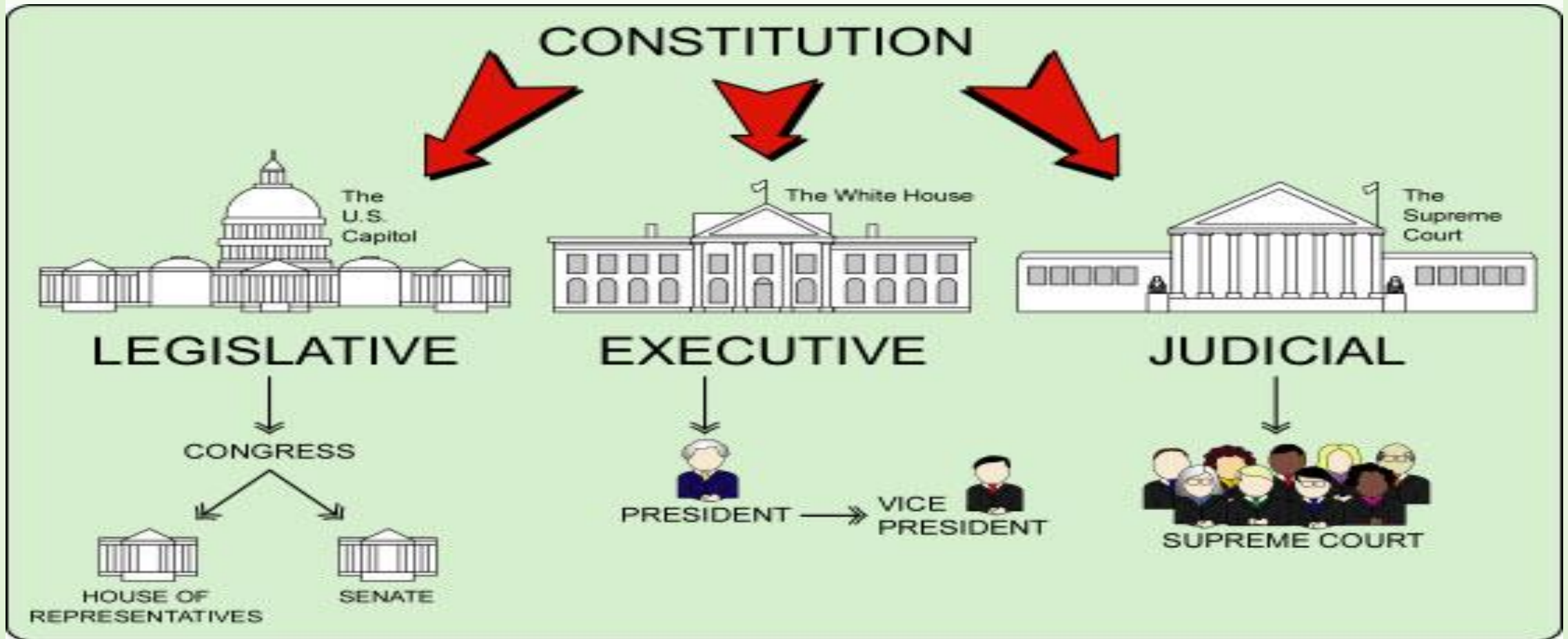


# The 3 Branches of Government



**NATIONAL TO LOCAL LEVELS**

# Essential Ideas

- The Constitution gives the legislative branch – Congress – the power to make laws.
- The Constitution gives the executive branch the power to execute, or implement, the law.
- The judicial branches interprets the laws.
- Under our federal system, power is shared between the national government and the state governments.
- Local governments are established to provide order and security to citizens while accomplishing common goals.



# The US Government

## LEVELS

- National
- State
- Local
  - County
  - Cities
  - Towns
  - Townships
  - Villages



## BRANCHES

- Executive
- Judicial
- Legislative



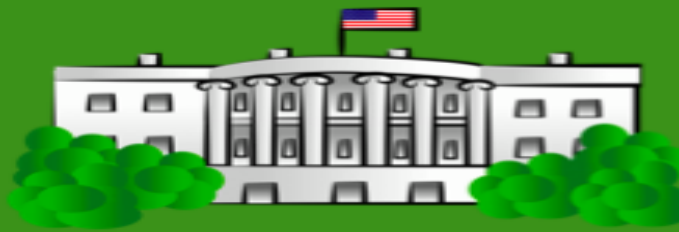
# National Government

## LEGISLATIVE



- ★ Makes laws
- ★ Approves presidential appointments
- ★ Two senators from each state
- ★ The number of congressmen is based on population

## EXECUTIVE



- ★ Signs laws
- ★ Vetoes laws
- ★ Pardons people
- ★ Appoints federal judges
- ★ Elected every four years

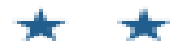
## JUDICIAL



- ★ Decides if laws are constitutional
- ★ Are appointed by the president
- ★ There are 9 justices
- ★ Can overturn rulings by other judges



# 3 BRANCHES *of* U.S. GOVERNMENT



 **Constitution**  
(provided a separation of powers)



**Legislative**  
(makes laws)



Congress



Senate



House of  
Representatives



**Executive**  
(carries out laws)



President



Vice President



Cabinet



**Judicial**  
(evaluates laws)



Supreme Court



Other  
Federal Courts

# United States Government



## Executive Branch

President

Vice President

Cabinet



## Legislative Branch

Congress

Senate

House of  
Representatives



## Judicial Branch

Supreme Court

Department of Agriculture

Department of Defense  
(DOD)

Department of Commerce

Department of Education

Department of Interior

Department of Justice  
(DOJ)

Department of Energy  
(DOE)

Department of Health and  
Human Services (HHS)

Department of Housing and  
Urban Development (HUD)

Department of Labor

Department of State

Department of  
Transportation (DOT)

Department of Treasury

Department of Veteran  
Affairs (VA)



# Article II: Executive Branch



- President and Vice President are elected to 4 year terms
- Qualifications:
  - At least 35 years old
  - 14 year resident of the US
  - Natural born citizen
- Elected by the Electoral College
- Important powers:
  - Commander-in-Chief
  - Grant pardons
  - Make treaties
  - Appoint justices of the Supreme Court
  - Ensure laws are executed
  - Appoint his Cabinet



