



**GUIDE TO THE TOUR OF THE
LLOYD D. GEORGE UNITED
STATES DISTRICT COURTHOUSE**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Lloyd D. George United States District Courthouse

Chief Judge, Roger L. Hunt

District Court Administrator, Lance Wilson

Foundation for Relevant Education About the Law

Executive Director, Judith Simpson



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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Foundation for Relevant Education about the Law is to explore our democratic system of justice with students of all ages. We provide learning opportunities by contact with the court system, our interactive web sites, and through the school curriculum. It is our goal that students understand and actively participate in the democratic process, and become effective and responsible citizens.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Information on the Federal court system for this teacher guide is taken directly from two pamphlets published by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts which provide an introduction to the federal judicial system, its organization and administration. For more information the following are available at the courthouse when you take your tour: "Understanding the Federal Courts" and "Federal Courts and What They Do."

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YOUR COURTHOUSE TOUR

GOALS:

- To observe first hand the operations of the Federal Court system
- To understand the importance of Article III of the U.S. Constitution
- To understand the role of Congress in creating the district courts and courts of appeals as well as determining the number of judges in each federal court (including the Supreme Court) and what kinds of cases they will hear
- To be familiar with the distinctions between the different levels of Federal Courts
- To be familiar with the differences between the State and Federal Courts
- To introduce students to careers involved with the judicial system
- To develop respect and understanding of the Federal Court system
- To identify strengths and weakness in the system
- To practice basic observation, fact-gathering and critical thinking skills in conjunction with Nevada Social Studies and Language Arts Standards

PURPOSES OF FEDERAL COURTS

The functions of the U.S. government involve the nation as a whole and include regulating commerce between the states and with foreign countries, providing for the national defense, and administering federal lands and other property.

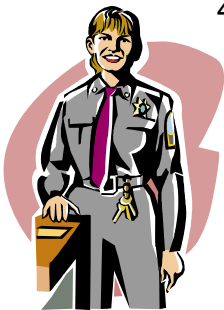
Federal courts are established by the U.S. government to decide disputes arising under the United States Constitution and laws passed by Congress, called statutes.

State courts must also enforce the United States Constitution, but most of the cases they decide arise under the constitution and laws of the particular state.



PREPARING YOUR STUDENTS FOR THE COURTHOUSE TOUR

1. Study the included information about the structure of the Federal Courts and the Legal Vocabulary. It is necessary for students to understand these in order to appreciate what they will see.
2. If possible, include the tour as part of a unit of study, as it is much more meaningful if it is tied in with what is being studied in the curriculum. The tour also offers students the opportunity to practice many civic learning and language arts skills such as listening, thinking on your feet, speaking, reading, taking notes, and writing reports.
3. Make sure students understand appropriate courtroom behavior:
 - **NO chewing gum, eating, drinking or talking**
 - **Students should not wear hats, tank tops, shorts, or combs**
 - **Cell phones should be left behind or turned off**
 - **Students should refrain from making obvious facial expressions**
4. Students need to understand the roles of the people in the courtroom including the judge, court clerk, court reporter, U.S. Marshals, attorneys, witnesses, plaintiff, and defendant.
5. Encourage students to have questions ready to ask court personnel as the judges may recess to talk with them.



FOLLOW UP

If the students do not see the end of a trial, encourage them to follow-up and determine what happens. Also, encourage students to visit www.LawForKids.org and take the Court Tour Quiz. Students can print a personalized Certificate once they have finished the quiz to show that they have completed it successfully.

THE FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM



THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Supreme Court was created by the Constitution, Article III and is the highest court in the land. There are nine justices, appointed for life by the President, with the “advice and consent” of the U.S. Senate.

The court interprets and applies the Constitution and all Federal statutes, *after* decisions have been made by federal courts of appeals and state supreme courts. The Supreme Court has the power to choose to hear which of the thousands of cases a year that are brought before them. They typically hear arguments in about 70 cases of these each year.

U.S. COURTS OF APPEALS

Congress has created 13 regional courts of appeals. An appeal is a request by a party that has lost a case on one or more issues asking a higher court to determine if the trial court’s decision was correct. Another Court of Appeals was created by Congress in 1982 with the jurisdiction in patents, customs, taxes and other specialized areas.

U.S. DISTRICT COURTS

The U.S. district courts are the trial courts of the federal court system. The country is divided into 94 federal judicial districts with at least one district in each state, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and Puerto Rico. Each district has from 1 to 28 judges. Their jurisdiction includes claims under federal law such as civil claims between citizens of different states, if over a fixed amount. They also have jurisdiction in certain criminal cases arising under statutes enacted by Congress, such as robbing certain banks, illegal importation of drugs into the country and use of the U.S. mail to swindle consumers.

Although the federal courts hear significantly fewer cases than state courts, the cases they do hear tend more often to be of national importance because of the federal laws they enforce and the federal rights they protect.

