

# **Introduction to Law**

**Fall – Spring**

**2011-2012**

**Mr. John Myers**



About me...

❖ Shippensburg University

B.S. Ed. - Comprehensive Social Studies

History Concentration

Geography Minor

❖ Penn State University

M.A. - American Studies

❖ Social Studies Department Chairman

Started at D.A.H.S. -1994

❖ Married for 15 years with three daughters (13, 11, & 9)  
who are students in the D.A.S.D.

❖ Hobbies – fitness activities, home improvement  
projects, reading

# Unit One

## Introduction to Law and the Legal System

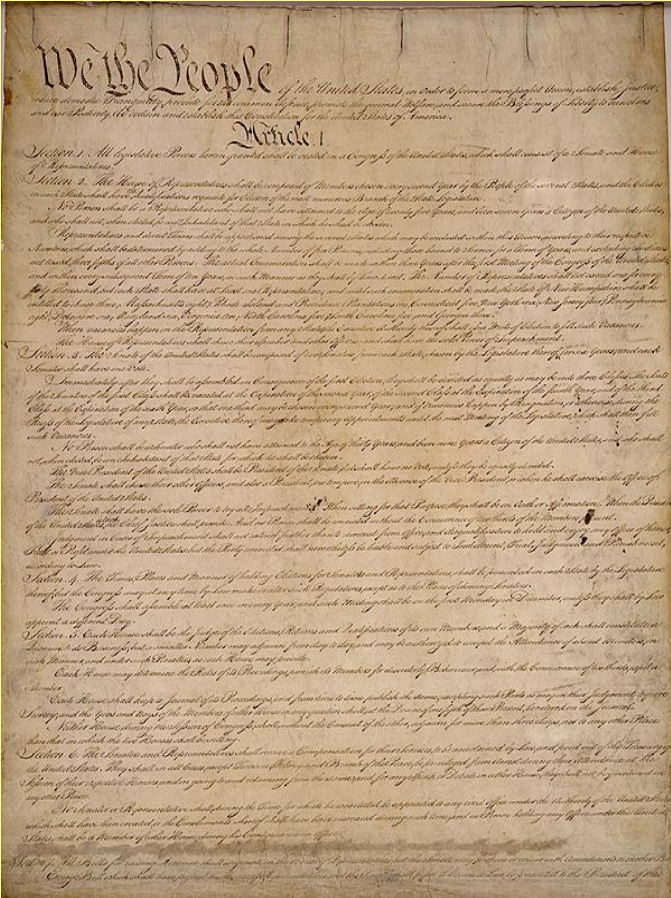
*What is Law?*



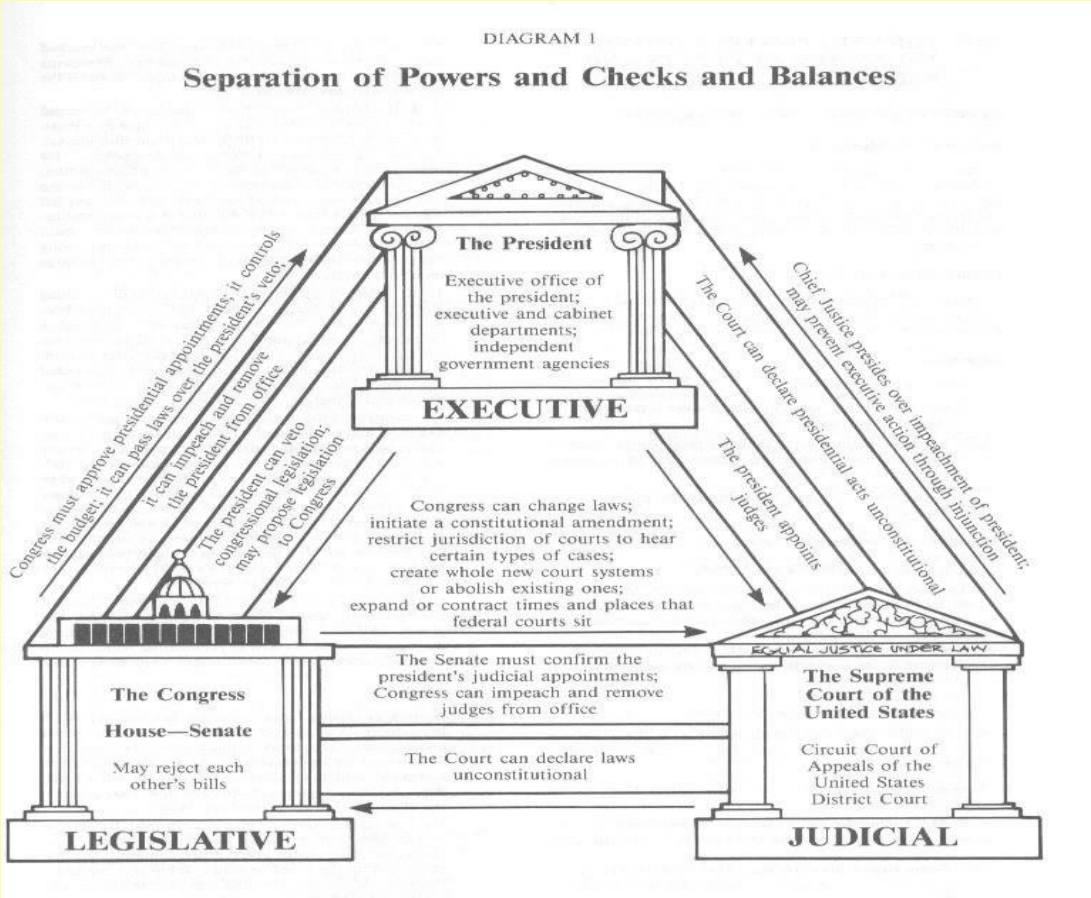
# Unit Two – The U.S Constitution

## Chapter 36

### The Constitution



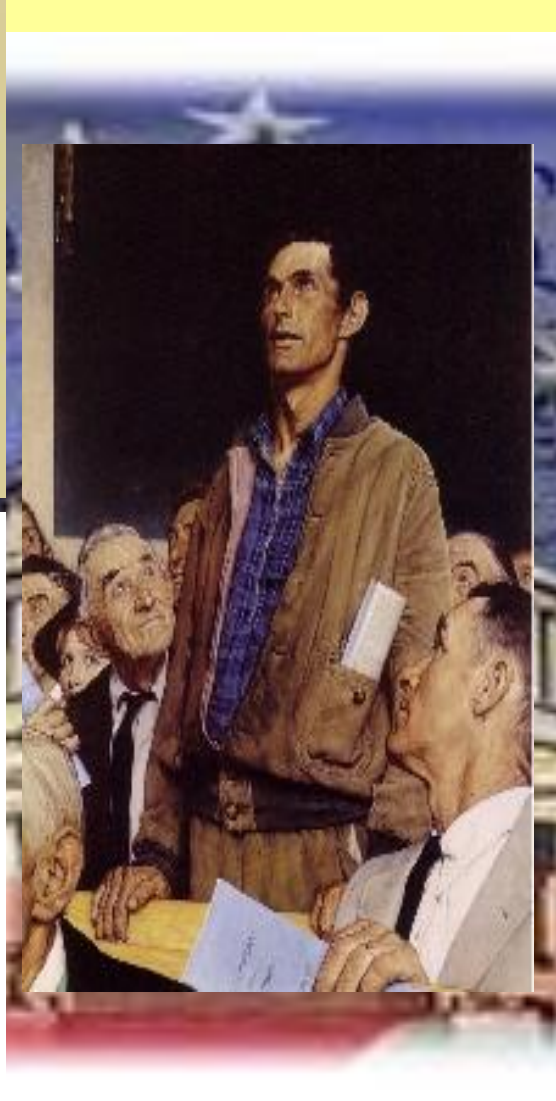
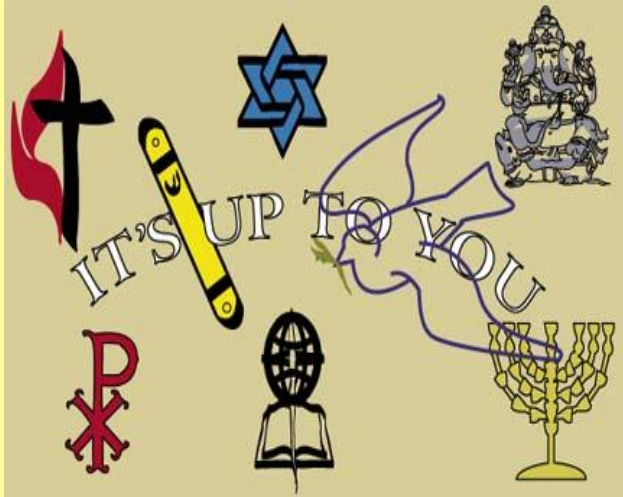
### Structure of Government





