**Who Has Jurisdiction?**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read each situation below and decide what court would have jurisdiction over the case. Be sure to list the court, federal or state if necessary, and criminal or civil if necessary.

1. A large corporation is charged with not paying their federal income taxes. What court will hear this case?

US District Court, Criminal

2. The Texas Supreme Court rules that a man who lost his leg in a car wreck can recover damages only for that injury unless he can prove that his other disabilities resulted from that wreck. From what court was this appealed to the Texas Supreme Court?

Texas Court of Appeals

3. A man sues a restaurant in Dallas that he claims denied him service because he was a Native American. What court has jurisdiction for this case?

US District Court, Civil

4. Three U.T. football players allegedly vandalize and spray paint “Hook ‘Em” on the side of the Texas A&M Football Stadium, causing $30,000 in damages. Who will make a decision about whether or not there is enough evidence to put these men on trial? If they are indicted, what court will have jurisdiction?

Grand Jury decides to indict. State District Court hears the criminal case.

5. The state of California is suing Arizona over rights to water in the Colorado River. Who will hear this case?

US Supreme Court hears cases between states.

6. An Austin woman found guilty on charges of felonious assault claims she was denied the right to present favorable witnesses at her trial. She appeals. What court will hear her case?

Texas Court of Appeals

7. A 12 year old boy is charged with breaking into Hill Country Middle School and stealing a computer. What court has jurisdiction?

Texas (state) District Court

8. A deranged, pathetic man who attended Lake Travis High School is charged with engaging in counterfeiting $20 bills. Who has jurisdiction for this case?

US District Court, criminal.

9. A woman is found guilty of J-walking and ordered to pay a $35 fine. She appeals the ruling and will have an entirely new trial. Where was the case originally heard? Who will have jurisdiction over the new hearing? Why is there a new trial? J.P. Court. County Court. No court record of first trial.

10. A man is charged driving while intoxicated (DWI). Who will have jurisdiction over this case?

County Court

11. A man is found guilty of bank robbery. He appeals, and the ruling is overturned on a technicality. The prosecution appeals that ruling, saying the appellate court misapplied the law. What court would have jurisdiction over this situation?

US Supreme Court

12. A woman found guilty of kidnapping is upset with the verdict and swears she is innocent. She wants an appeal. Who will hear her appeal? Why? No one. She does not have a good legal question for appeal.