



Truman Bodden Law School Library

LIBRARY TIP OF THE WEEK

Types of Cases: the difference¹

Civil Case – between two individuals or companies (or one of each)

Criminal Case – between the Crown (effectively the Government) and an individual or company or organization

In law reports, the **case name** indicates whether a case is civil or criminal. For example:

- **Atkinson v Parker:** Two individuals; a civil case
- **R v Robertson:** A criminal case; R (indicating “Rex” or “Regina” as the Prosecutor)

¹ Hawksworth, Lisa, ‘Understanding case law and law reports’
<http://libguides.liverpool.ac.uk/ld.php?content_id=2558073> accessed 21 November 2017