

# JUDICIAL BRANCH

THE UNITED STATES  
COURT SYSTEM

# I. JURISDICTIONS

- A. Original

Article III, section 2

7 types:

- B. Appellate

## II. COURT CREATION

- A. Supreme Court  
“Constitutional”
- B. All Others  
Congress  
“Special” or “Legislative”

# III. FEDERAL COURT STRUCTURE

- A. Judges
- B. Trial Courts
  - District (C)
  - Special Courts (L)

- C. Appeals Courts (C)
  - 12 Circuits
- D. Supreme Court (C)
  1. 9 “Justices”
  2. Original Jurisdiction
  3. Appellate Jurisdiction – “rule of 4”  
“writ of certiorari”

# IV. CIVIL VS. CRIMINAL LAW

- A. Adversary System
- advisory opinion
- B. Civil Law
  1. Plaintiff
  2. Defendant
  3. Damages
  4. Standard of judgment

- C. Criminal Law
  1. Plaintiff
  2. Defendant
  3. Guilt
  4. Standard of Judgment

# V. CONCURRENT JURISDICTION

- A. State or Federal Courts
  1. Parties of two states
  2. Civil cases of \$50,000 +



# VI. SUPREME COURT “OPINIONS”

- A. Unanimous
- B. Concurring
- C. Majority
- D. Dissenting (Minority) Opinion

# VII. WASHINGTON STATE COURT SYSTEM

- A. Judges
- B. Trial Courts
  1. District
  2. Superior
- C. Appeals
  - 3 Divisions
- D. Supreme Court
  - 9 Justices



"My advice is, don't let the media know you're wearing that t-shirt."