# Unit Three – Chapters 37-42

## Individual Rights and Liberties

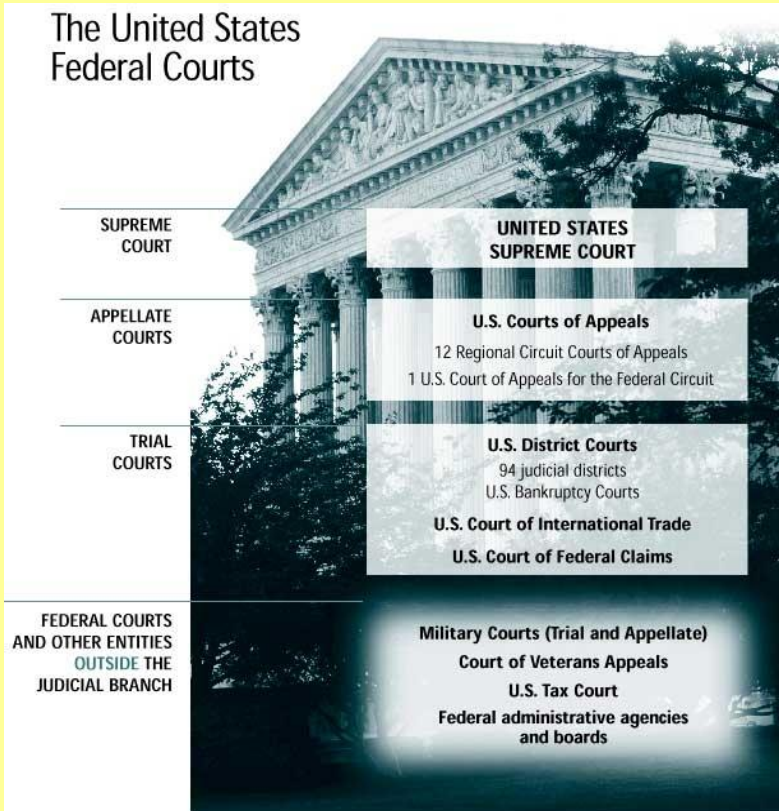


# Unit Four – The Judicial Branch

## Chapter 5

### *Federal Court Structure*

The United States  
Federal Courts



### *Pennsylvania Court Structure*





# Unit Four – Landmark Supreme Court Decisions

LANDMARK DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Marbury v. Madison

MARSHALL ESTABLISHED THE CONSTITUTION AS THE SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND AND AFFIRMED THE ROLE OF THE COURT.

1803

THE SUPREME COURT'S IMPORTANCE WAS FURTHER ESTABLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF CHIEF JUSTICE JOHN MARSHALL.

