

602.6405 Jurisdiction — procedure.

1. Magistrates have jurisdiction of simple misdemeanors regardless of the amount of the fine, including traffic and ordinance violations, and preliminary hearings, search warrant proceedings, county and municipal infractions, and small claims. Magistrates have jurisdiction to determine the disposition of livestock or another animal, as provided in [sections 717.5](#) and [717B.4](#), if the magistrate determines the value of the livestock or animal is less than ten thousand dollars. Magistrates have jurisdiction to exercise the powers specified in [sections 556F.2](#) and [556F.12](#), and to hear complaints or preliminary informations, issue warrants, order arrests, make commitments, and take bail. Magistrates have jurisdiction over violations of [section 123.49, subsection 2](#), paragraph “h”. Magistrates who are admitted to the practice of law in this state have jurisdiction over all proceedings for the involuntary commitment, treatment, or hospitalization of individuals under [chapters 125](#) and [229](#), except as otherwise provided under [section 229.6A](#); nonlawyer magistrates have jurisdiction over emergency detention and hospitalization proceedings under [sections 125.91](#) and [229.22](#). Magistrates have jurisdiction to conduct hearings authorized under [section 809.4](#).

2. *a.* Magistrates shall hear and determine violations of and penalties for violations of [section 453A.2, subsection 2](#).

b. Magistrates shall forward copies of citations issued for violations of [section 453A.2, subsection 2](#), and of their dispositions to the clerk of the district court. The clerk of the district court shall maintain records of citations issued and the dispositions of citations, and shall forward a copy of the records to the department of health and human services.

3. The criminal procedure before magistrates is as provided in [chapters 804, 806, 808, 811, 820](#) and [821](#) and [rules of criminal procedure 2.1, 2.2, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8, and 2.51 to 2.75](#). The civil procedure before magistrates shall be as provided in [chapters 631](#) and [648](#).

4. Trials and contested hearings within a magistrate’s jurisdiction shall be electronically recorded, unless a party provides a certified court reporter at the party’s expense. The electronic recordings shall be securely maintained consistent with the practices and procedures prescribed by the state court administrator and shall be retained for one year after entry of a final judgment in the trial court or until thirty days after final disposition, whichever is later. Transcripts from electronic recordings required for appeals shall be produced and paid for in a manner consistent with practices and procedures prescribed by the state court administrator.

[83 Acts, ch 186, §7405, 10201](#); [84 Acts, ch 1275, §7](#); [87 Acts, ch 99, §7](#); [88 Acts, ch 1092, §1](#); [90 Acts, ch 1251, §54](#); [91 Acts, ch 108, §8](#); [92 Acts, ch 1231, §53](#); [94 Acts, ch 1103, §5](#); [96 Acts, ch 1133, §46](#); [2000 Acts, ch 1105, §8](#); [2010 Acts, ch 1140, §23](#); [2016 Acts, ch 1022, §2](#); [2023 Acts, ch 19, §1266](#)

Referred to in [§602.1209, 602.6306](#)