

Judiciary Act of 1789

- The Judiciary Act of 1789 had two main goals:
 - o Sought to establish the federal court structure
 - Supreme Court
 - Circuit Courts
 - District Courts
 - o To specify the jurisdiction of the federal courts (see below)

Jurisdiction of Federal Courts

Jurisdiction of the Lower Federal Courts (District – original jurisdiction -> Circuit – appeals)

Subjects Falling Under Their Authority:

- Cases involving the U.S. Constitution, federal laws, and treaties
- Cases affecting ambassadors, public ministers, and consuls
- Cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction

Parties Falling Under Their Authority:

- United States
- Controversies between two or more states
- Controversies between a state and citizens of another state (modified in 1795 with the 11th Amendment)
- Controversies between citizens of different states
- Controversies between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states.
- Controversies between a state, or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens, or subjects.

Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

Original Jurisdiction

- Cases affecting ambassadors, public ministers, and consuls
- Cases to which the state is a party

Appellate Jurisdiction

- Cases falling under the jurisdiction of the lower federal courts, “with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.”