# *The President's Cabinet*



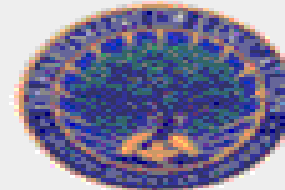
**Department of  
Agriculture**



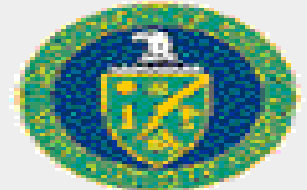
**Department  
of Commerce**



**Department  
of Defense**



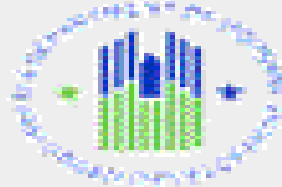
**Department  
of Education**



**Department  
of Energy**



**Department of  
Health and  
Human Services**



**Department of  
Housing and Urban  
Development**



**Department of  
the Interior**



**Department  
of Justice**



**Department  
of Labor**



**Department  
of State**



**Department of  
Transportation**



**Department of  
the Treasury**



**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**



# THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

```
graph TD; A[THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH] --> B[CONGRESS]; B --> C[ELECTED BY POPULAR VOTE]; C --> D[SENATE]; C --> E[HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES]; D --> F[SERVE 6 YEAR TERMS]; D --> G[2 PER STATE]; E --> H[BASED ON POPULATION]; E --> I[SERVE 2 YEAR TERMS];
```

**CONGRESS**

**ELECTED BY POPULAR VOTE**

**SENATE**

**HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES**

**2 PER  
STATE**

**BASED ON  
POPULATION**

**SERVE  
2 YEAR  
TERMS**

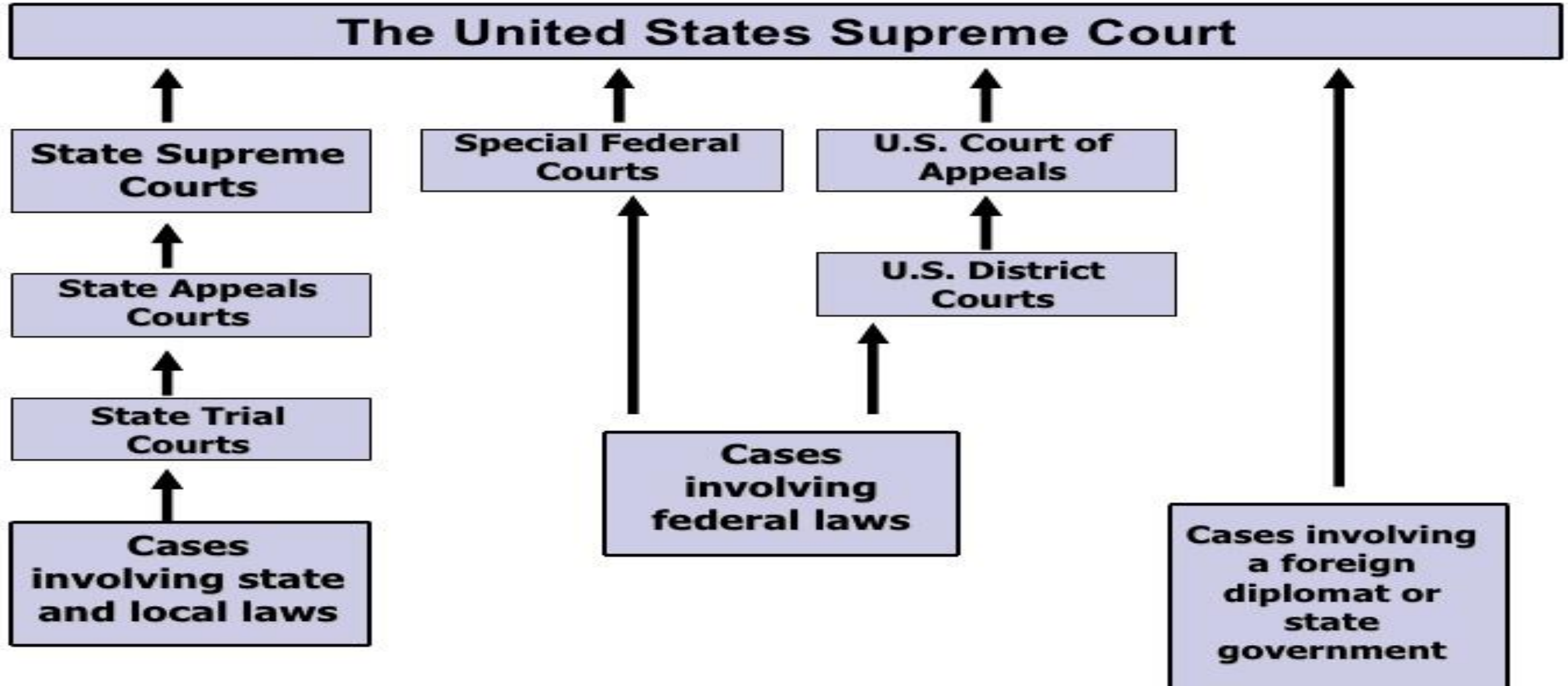
**SERVE  
6 YEAR  
TERMS**

<b>Senate</b>	<b>House</b>
<b>Smaller body: 100 members</b>	<b>Larger body: 435 members</b>
<b>Longer term: 6 years</b>	<b>Shorter term: 2 years</b>
<b>Larger constituencies: members represent the entire state</b>	<b>Smaller constituencies: members represent districts within the state</b>
<b>Older membership</b>	<b>Younger membership</b>
<b>More prestige than the House</b>	<b>Less prestige than the Senate</b>
<b>Higher visibility in news media than the House</b>	<b>Lower visibility in the news media than the Senate</b>
<b>Weaker centralization of power, less leadership</b>	<b>Stronger centralization of power, more leadership</b>
<b>Unlimited debate</b>	<b>Limited debate</b>
<b>Has the power of confirmation</b>	<b>Does not have the power of confirmation</b>

# COMPARING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SENATE

House		Senate
435	Number of Members	100
2 Years	Length of Terms	6 Years
25	Minimum Age for Members	30
Many Rules, More Formal	Organization	Few Rules, Less Formal
By Population	Representation of the States	Equal

