LAW CLASS
How Courts Work

Steps in a Trial

Motions

Motions are not pleadings but are requests for the judge to make a legal ruling. Some of the most common pre-trial motions include:

•Motion to Discover. A motion by which one party seeks to gain information from the adverse party.

•Motion to Dismiss. This motion asks the court to dismiss the suit because the suit doesn’t have a legally sound basis, even if all the facts alleged are proven true.

•Motion for Summary Judgment (sometimes called motion for summary disposition). This motion asks the court for a judgment on the merits of the case before the trial. It is properly made where there is no dispute about the facts and only a question of law needs to be decided.