U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGES

The U.S. Magistrate Judges play an important role in the administration of justice by conducting preliminary hearings, setting bail, and assisting district court judges in processing cases. In civil cases, if both parties consent, the magistrate judges take cases from start to finish.

BANKRUPTCY JUDGES

Bankruptcy laws enable people or business who can no longer pay their creditors to organize their affairs, liquidate their debts or create a plan to pay them off and get a fresh start.



FACTS AND CONCEPTS TO REMEMBER ABOUT THE FEDERAL COURTS

- Federal and state courts exist side by side. State courts are courts of general jurisdiction and decide many more cases than federal courts. The jurisdiction of federal courts is much more limited than state courts' jurisdiction. There are about 1,500 federal court judges and about one million cases handled each year, primarily bankruptcy cases. At the state court level, there are almost 30,000 judges who handle more than 27 million cases a year, not including traffic and parking violations.
- Courts resolve disputes through the adversary process, at both the trial and appellate levels, and rely on precedents for guidance in making decisions. In the adversary process, each side has the right to present its case as persuasively as possible and either a judge or jury decides in favor of one side or the other.
- Every individual has an absolute right to bring a case in federal court if the court has jurisdiction and every plaintiff or accused has the right of appeal of the district court's decision to the Circuit Court of Appeals. Very rarely does a case go as far as the Supreme Court.
- In criminal cases, the courts provide legal assistance free of charge to defendants who cannot afford to pay for it themselves.

LEGAL VOCABULARY

THE PEOPLE:

ACCUSED – The person against whom an accusation is made, one who is charged with a crime. Often called the defendant.

ATTORNEY AT LAW – A licensed attorney, advocate or counsel employed in preparing and presenting cases in the courts.

BANKRUPTCY JUDGE - Enables people or businesses who can no longer pay creditors to organize their affairs, liquidate their debts or create a plan to pay them off and get a fresh start. Appointed for 14 year terms.

COURTROOM DEPUTY– Courtroom official is an officer of the court and keeps a record of papers filed. Deputies have custody of the pleadings and records of the trial, orders made by the judge during the trial and the concluding verdict. Other major responsibilities are to administer the oath to jurors and witnesses before they testify and mark exhibits as evidence. Outside the courtroom, they assist the judge with case management and case processing including scheduling and reviewing documents.

COURT REPORTER – Court officer who records with a special machine all spoken words in the courtroom establishing a record of the case for possible use by the jurors or for an appeal.

DEFENDANT – In a civil case, the person against whom the lawsuit is brought. In a criminal case, the person charged with committing an offense.

DISTRICT JUDGE – A federal judge who is appointed for life by the President of the U.S. with the approval of the U.S. Senate. These judges have seven basic tasks: to 1) preside over the proceedings and maintain order; 2) determine whether any of the evidence is illegal or improper; 3) give the jury instructions about the law that applies to the case and the standard to use in deciding the case; 4) if there is no jury, determine the facts and decide the case; 5) to sentence convicted criminals; 6) rule on motions and; 7) manage cases.

Federal judges may be removed from office only by Congress if they are found guilty of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER – A federal attorney appointed by a court to defend indigent criminal defendants who cannot afford to hire an attorney. The Federal Public Defender may hire deputy public defenders to assist with caseload.

JUROR – Citizen who is randomly selected to hear the facts of a case and required to follow the law as stated by the judge and reach a decision or verdict. The qualifications to be a juror include: being a U.S. Citizen over 18 years old with adequate proficiency in English and having no disqualifying mental or physical condition. The person must not have been convicted of a felony.

JURY – Panel of citizens selected and sworn to listen to evidence and reach a verdict regarding the guilt or innocence of the defendant. In federal criminal cases, there are usually twelve jurors and between one and six alternate jurors. All jurors must join in the verdict. In federal civil cases there can be from six to twelve jurors with no alternate jurors.

PARTIES - The entities (individuals, businesses, organizations or governments) who are named as plaintiffs, defendants, counterclaimants, counterdefendants or third parties directly involved in the legal proceeding.

PLAINTIFF – The entity or person who brings the legal action or lawsuit.

PROSECUTOR - Generic name for government attorney who prosecutes criminal defendants for violations of law. Is usually the U.S. Attorney or a deputy attorney.

U.S. ATTORNEY/ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY – A U.S. attorney is chosen by the President with approval of the Senate for each of the 94 judicial districts and serves as the prosecutor in criminal cases. The U.S. attorney also represents the U.S. in civil cases in which the U.S. government is a party.

U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE – Appointed by the district court for 8 year terms, they play an important role in the administration of justice by conducting preliminary hearings, setting bail, and assisting district court judges in processing cases. In civil cases, if both parties consent, the magistrate judges take cases from start to finish.

U.S. MARSHAL – An officer of the court, appointed by the President, who is responsible for security. Responsibilities include 1) protection of judges and court staff; 2) apprehension of fugitives; 3) arrests; 4) transportation of prisoners.

WITNESS - Someone who testifies under oath in a court of law or before a judicial tribunal.