# The Judiciary Branch







## Supreme Court

- Highest court in the federal system
- Nine Justices, meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Appeals jurisdiction through *certiorari* process
- Limited original jurisdiction over some cases



## Courts of Appeal

- Intermediate level in the federal system
- 12 regional "circuit" courts, including D.C. Circuit
- No original jurisdiction; strictly appellate



## District Courts

- Lowest level in the federal system
- 94 judicial districts in 50 states & territories
  - No appellate jurisdiction
- Original jurisdiction over most cases



# SUPREME COURT

```
graph TD; SC[Supreme Court] --> LC[Legislative Courts<br/>Court of Military Appeals, etc.]; SC --> CA[12 Courts of Appeal]; SC --> CACF[Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit]; LC --> IRA[Independent Regulatory Agencies]; CA --> DC[94 District Courts]; CACF --> SC_S[Specialized Courts<br/>U.S. Claims Court, etc.];
```

Legislative Courts  
Court of Military Appeals, etc.

12 Courts of Appeal

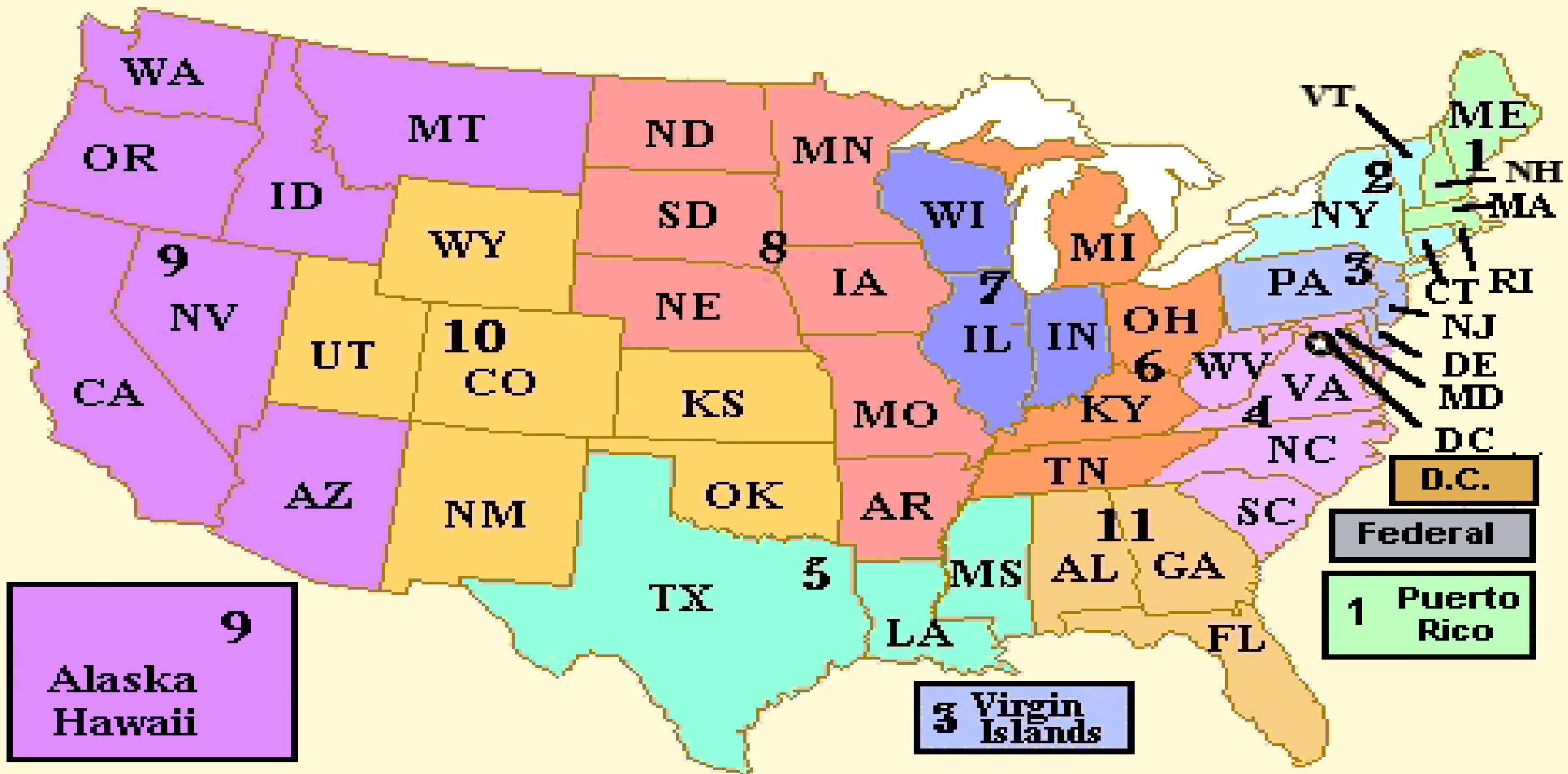
Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Independent Regulatory Agencies

94 District Courts

Specialized Courts  
U.S. Claims Court, etc.

