other nature of suit category under Prisoner and Detainee Petitions (NOS 500-series codes). Example: Action by a prisoner to recover property taken by the government in a criminal case. |
| **550** | **Civil Rights** | Action by, or on behalf of, a current or former arrestee, detainee, or prisoner alleging a civil rights violation in the plaintiff's arrest and prosecution. Examples: Excessive force incident to arrest, false arrest, and malicious prosecution. This also includes an action by a prisoner under a capital sentence for a stay of execution to pursue a federal civil rights claim. Examples: A violation of federal civil rights with respect to the method or procedure of execution; the conditions under which an execution will occur; or proceedings related to clemency. |
| **555** | **Prison Condition** | Action by, or on behalf of, a current or former arrestee, detainee, or prisoner alleging a claim under federal or state law with respect to prison or the plaintiff's confinement. Examples: Inadequate medical care, excessive force by prison guards, and retaliation by prison officials. |
| **560** | **Civil Detainee – Conditions of Confinement** (Excludes actions by alien detainees) | Action by, or on behalf of, an individual who is involuntarily committed to a non-criminal inpatient medical or other facility pursuant to a court order under state or federal law, alleging unlawful conditions of confinement while in the facility. Examples: An action by a former prisoner classified as a Sexually Dangerous Person or Sexually Violent Predator alleging civil rights violations during detention in a medical facility. |

### Forfeiture/Penalty

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **625** | **Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 U.S.C. § 881** | Action (Forfeiture) by which property itself is accused of wrongdoing and is forfeited to the government as a result. |
| **690** | **Other** | Action primarily based on Acts or Bills that cannot be classified under any other nature of suit, such as: Endangered Species Act, Federal Hazardous Substance Act 15:1261, Game & Wildlife Act 15:256C et. seq. (Penalty), Federal Trade Commission Act 15:41-51 (Penalty), Federal Coal Mine Health & Safety Act 30:801 et. seq. (Penalty), Load Line Act 46:85-85G, McGuire Bill (Federal Fair Trade) 15:45L Penalty, Marihuana Tax Act 50 Stat. 551, Motorboat Act 46:526-526T, National Traffic & Motor Vehicle Safety Act penalty 46:1655, Veterans' Benefit Act, Title 38 Penalty. |

## Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions

(Rev. 06/26)

### Labor

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **710** | **Fair Labor Standards Act** (Non-Union) | Action relating to non-union workplace related disputes filed under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 including but not limited to wage discrimination, paid leave, minimum wage and overtime pay. |
| **720** | **Labor/Management Relations** (Union) | Action relating to disputes between labor unions and employers as well as all petitions regarding actions of the Nation Labor Relations Board (NLRB). |
| **740** | **Railway Labor Act** | Action relating to disputes filed under the Railway Labor Act, 45 U.S.C. § 151 including labor disputes, individual claims, and response to sanctions. |
| **751** | **Family and Medical Leave Act** | Action filed under the Family Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. § 2601. |
| **790** | **Other Labor Litigation** | Action primarily based on labor disputes not addressed by other NOS codes (includes Labor/Management Reporting and Disclosure Act). |
| **791** | **Employee Retirement Income Security Act** | Action filed under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, 29 U.S.C. § 1132 by individuals and labor organizations. |

### Immigration

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **462** | **Naturalization Application** | Action seeking review of denial of an application for naturalization [8 U.S.C. § 1447(b)] or alleging failure to make a determination regarding an application for naturalization [8 U.S.C. § 1421(c)]. |
| **465** | **Other Immigration Actions** | Action (Immigration-related) that do not involve Naturalization Applications or petitions for Writ of Habeas Corpus, such as complaints alleging failure to adjudicate an application to adjust immigration status to permanent resident. |

### Bankruptcy

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **422** | **Appeal 28 U.S.C. § 158** | All appeals of previous bankruptcy decisions filed under 28 U.S.C. § 158. |
| **423** | **Withdrawal of Reference 28 U.S.C. § 157** | Action held in bankruptcy court requesting withdrawal under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 157. |

## Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions

(Rev. 06/26)

### Intellectual Property Rights

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **820** | **Copyright** | Action filed in support or to dispute a copyright claim. |
| **830** | **Patent** | Action filed in support or to dispute a patent claim. |
| **835** | **Patent – Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA)** | Action filed in support or to dispute a patent claim involving an Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA). These case are also known as "Hatch-Waxman" cases. |
| **840** | **Trademark** | Action filed in support or to dispute a trademark claim. |
| **880** | **Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 (DTSA)** | Action filed in support or to dispute a trade secret misappropriation. |