**What caused the case?**  
The new federal government was in conflict between the federal government and the states. In 1800, Federalist President John Adams chose a number of Federalist judges to preside over the new government. When Thomas Jefferson took office in 1801, he appointed new judges to the Supreme Court. But Mr. Adams had already appointed William Marbury to be a justice of the Supreme Court. Marbury was not sworn in until after Jefferson took office. But Jefferson's Secretary of State James Madison refused to deliver the papers to Marbury. Marbury sued Madison to force him to deliver the papers. Under Section 13 of the Judiciary Act, the Secretary was required to deliver the papers to Marbury. Marbury sued Madison to force him to deliver the papers.

**What did the court do?**  
The Supreme Court did not have Marbury's appointment was unconstitutional. But it also ruled that the Constitution was the supreme law of the land. This ruling made it clear that the Constitution was superior to any laws passed by Congress. It also ruled that the Court had the power to strike down laws that were unconstitutional. This is known as judicial review.

**What was the impact?**  
Marbury v. Madison may have been the Supreme Court's most important ruling. This ruling made it clear that the Constitution was superior to any laws passed by Congress. It also ruled that the Court had the power to strike down laws that were unconstitutional. This is known as judicial review.

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LANDMARK DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Plessy v. Ferguson

PLESSY V. FERGUSON AFFIRMED A "SEPARATE BUT EQUAL" POLICY THAT ALLOWED WIDESPREAD SEGREGATION TO THRIVE IN THE SOUTH.

1896

PLESSY V. FERGUSON UPHOLD THE "Jim Crow" LAWS THAT HELPED MAINTAIN SEGREGATION IN THE SOUTH.

**What caused the case?**  
The case of Plessy v. Ferguson arose when Homer Plessy, a man who was half white and half black, was arrested for sitting in a "whites only" train car. He was charged with violating Louisiana's Separate Car Act, which required that rail cars be segregated by race. Plessy argued that the law violated the 14th Amendment, which guarantees equal protection under the law. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the state, upholding the law.

**What did the court do?**  
The Supreme Court upheld the law. The Court ruled that the law did not violate the 14th Amendment. The Court stated that the law was a reasonable exercise of the state's police power. The Court also ruled that the law did not create separate but equal facilities. The Court stated that the law was necessary to maintain public order and safety.

**What was the impact?**  
Plessy v. Ferguson allowed the "Jim Crow" laws to continue. The Court ruled that the law was a reasonable exercise of the state's police power. The Court also ruled that the law did not create separate but equal facilities. The Court stated that the law was necessary to maintain public order and safety.

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LANDMARK DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Brown v. Board of Education

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION CHALLENGED THE "SEPARATE BUT EQUAL" POLICY AND HELPED TO END SEGREGATION IN SCHOOLS.

1954

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION CHALLENGED THE "SEPARATE BUT EQUAL" POLICY AND HELPED TO END SEGREGATION IN SCHOOLS.

**What caused the case?**  
The case of Brown v. Board of Education arose when a group of African American parents in Topeka, Kansas, sued the local school board. The parents argued that the school board's policy of segregating children in public schools violated the 14th Amendment. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the parents, declaring that segregation in public schools was unconstitutional.

**What did the court do?**  
The Supreme Court ruled that segregation in public schools was unconstitutional. The Court stated that the "separate but equal" doctrine was no longer valid. The Court ruled that the school board's policy violated the 14th Amendment.

**What was the impact?**  
Brown v. Board of Education helped to end segregation in schools. The Court ruled that the "separate but equal" doctrine was no longer valid. The Court ruled that the school board's policy violated the 14th Amendment.

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LANDMARK DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Gideon v. Wainwright

GIDEON V. WAINWRIGHT ESTABLISHED THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY.

1963

GIDEON V. WAINWRIGHT ESTABLISHED THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY.

**What caused the case?**  
The case of Gideon v. Wainwright arose when Clarence Gideon, a man who was poor, was arrested for breaking and entering. He was charged with a crime but could not afford an attorney. He was sentenced to prison without a lawyer. Gideon appealed his conviction, arguing that he had the right to an attorney. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Gideon, declaring that everyone has the right to an attorney.