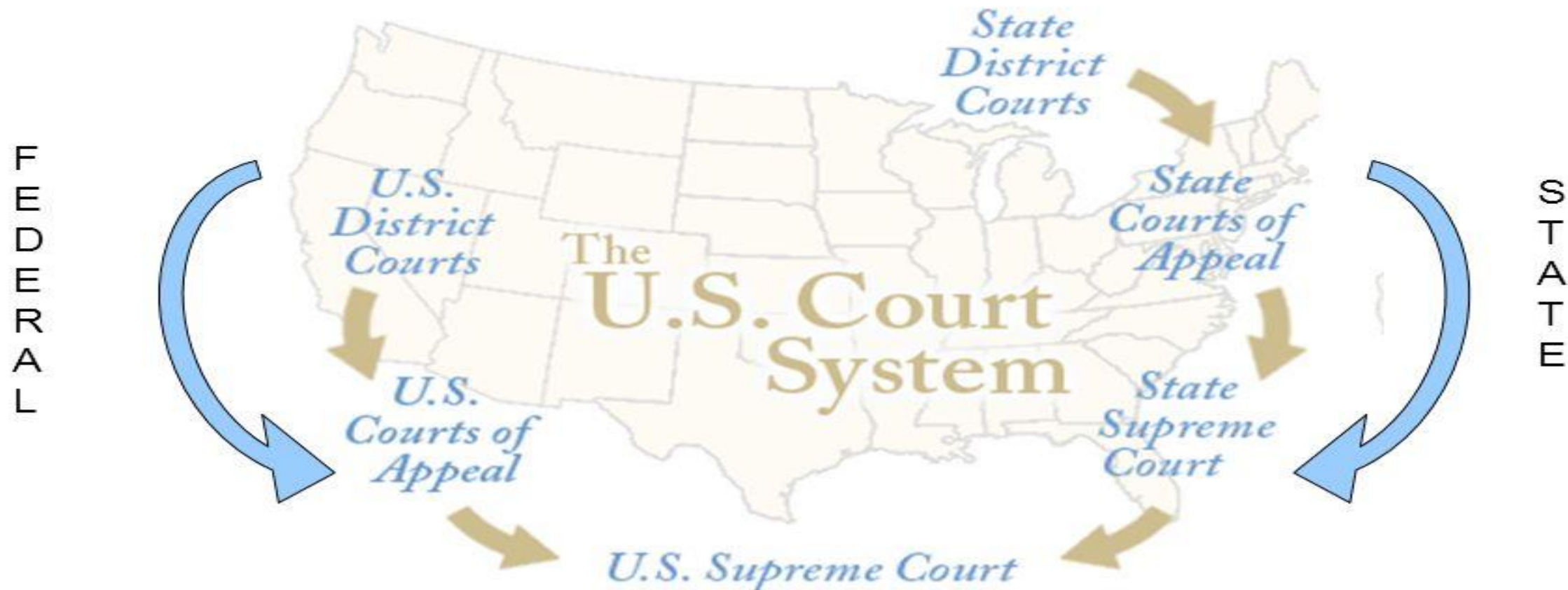
# The Federal Judicial Circuits

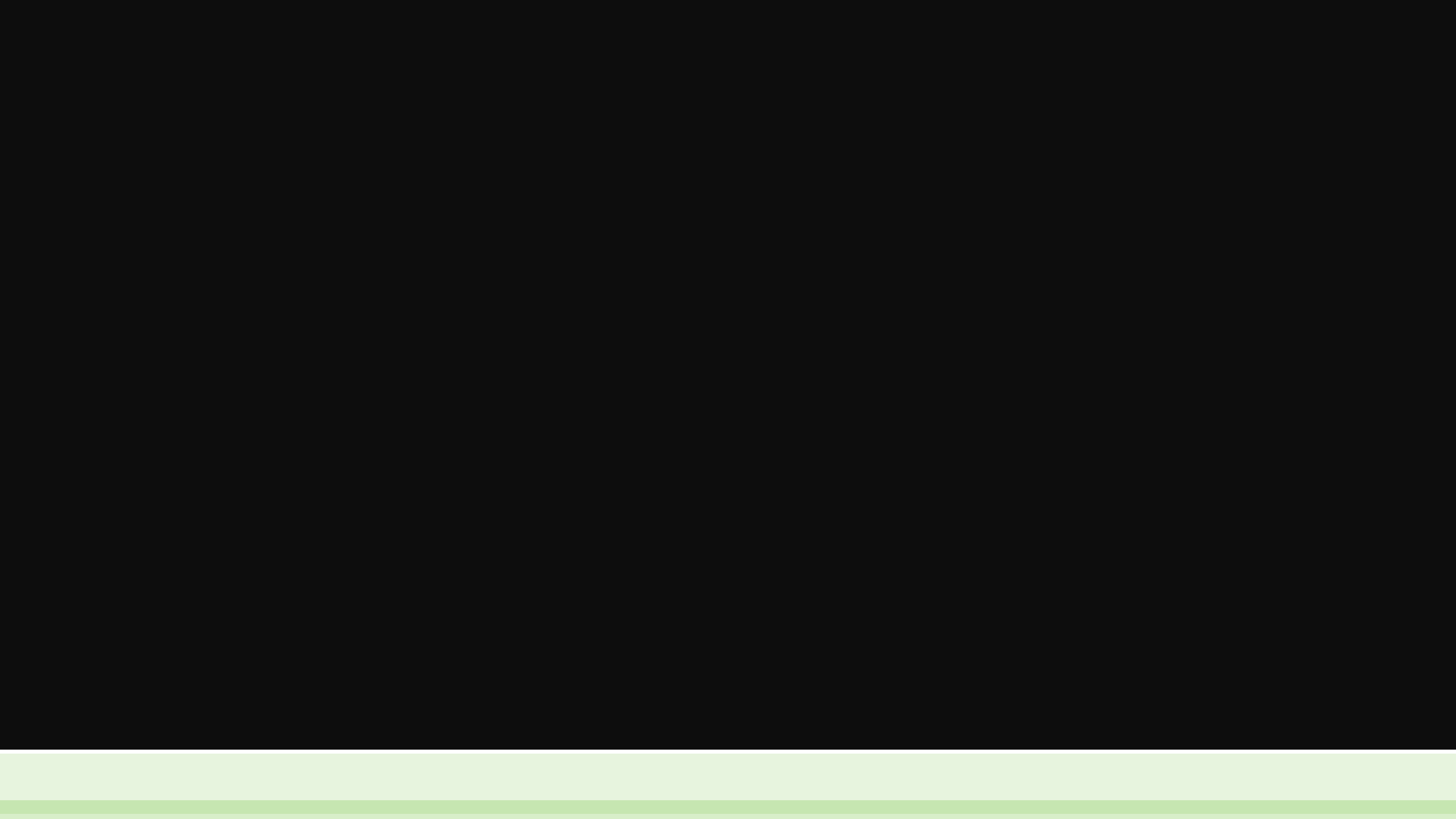


# The United States Dual Court System

You may take 2 routes to get to the Supreme Court!

