

**814.7 Ineffective assistance claim on appeal in a criminal case.**

1. An ineffective assistance of counsel claim in a criminal case shall be determined by filing an application for postconviction relief pursuant to [chapter 822](#), except as otherwise provided in [this section](#). The claim need not be raised on direct appeal from the criminal proceedings in order to preserve the claim for postconviction relief purposes.

2. A party may, but is not required to, raise an ineffective assistance claim on direct appeal from the criminal proceedings if the party has reasonable grounds to believe that the record is adequate to address the claim on direct appeal.

3. If an ineffective assistance of counsel claim is raised on direct appeal from the criminal proceedings, the court may decide the record is adequate to decide the claim or may choose to preserve the claim for determination under [chapter 822](#).

[2004 Acts, ch 1017, §2](#)