OTHER VOCABULARY

ADJOURN – To end the courtroom proceeding for recess or at the end of the day.

ADVERSARY SYSTEM – The system of trial practiced in the U.S. and other countries in which both sides have a full opportunity to present and establish their opposing contentions before the court.

APPEAL – A request to a higher court to review the rulings made in a lower court for possible errors that would justify overruling the lower court's decision and perhaps granting a new trial.

ARGUMENT - Closing argument is the final summation given by the attorneys at the end of the case after all of the evidence has been presented and both sides have rested.

ARRAIGNMENT – An individual who is accused of committing a crime is brought into court, told of the charges and asked to plead guilty or not guilty.

BENCH TRIAL – Trial without a jury in which the judge makes the final decision

BRIEF – A written statement prepared by a party or the attorney which is filed in court and sets forth both the facts and laws in support of the case.

CHAMBERS – The private office or room of a judge.

CHANGE OF VENUE – The removal of a case from one county or district to another for trial.

CIVIL CASE - A non-criminal lawsuit between persons and/or organizations. For instance, when the government (federal, state or local) or an individual sues another individual or other entity. It results in a verdict for the plaintiff or for the defendant and, in many cases, involves the giving or denying of damages (money paid by one party to the other.)

CONTINUANCE – Postponement of scheduled court hearing to a later time.

CRIMINAL CASE – A case in which one or more individuals, organizations or a company, is charged with breaking a criminal law. The charges are brought in the name of a government entity, either federal, state, or city government. Jurors are asked to return a verdict of “guilty or “not guilty”. In Federal Court, the judge issues the sentence.

DAMAGES – Money paid by defendants to successful plaintiffs in civil cases to compensate the plaintiffs for their injuries.

DISCOVERY – The process by which lawyers learn about their opponent's case in preparation for trial.

DOCKET – The official record of the pleadings, motions and other papers filed in a court case. The term is also sometimes used informally to refer to a court's caseload as a whole.

DUE PROCESS OF LAW – The conduct of legal proceedings according to laws and principles of our judicial system to protect private rights. Its most essential elements include: a court with proper jurisdiction, notice of charges to each party, the opportunity for each party to present evidence and challenge that of the opposing party, orderly procedures and a neutral and unbiased judge and/or jury. Due process is a safeguard against unreasonable, arbitrary and capricious decisions.

EXAMINATION – The process by which an attorney questions witnesses in a courtroom. Direct examination is the process of questioning one's own witnesses. Cross examination is the process of questioning the other party's witnesses.

EXHIBIT – An item or other article marked for identification, which, if admitted as evidence, is shown to the judge and/or jury during a court proceeding.

FELONY – The most serious type of crime, punishable by more than one year in jail or prison. Felonies include murder, assault with a deadly weapon, and robbery to name a few.

GRAND JURY - A jury of 12 to 23 persons convened in private session to evaluate accusations against persons or organizations charged with a crime and to determine if there is enough evidence for a trial.

INDICTMENT – A final statement issued by a Grand Jury that there is just cause or sufficient evidence to bring criminal charges.

INSTRUCTIONS OR “CHARGE” TO THE JURY – A judge’s directions to the jury before it begins deliberations regarding the factual questions it must answer and the legal rules it must apply.

JURISDICTION – The basis or authority as determined by the Constitution or the Legislature indicating which courts may hear certain types of cases. This authority may be based upon geographical boundaries, amount of money involved, or the type of crime.

LAWSUIT – CASE – ACTION – All mean the same and refer to a legal dispute brought to court for resolution.

MISDEMEANOR – A crime for which the maximum penalty may not exceed one year in the county jail and where a fine may not exceed \$1,000. Examples include minor theft, resisting arrest, and disorderly conduct.

MOTION – A formal request by an attorney to the judge can be made for hundreds of reasons. One example is to have specific evidence or past behavior withheld from presentation to the jury.

OBJECTION – How an attorney argues that evidence or a line of questioning is improper

OBJECTION OVERRULED – Finding by the judge that a lawyer’s objection is not appropriate under the rules of law.

OBJECTION SUSTAINED - Finding by the judge that the objection of a lawyer is valid.

OPENING STATEMENT – A lawyer’s initial statement to the judge or jury before the introduction of any evidence describing what the case is about and what evidence the lawyer expects to bring in to prove the client’s side of the case.

ORAL ARGUMENT – An opportunity for lawyers to summarize their position before the Court. Judges also ask questions.

PLEA BARGAINING - Process where the accused and the prosecutor agree a satisfactory disposition of a criminal case, usually by the accused agreeing to plead guilty to a lesser offense.

PLEADINGS - The primary filings with the court by the parties in a lawsuit setting forth the claims and defenses against each other. Includes the complaint filed by the plaintiff and the answer filed by the defendant.

PRELIMINARY HEARING – The initial hearing given a person charged with a crime. Evidence is introduced in an attempt to establish whether a defendant should be held for trial. This hearing is open to the public and the accused person must be present and may be accompanied by an attorney.