1. Federal Court system
2. State Court system









## FEDERAL POWERS

- ★ Regulate interstate and foreign trade
- ★ Raise and support armed forces
- ★ Declare war and sign peace treaties
- ★ Coin and print money
- ★ Grant patents and copyrights
- ★ Establish federal courts
- ★ Govern territories and admit new states
- ★ Set weights and measures
- ★ Establish a postal system
- ★ Regulate immigration

## SHARED POWERS FEDERAL & STATES

- ★ Collect taxes
- ★ Borrow money
- ★ Make and enforce laws
- ★ Establish and maintain courts
- ★ Charter banks
- ★ Provide for the public welfare

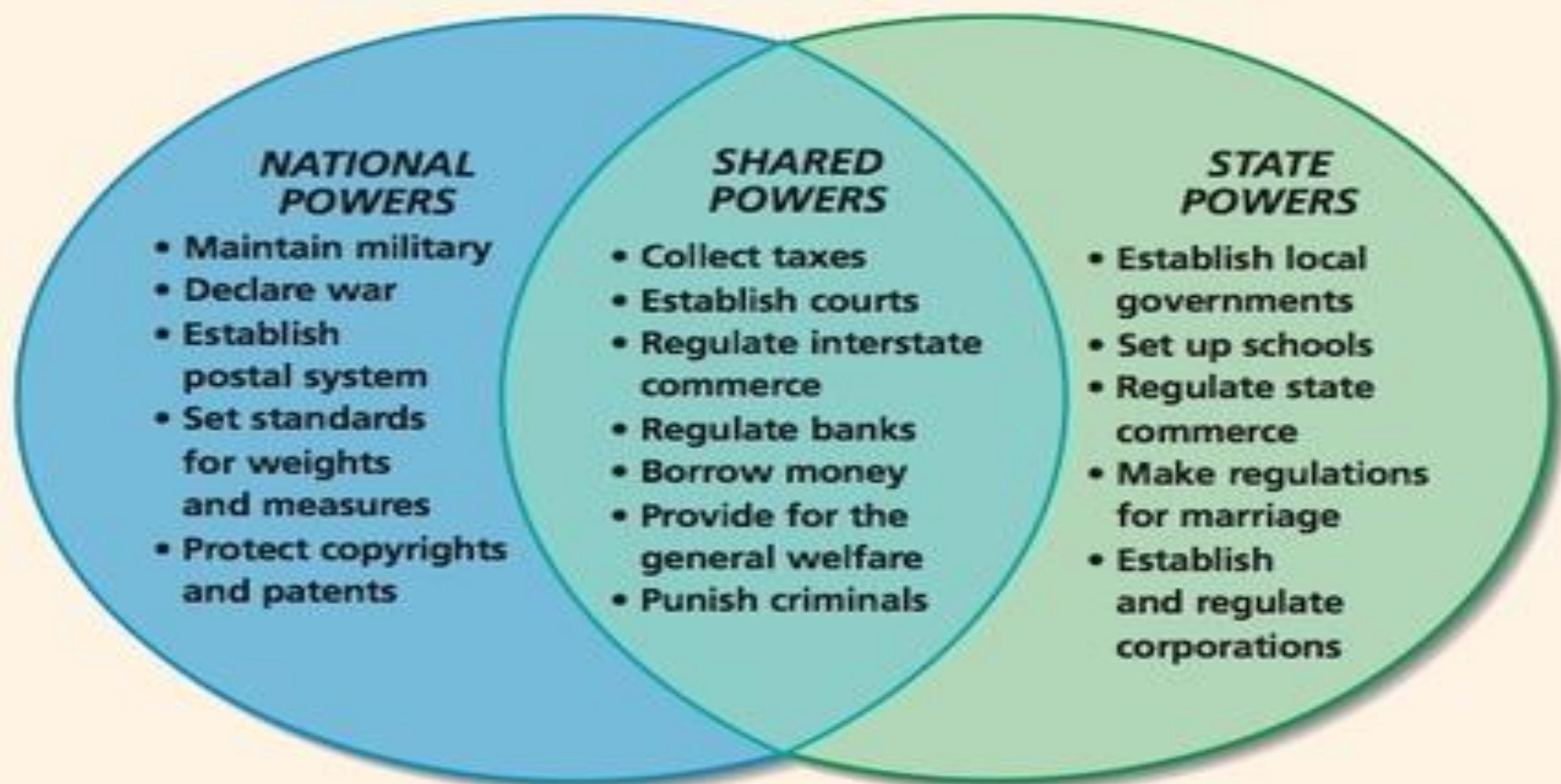
## STATES POWERS

- ★ Regulate trade within the state
- ★ Make business and corporate laws
- ★ Establish and maintain public schools
- ★ Set up local governments
- ★ Pass marriage and divorce laws
- ★ Conduct elections
- ★ Ratify constitutional

THE CONSTITUTION DIVIDES POWER BETWEEN STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS



**Americans live under both  
national and state governments.**





# State Governments

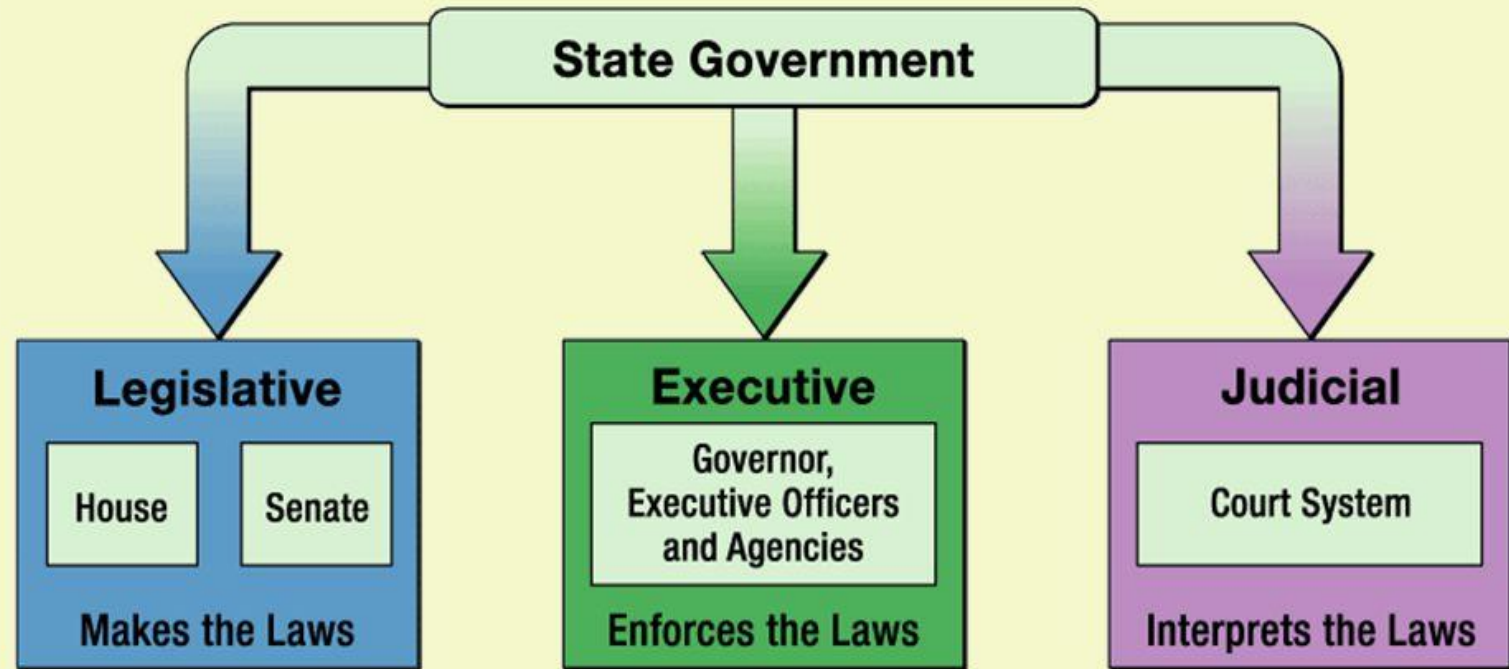
State Constitutions are similar in structure to the National Constitution.

