



Key Terms

Appeal—Request by the losing party in a case that the judgment be reviewed by a higher court.

Appellate (Court)—A court that reviews judgments of a trial court; relating to an appeal.

Circuit—A geographical court jurisdiction composed of one or more states. There are 12 circuits in the federal court system of the United States.

District court—Court of limited jurisdiction that hears all civil cases involving \$4,000 or less, juvenile matters, city and county ordinances, traffic offenses, probate of wills and felony preliminaries. Guardianship and conservatorship for disabled persons are in district court, as well as voluntary and involuntary mental commitments, and cases related to domestic violence and abuse. Small claims court is also a part of the district court.

Judicial District—A geographical court jurisdiction composed of one or more counties.

Judiciary—System of judicial authority in a government; courts and judges, collectively.

Probate—The legal process of determining the validity of a will.