PRETRIAL CONFERENCE - A hearing held prior to the trial between a judge and the attorneys to discuss any matters that can be resolved prior to trial and to set a trial schedule. Typically, the judge and the parties also discuss the possibility of settlement of the case.

RULING – A decision rendered by a judge on a procedural or evidentiary issue.

SENTENCE – The punishment ordered by a court for a defendant convicted of a crime.

SENTENCING GUIDELINES – A set of rules and principles established by the U.S. Sentencing Commission that trial judges use to determine the sentence for a convicted defendant.

SUBPOENA - An order for a person to appear before the court as a witness and give testimony.

SUMMONS – A directive notifying the named person that an action has begun against him or her in court and that he or she is required to file an answer to the complaint or other responsive pleading on or before a specified day.

TESTIMONY – Oral evidence given by a witness under oath.

TRANSCRIPT – The written record of the words spoken during a court proceeding.

VERDICT - The decision of a judge or jury as to the guilt of the accused.

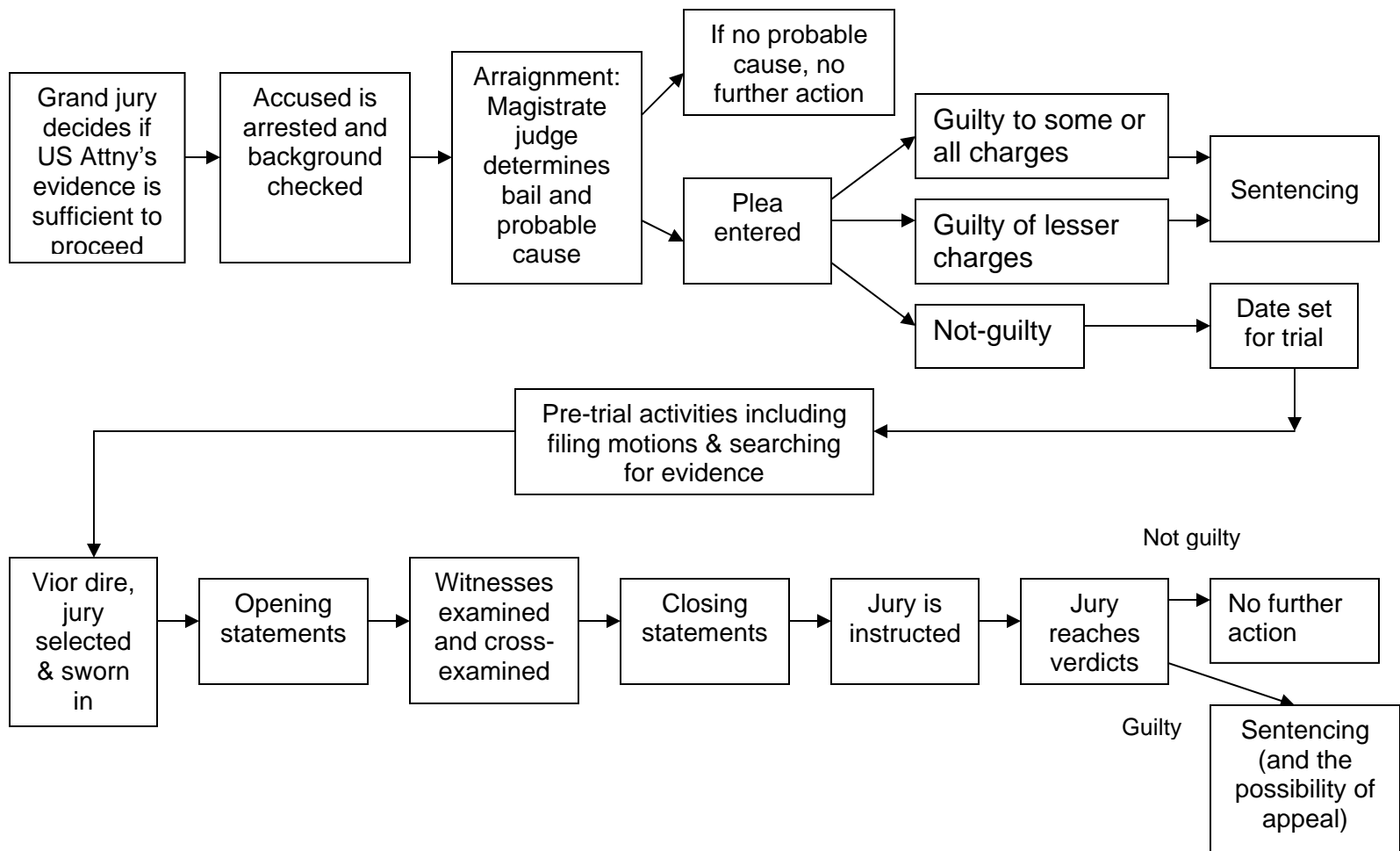
VOIR DIRE – (“To speak the truth”). The preliminary stage of jury selection when the judge and/or attorneys ask questions of prospective jurors to establish whether they are appropriate to serve on the jury for this case. Both prosecution/plaintiff and defense attorneys take turns asking questions about potential juror’s backgrounds and their beliefs regarding the people and issues involved in the case. If an attorney or the judge feel there is some reason why the juror would not be fair, the person may be excused.