### Social Security

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **861** | **HIA (1395ff)** | Action filed with regard to social security benefits associated with Health Insurance Part A Medicare. |
| **862** | **Black Lung (923)** | Action filed with regard to social security benefits provided for those who contracted Black Lung or their beneficiaries. |
| **863** | **DIWC/DIWW (405(g))** | Action filed with regard to social security benefits provided to disabled individuals: worker or child, or widow. |
| **864** | **SSID Title XVI** | Action filed with regard to social security benefits provided to Supplemental Security Income Disability under Title XVI. |
| **865** | **RSI (405(g))** | Action filed with regard to social security benefits provided for Retirement, Survivor Insurance under 42 U.S.C. § 405. |

### Federal Tax Suits

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **870** | **Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)** | Action filed under the Internal Revenue Code (General). |
| **871** | **IRS-Third Party 26 U.S.C. 7609** | Action filed under the Internal Revenue Code – Tax Reform Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-455) Third Party. |

## Civil Nature of Suit Code Descriptions

(Rev. 06/26)

### Other Statutes

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **375** | **False Claims Act** | Action filed by U.S. Government, or private individuals alleging fraud against the U.S. Government under 31 U.S.C. § 3729. |
| **376** | **Qui Tam (31 U.S.C. § 3729(a))** | Action brought under the False Claims Act by private persons (also known as "whistleblowers") on their own behalf and on behalf of the United States to recover damages against another person or entity that acted fraudulently in receiving payments or property from, or avoiding debts owed to, the United States Government, 31 U.S.C. § 3730. |
| **400** | **State Reapportionment** | Action filed under the Reapportionment Act of 1929 Ch. 28, 46 Stat. 21, 2 U.S.C. § 2a. |
| **410** | **Antitrust** | Action brought under the Clayton Act 15 U.S.C. § 12 – 27 alleging undue restriction of trade and commerce by designated methods that limit free competition in the marketplace amongst consumers such as anti-competitive price discrimination, corporate mergers, interlocking directorates or tying and exclusive dealing contracts. |
| **430** | **Banks and Banking** | Action filed under the Federal Home Loan Bank Act 12:1421-1449, Home Owners Loan Act 12:1461 or Federal Reserve Acts 12:142 et. seq. |
| **450** | **Commerce** | Action filed under the Interstate Commerce Acts 49:1 et. seq., 49:301. |
| **460** | **Deportation** | Action filed under the Immigration Acts (Habeas Corpus & Review) 8:1101/18:1546. |
| **470** | **Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations** | Racketeer influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, RICO 18:1961-1968. |
| **480** | **Consumer Credit** (15 U.S.C. 1681 or 1692) | Action filed under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681n or 15 U.S.C. 1681o, and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692k. |
| **485** | **Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)** | Action filed under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act 47 U.S.C. § 227. |
| **490** | **Cable/Satellite TV** | Action filed involving unauthorized reception of cable/satellite TV service under 47 U.S.C. § 553 (unauthorized reception of cable/satellite TV), or 47 U.S.C. § 605 (e)(3) (unauthorized use or publication of a communication). |
| **850** | **Securities/Commodities/Exchange** | Action filed under Small Business Investment Act 15:681, Securities Exchange Act 15:78, Securities Act 15:77, Investment Advisers Act 15:80B(1-21). |

**Other Statutes (continued)**

| Code | Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **890** | **Other Statutory Actions** | Action primarily based on Statutes that cannot be classified under any other nature of suit, such as: Foreign Agents Registration Act 22:611-621, Klamath Termination Act 25:564-564W-L, Federal Aid Highway Act 23:101-142, Federal Corrupt Practices Act 2:241-256, Federal Election Campaign Act, Highway Safety Act 23:401, Immigration & Nationality Act 8:1503, Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act 49:1671-1700, Naturalization Acts 8:1421/18:911, 1015, 1421, et. seq., 3282 or Federal Aviation Act 49:1301 et. seq. |
| **891** | **Agricultural Acts** | Action filed under the Federal Crop Insurance Act 7:1501-1550, Commodity Credit Corporation Act 15:713A-L & 4. |
| **893** | **Environmental Matters** | Action filed under Air Pollution Control Act 42:1857-57L, Clean Air Act 42:1857:57L, Federal Environment Pesticide Control Act, Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act 7:135, Federal Water Pollution Control Act 33:1151 et. seq., Land & Water Conservation Fund Act 16:4602, 460 1-4, Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control Act 42:1857F-1-8, National Environmental Policy Act 42:4321, 4331-35G, 4341-47, River & Harbor Act penalty 3:401-437, 1251. |
| **895** | **Freedom of Information Act** | Action filed under the Freedom of Information Act 5:552. |
| **896** | **Arbitration** | Action involving actions to confirm or modify arbitration awards filed under Title 9 of the U.S. Code. |
| **899** | **Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision** | Action filed under the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. § 701, or civil actions to review or appeal a federal agency decision. |
| **950** | **Constitutionality of State Statutes** | Action drawing into question the constitutionality of a federal or stat statute filed under (Rule 5.1). Rule 5.1 implements 28 U.S.C. § 2403. |

**Note:** The statutes listed above are not all-inclusive, and other statues might be applicable to each nature of suit. Statutes that are included in the descriptions should be viewed as examples.