Elected officials are chosen by popular vote.

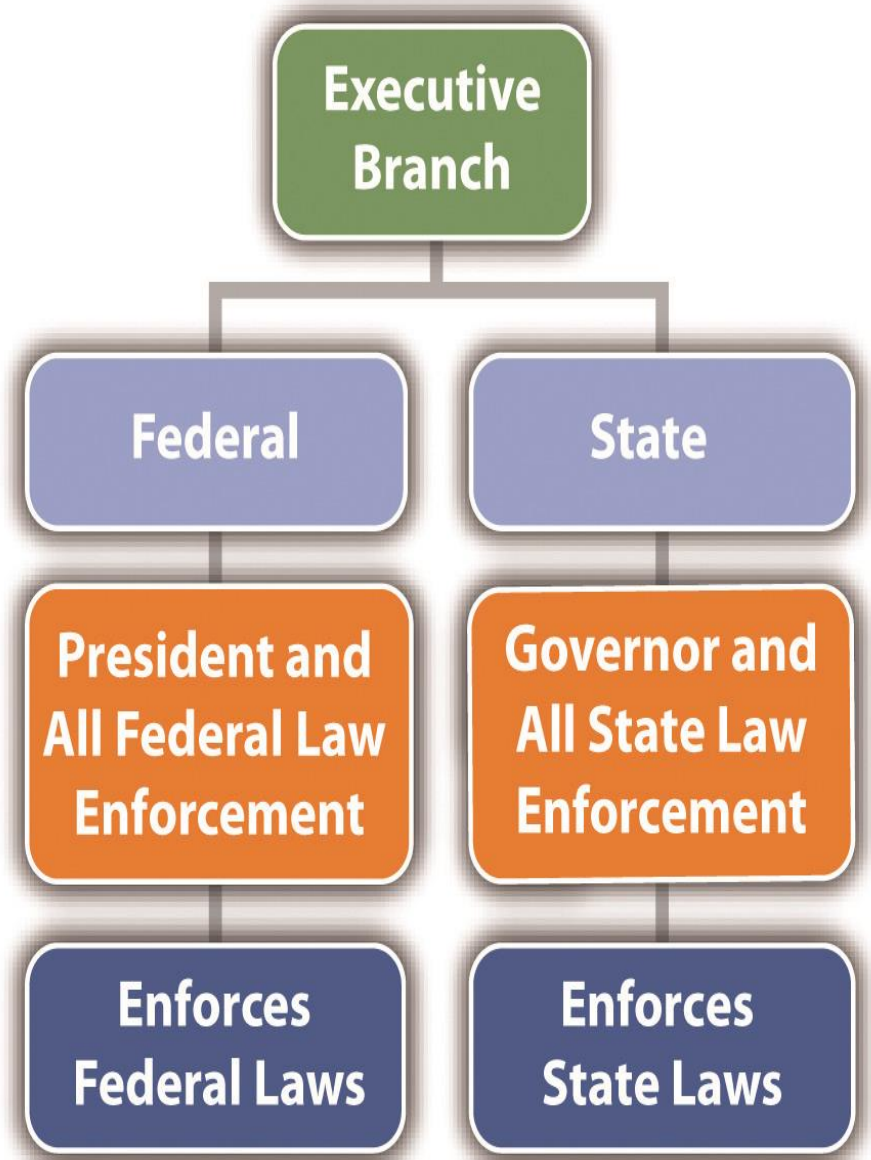
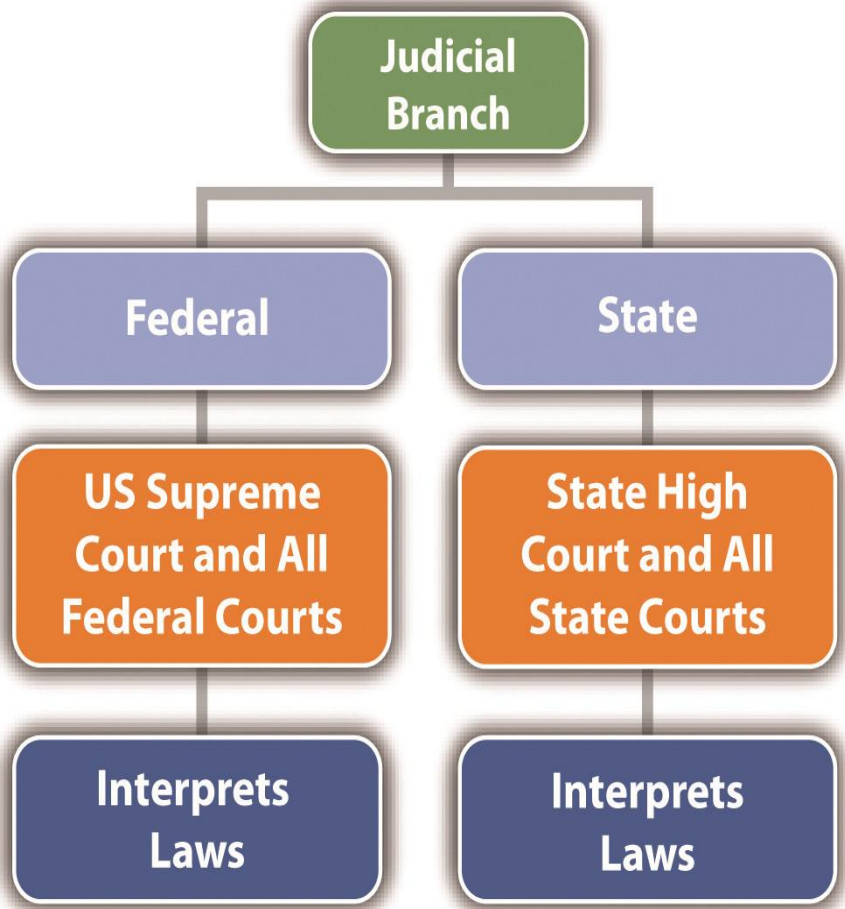
\*Governor