STEPS IN A FEDERAL CRIMINAL TRIAL

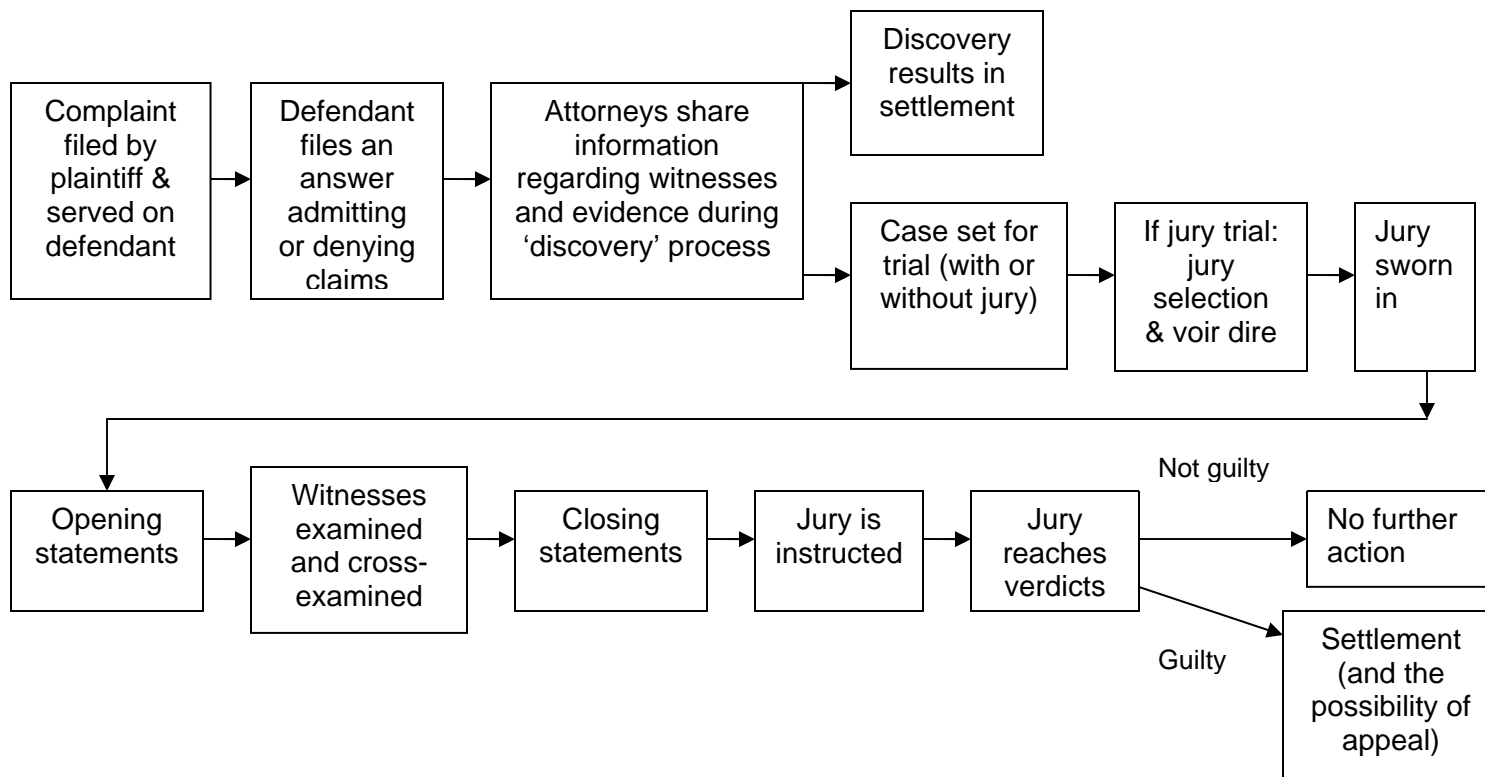
1. The judicial process in a criminal case differs from a civil case in several important ways. First, the U.S. attorney appears before the grand jury which reviews evidence and decides if it is sufficient to charge the defendant with a crime.
2. After the accused is arrested, there is an interview and background investigation by the Office of Pretrial Services. The judge uses this information to decide whether to release the defendant before trial with or without conditions of release.
3. At an initial appearance, a magistrate judge advises the defendant of the charges that have been filed. The judge also determines whether the defendant should be held in jail until trial, and whether there is probable cause to believe that he or she has committed the offense. A federal public defender is appointed if needed.
4. At the arraignment, the defendant enters a plea to the charges brought by the U.S. attorney. In more than 90% of cases, the defendant pleads guilty rather than going to trial in return for the government dropping or reducing charges. This agreement is called a “plea bargain”. If the defendant pleads guilty, the judge may impose the sentence at that time or set a sentencing hearing for a later date. If the defendant pleads not guilty, the judge will schedule a trial.
5. There is considerable pre-trial activity in a criminal trial as the defense attorney attempts to find evidence that will contradict that presented by the U.S. attorney. An important part of this investigation is based on the Fourth Amendment which forbids unreasonable searches and seizures. The defense attorney can ask the judge to exclude evidence that was gathered illegally or without a search warrant.
6. The actual trial follows the same procedure as a civil trial; however there is a much higher standard of proof for the jury to follow in determining innocence or guilt. In a criminal trial the government has the burden of proof which must also be “beyond a reasonable doubt” and so strong that there is no reasonable basis to believe the defendant could be innocent.
7. If the defendant is found not guilty, the defendant is released and the government does not have the right to appeal as the Constitution protects an accused from being tried twice for the same offense (which would be “double jeopardy”.)
8. If the defendant is found guilty, the judge determines the sentence with statutory limits. In doing so, the judge considers the arguments of the prosecutor and defense counsel, as well as the advisory U.S. sentencing guidelines. The judge also takes into account the contents of a pre-sentence report and recommendations prepared by the Department of Probation.