**What did the court do?**  
The Supreme Court ruled that everyone has the right to an attorney. The Court stated that the right to an attorney is a fundamental right. The Court ruled that the state must provide an attorney for anyone who cannot afford one.

**What was the impact?**  
Gideon v. Wainwright established that everyone has the right to an attorney. The Court stated that the right to an attorney is a fundamental right. The Court ruled that the state must provide an attorney for anyone who cannot afford one.

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LANDMARK DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Miranda v. Arizona

MIRANDA V. ARIZONA CONFIRMED THAT AN INDIVIDUAL ACCUSED OF A CRIME MUST BE INFORMED OF HIS OR HER CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

1966

MIRANDA V. ARIZONA CONFIRMED THAT AN INDIVIDUAL ACCUSED OF A CRIME MUST BE INFORMED OF HIS OR HER CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

**What caused the case?**  
The case of Miranda v. Arizona arose when Ernesto Miranda, a man who was poor, was arrested for kidnapping. He was charged with a crime but was not informed of his rights. He was convicted and sentenced to prison. Miranda appealed his conviction, arguing that he was not informed of his rights. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Miranda, declaring that individuals must be informed of their rights before being questioned.

**What did the court do?**  
The Supreme Court ruled that individuals must be informed of their rights before being questioned. The Court stated that the right to remain silent is a fundamental right. The Court ruled that the police must inform individuals of their rights before questioning them.

**What was the impact?**  
Miranda v. Arizona established that individuals must be informed of their rights before being questioned. The Court stated that the right to remain silent is a fundamental right. The Court ruled that the police must inform individuals of their rights before questioning them.

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LANDMARK DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT

## Roe v. Wade

ROE V. WADE AFFIRMED A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT HER BODY, INCLUDING THE DECISION TO HAVE AN ABORTION.

1973

ROE V. WADE AFFIRMED A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT HER BODY, INCLUDING THE DECISION TO HAVE AN ABORTION.

**What caused the case?**  
The case of Roe v. Wade arose when Norma McCorvey, a woman who was poor, was pregnant. She was arrested and charged with having an abortion. She was convicted and sentenced to prison. McCorvey appealed her conviction, arguing that she had the right to an abortion. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of McCorvey, declaring that women have the right to an abortion.

**What did the court do?**  
The Supreme Court ruled that women have the right to an abortion. The Court stated that the right to privacy is a fundamental right. The Court ruled that the state cannot interfere with a woman's right to an abortion.

**What was the impact?**  
Roe v. Wade established that women have the right to an abortion. The Court stated that the right to privacy is a fundamental right. The Court ruled that the state cannot interfere with a woman's right to an abortion.

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# Unit Five – Criminal Law

## Chapters 7 - 11

*...Against People*



*...Against Property*





*Investigation*



**Unit Six – Criminal Procedure**

**Chapters 12 - 15**

*Trial and Sentencing*



*Corrections*



# Introduction to Law Opportunities

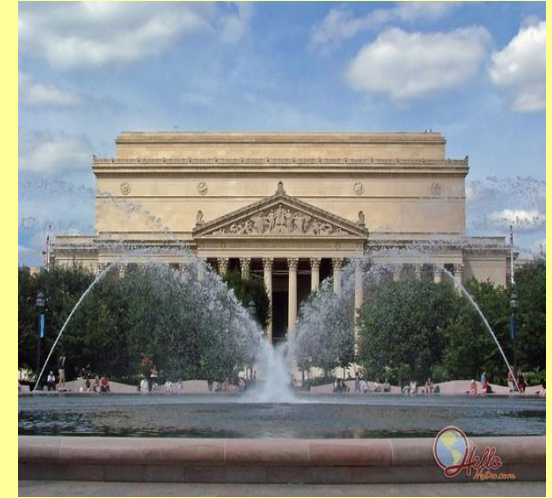


- Ride-Along Program with the YARPD



- York County Judicial Center Field Trip

- Guest Speakers from the York County D.A.'s Office and local law firms



Washington, D.C. Field Trip



Philadelphia Field Trip



Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

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