\* General Assembly

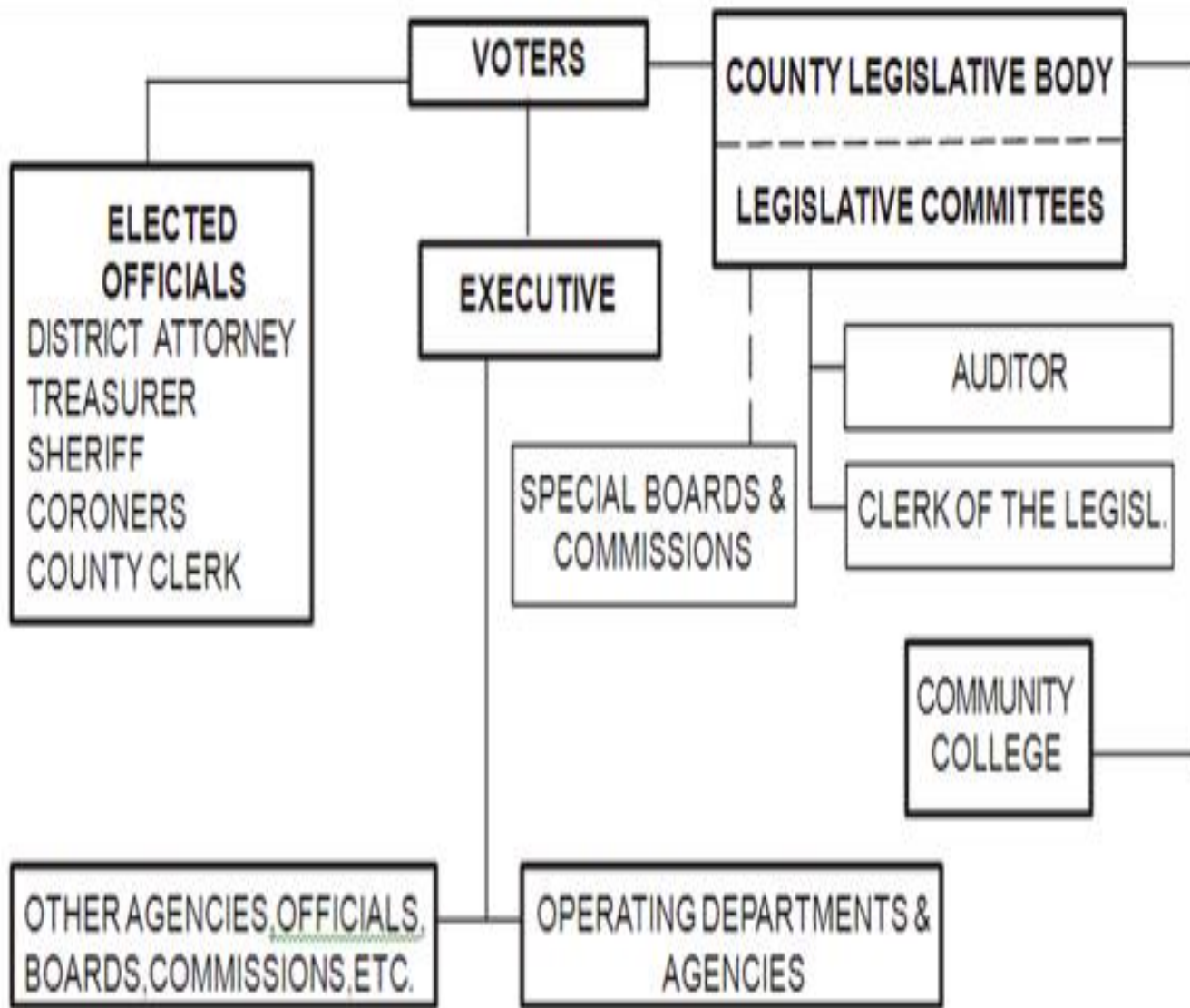
## BRANCHES OF STATE GOVERNMENT



# Federal vs. State Branches