STEPS IN A FEDERAL CIVIL TRIAL

1. The plaintiff files a complaint with the court and a copy of the complaint is served on the defendant. The complaint describes the plaintiff's injury, explains how the defendant caused the injury and asks the court to order recompense.
2. The defendant files an answer to the plaintiff's complaint which admits or denies the plaintiff's claims.
3. Next is the "discovery" process when the attorneys must provide information to each other about the case including the identity of the witnesses and the evidence they plan to introduce. Frequently, this pretrial activity results in both parties settling the case without going to trial.
4. If there is to be a trial, either side has the opportunity to request a jury. Otherwise just a judge may hear the case.
5. Jury selection is the first step in the trial process. Citizens are randomly selected to appear for jury duty. During voir dire, the judge and/or attorneys question potential jurors. If any juror is thought to be partial to one side or the other he or she may be excused. The lawyers also have the right to dismiss a certain number of jurors without giving a reason.
6. Once the jury is selected, the attorneys give their opening statements in which they present their version of the evidence and what is to be accomplished.
7. Beginning with the plaintiff's, the attorneys then question the witnesses. Direct examination is when the attorney questions his or her own witnesses; cross-examination is when the opposing attorney questions the witness. After all the plaintiff's witnesses have been called, the defense examines its witnesses according to the same procedure.
8. When all the witnesses have been called and all the evidence and pertinent documents introduced, the attorneys make their closing arguments. The closing arguments summarize the important issues presented by each side.
9. The judge then instructs the jury explaining the relevant law, how those laws apply to this particular case, and what questions the jury must decide. In a civil case the jury must make its decision based on the "preponderance of the law." This means whether or not it seems likely that the defendant is responsible for the harm the plaintiff suffered (as opposed to being "beyond reasonable doubt"). If the jury finds that the defendant is responsible for harming the plaintiff, they will be asked to determine the amount of damages the defendant will have to pay.
10. In civil cases the verdict must be unanimous, unless the parties have agreed to accept a verdict that is not unanimous.
11. The losing party in a civil case may appeal the verdict or decision to the Court of Appeals.



Steps in a Federal Criminal Case



Steps in a Federal Civil Case

**STUDENT COURTROOM OBSERVATIONS IN
THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT**

Name of the judge _____

Type of trial or hearing – Civil or criminal _____

What was going on? _____

Record information in the chart below:

Facts	Your Opinion and Questions	What Happened?
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

What do you think the verdict will be and why?

What did you find most interesting?

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

STEPS IN A FEDERAL CRIMINAL TRIAL

Instructions: Number the following steps in the order they would occur in a real trial.

Facts of the Case: Timmy Hardwick is kidnapped by his father, Fred Hardwick, and taken across several state borders. Several witnesses notify the FBI that they have seen the pair. The U.S. Attorney is Mr. Murray. The defense attorney is Ms. Wong. Judge Suzanne Raymond is presiding.

- A. Pre-trial preparation
- B. Arraignment
- C. U.S. attorney goes before Grand Jury
- D. Plea Bargain
- E. Instructions to jury
- F. Cross-examination
- G. Sentencing by judge
- H. Appointment of public defender if needed
- I. Jury selection
- J. Closing statements

STEPS IN A FEDERAL CIVIL TRIAL

Instructions: Number the following steps in the order they would occur in a real trial.

Facts of the Case: The Federal Government is suing a tobacco company for injuring the health of American citizens. The tobacco company is represented by Mr. Wilkins. The U.S. Attorney is Ms. Anderson. Judge Harry Jones is presiding.

- A. Judge Jones explains the phrase “preponderance of the law”
- B. Discovery occurs
- C. The plaintiff files a complaint.
- D. The verdict is given by the jury foreman.
- E. Jury selection
- F. Judge Jones encourages the parties to reach a settlement
- G. Closing argument
- H. Witnesses testify for Ms. Anderson
- I. Mr. Wilkins makes his opening statement.
- J. Voir dire is completed.

STEPS IN A FEDERAL CRIMINAL TRIAL

ANSWER SHEET

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- 5 A. Pre-trial preparation
- 2 B. Arraignment
- 1 C. U.S. attorney goes before Grand Jury
- 4 D. Plea Bargain
- 9 E. Instructions to jury
- 7 F. Cross-examination
- 10 G. Sentencing by judge
- 3 H. Appointment of public defender if needed
- 6 I. Jury selection
- 8 J. Closing statements

STEPS IN A FEDERAL CIVIL TRIAL

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- 4 E. Jury selection
- 3 F. Judge Jones encourages the parties to reach a settlement
- 8 G. Closing argument
- 7 H. Witnesses testify for Ms. Anderson
- 6 I. Mr. Wilkins makes his opening statement.
- 5 J. Voir dire is completed.

A DOUBLE WHAMMY

In the Seek and Find below, circle the **titles** of persons involved in the justice system. The words go forwards, backwards, and diagonally. Below the puzzle, you will find descriptions of these people. Please fill in the blank with the correct job title(s).

V	D	E	F	E	N	D	A	N	T	T	K
H	L	Q	J	B	D	X	M	W	N	Y	W
U	S	A	T	T	O	R	N	E	Y	U	C
G	U	R	T	D	S	C	M	K	S	W	R
H	J	F	F	I	T	N	I	A	L	P	L
D	R	E	X	V	G	O	G	U	D	H	B
M	E	V	S	I	H	E	G	D	U	J	N
E	O	L	A	H	S	R	A	M	S	U	I
F	K	R	O	T	U	C	E	S	O	R	P
D	R	M	L	A	Q	R	O	Z	B	Y	L
A	C	C	U	S	E	D	H	T	U	D	C
F	R	Y	P	L	P	A	R	T	I	E	S

Appointed for life by the President with consent of Senate _____

When the accused is told of charges _____

Person who brings charges in a civil suit _____

Citizens who make decision and declare verdict _____

Person charged with committing an offense _____

Has custody of the records of a trial and administers oath _____

Protects persons in a court room _____

Name for lead federal attorney in each judicial district _____

Generic name for person who is opposite of defense attorney _____

People or companies directly involved in a legal proceeding _____

A DOUBLE WHAMMY ANSWER SHEET

In the Seek and Find below, circle the **titles** of persons involved in the justice system. The words go forwards, backwards, and diagonally. Below the puzzle, you will find descriptions of these people. Please fill in the blank with the correct job title(s).

V	D	E	F	E	N	D	A	N	T	T	K
H	L	Q	J	B	D	X	M	W	N	Y	W
U	S	A	T	T	O	R	N	E	Y	U	C
G	U	R	T	D	S	C	M	K	S	W	R
H	J	F	F	I	T	N	I	A	L	P	L
D	R	E	X	V	G	O	G	U	D	H	B
M	E	V	S	I	H	E	G	D	U	J	N
E	O	L	A	H	S	R	A	M	S	U	I
F	K	R	O	T	U	C	E	S	O	R	P
D	R	M	L	A	Q	R	O	Z	B	Y	L
A	C	C	U	S	E	D	H	T	U	D	C
F	R	Y	P	L	P	A	R	T	I	E	S

Appointed for life by the President with consent of Senate Judge

When the accused is told of charges arraignment

Person who brings charges in a civil suit plaintiff

Citizens who make decision and declare verdict jury

Person charged with committing an offense defendant/accused

Protects persons in a court room U. S. Marshal

Name for lead federal attorney in each judicial district _____

U.S. Attorney

Generic name for person who is opposite of defense attorney _____

prosecutor

People or companies directly involved in a legal proceeding _____

parties

CORRELATION OF THE FEDERAL COURTHOUSE TOUR LEARNING PACKET WITH NEVADA CIVICS AND LANGUAGE ARTS CONTENT STANDARDS

SOCIAL STUDIES

For Middle School Students:

Content Standard 1.0 Rules, Law and Government: Students know why society needs rules, laws and governments

- 1.8.1 Define the rule of law and rule of men
- 1.8.2 Describe the significance of the U.S. Constitution as a foundation of U.S. democracy
- 1.8.4 Explain the need for citizen involvement
- 1.8.5 Describe how the U.S. Constitution serves as a device for preserving national principals and as a vehicle of change

Content Standard 2.0 The U.S. Government: Students know the US Constitution and the government it creates

- 2.8.1 Explain the functions of the judicial branch as found in the U.S. Constitution
- 2.8.5 List the ways the Supreme Court determines policy including
 - Judicial review
 - Interpreting laws
 - Overruling or revising previous decisions
- 2.8.6 Describe the trial process, including the selection and responsibilities of jurors
- 2.8.7 Explain the systems of checks and balances and the role the courts play

Content Standard 3.0 National and State Government: Students can explain the relationship between the states and national government

- 3.8.1 Provide examples of governmental powers that are distributed between the state and national government
- 3.8.2 Define “federalism”

Content Standard 4.0 The Political Process: Students describe the roles of political parties, interest groups and public opinion in the democratic process

- 4.8.6 Provide examples of contemporary public issues that may require public solutions

Content Standard 5.0 Citizenship: Students know the roles, rights, and responsibilities of United States citizens and the symbols of our country

- 5.8.1 Identify the rights, privileges and responsibilities associated with U.S. citizenship including jury duty
- 5.8.4 Explain the necessity of the Bill of Rights for a democratic society
- 5.8.6 Identify examples of conflict resolution that respect individual rights in the community

LANGUAGE ARTS

Content Standard 1.0 Students know and use word analysis skills and strategies to comprehend new words

- 1.8.3 Apply knowledge of Greek and Latin derived roots and affixes to determine the meaning of unknown words and to increase vocabulary
- 1.8.4 Apply knowledge of word origins, roots, structures and context clues as well as use dictionaries and glossaries

Content Standard 2.0 Students use reading process skills and strategies to build comprehension

- 2.8.3 Apply and analyze a variety of skills and strategies such as locating essential information, verifying predictions, drawing conclusions, and making inferences to aid comprehension

Content Standard 5.0 Students write a variety of texts that inform, persuade, describe, evaluate or tell a story and are appropriate to purpose and audience

- 5.8.3 Write narratives of short stories that reveal the writer's attitude toward the subject; relate a clear coherent incident, event or situation with detail; and employ strategies such as relevant dialogue and physical description
- 5.8.5 Write summaries that present main ideas and key supporting information

Content Standard 6.0 Students write with a clear focus and logical development, evaluating, revising, and editing for organization, style, tone and word choice

- 6.8.2 Use organizing techniques appropriate to the purpose for writing
- 6.8.3 Write coherent compositions with a controlling impression or thesis statement
- 6.8.4 Revise writing
- 6.8.5 Edit for use of standard English
- 6.8.6 Produce writing with a voice that is expressive and appropriate audience and purpose
- 6.8.7 Share final drafts with a designated audience

Content Standard 7.0 Students write using standard English grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization and spelling

- 7.8.1 Apply the rules of usage and grammar
- 7.8.2 Use varied sentence structure to reinforce the presentation of personal writing style
- 7.8.3 Use correct punctuation
- 7.8.4 Use rules of capitalization
- 7.8.5 Demonstrate conventional spelling

Content Standard 8.0 Students listen to and evaluate oral communication for content, style, speaker's purpose, and audience appropriateness

- 8.8.1 Identify and paraphrase a speaker's main ideas and supporting evidence to draw meaning from and ask relevant questions about content and purpose of oral presentations
- 8.8.2 Evaluate content and delivery of oral presentation using given criteria and provide constructive feedback
- 8.8.4 Follow multi-step oral directions to complete a complex task

Content Standard 9.0 Students speak using organization, style, tone, voice and media aids appropriate to audience and purpose

- 9.8.1 Use specific and varied vocabulary and apply standard English to communicate ideas
- 9.8.2 Select and use vocabulary and public speaking techniques appropriate to audience and purpose.

CORRELATION OF THE COURTHOUSE TOUR LEARNING PACKET WITH NEVADA CIVICS STANDARDS

For High School Government Students

Content Standard 1.0 Rules and Law: Students know why society needs rules, laws, and government

- 1.12.1 Explain the concept of the rule of law
- 1.12.4 Analyze the role of citizen participation in U.S. civic life
- 1.12.5 Identify and explain changes in the interpretation and application of the U.S. Constitution

Content Standard 2.0 The U.S. Government: Students know the United States Constitution and the government it creates

- 2.12.1 Explain the organization of the U.S. Constitution and describe the structure it creates including the judicial branch
- 2.12.5 Describe the jurisdiction of the federal court system and the power of judicial review
- 2.12.6 Explain the importance of the jury process in a democratic society

Content Standard 5.0 Students know the roles, rights and responsibilities of U.S citizens and the symbols of their country

- 5.12.1 Examine the rights of citizens and how these rights may be restricted
- 5.12.2 Examine the responsibilities of U.S. citizens
- 5.12.3 Explain symbols and documents of a nation and how they represent its identity
- 5.12.4 Describe the development of the Bill of Rights and provide a contemporary application
- 5.12.5 Analyze the U.S. constitution and its amendments in protecting individual rights, including the Fourteenth Amendment's provisions for due process and equal protection
- 5.12.7 Describe the role of the U.S. Supreme Court as guardian of individual rights through the examination of landmark cases

Content Standard 6.0 Students know the structure and functions of state and local governments

- 6.12.4 Describe the differences between the local, state and federal court systems