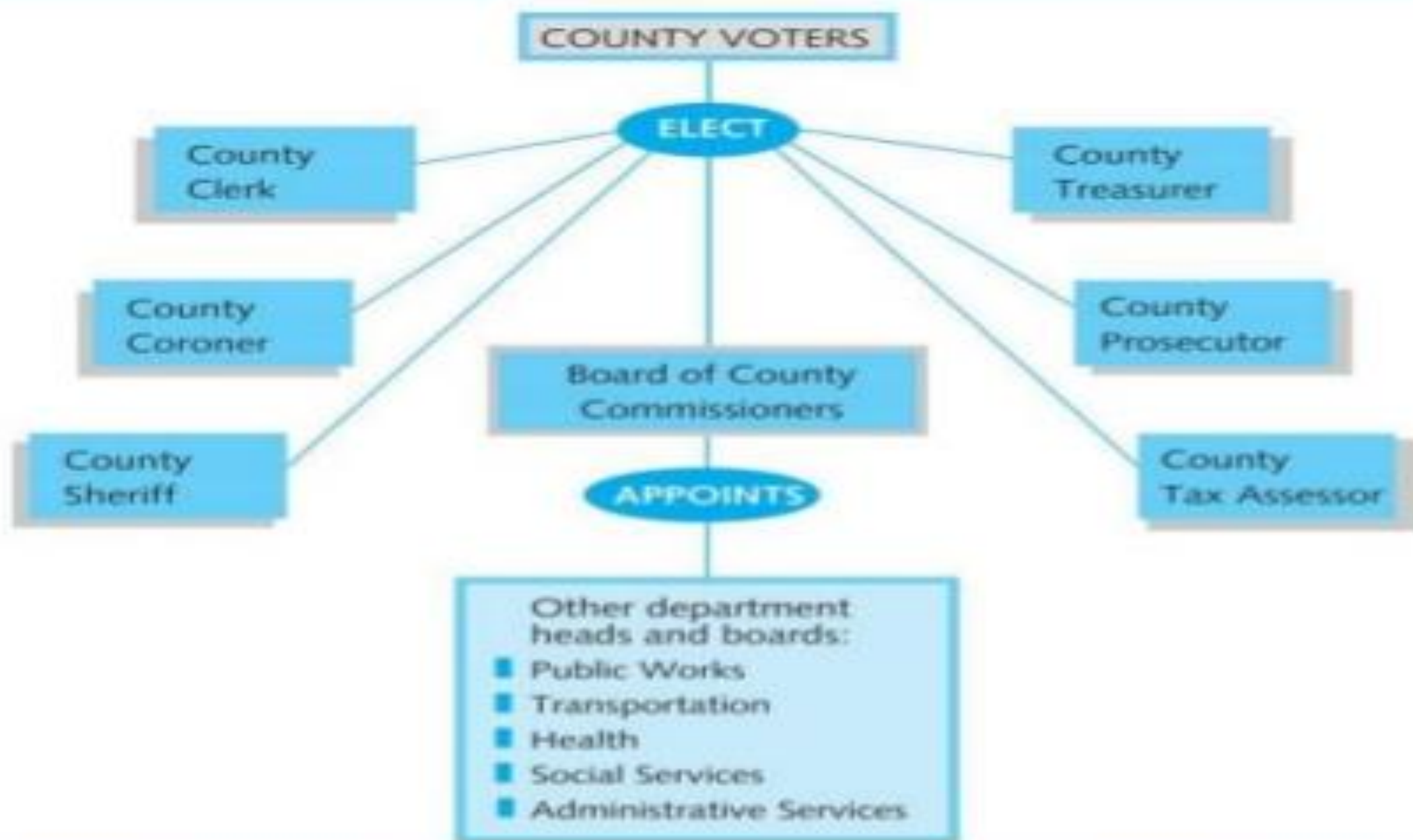




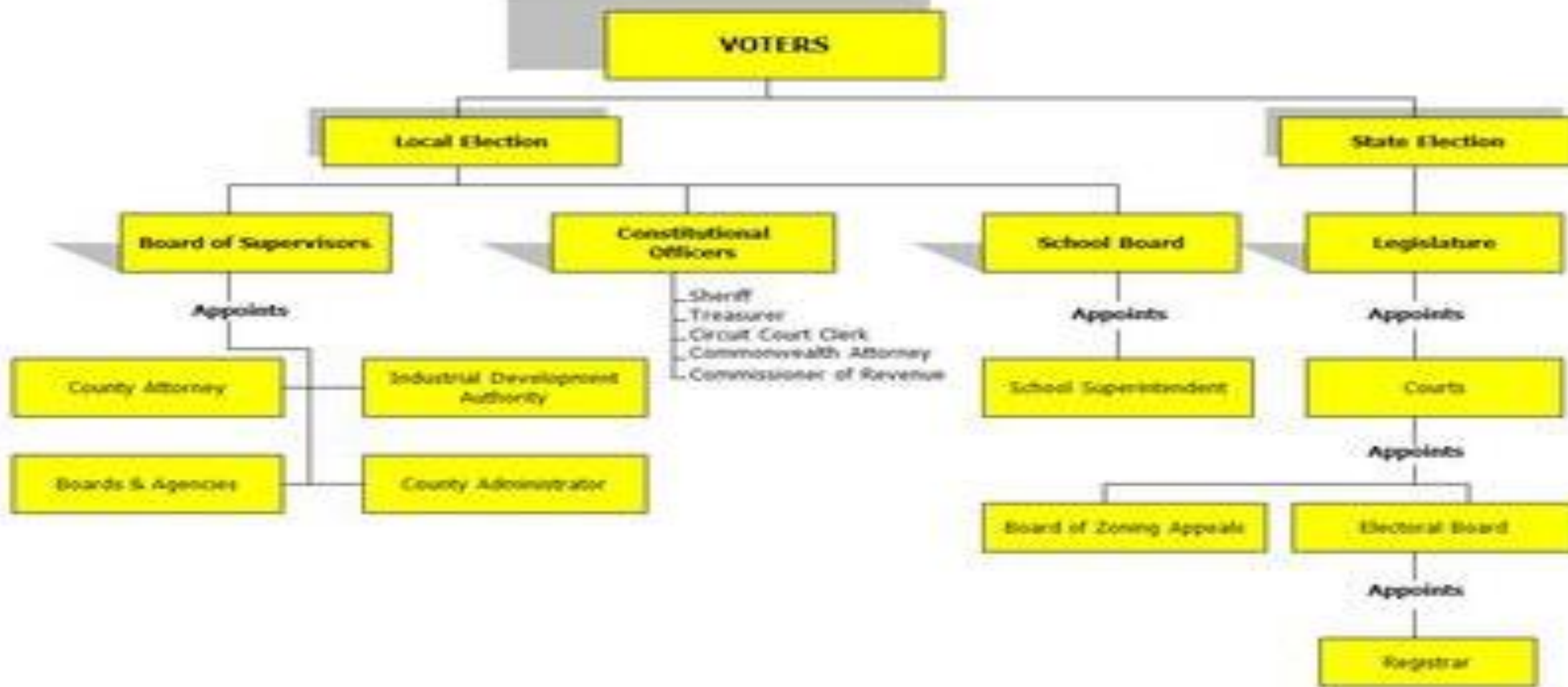
# County Governments

Government positions are elected by popular vote.

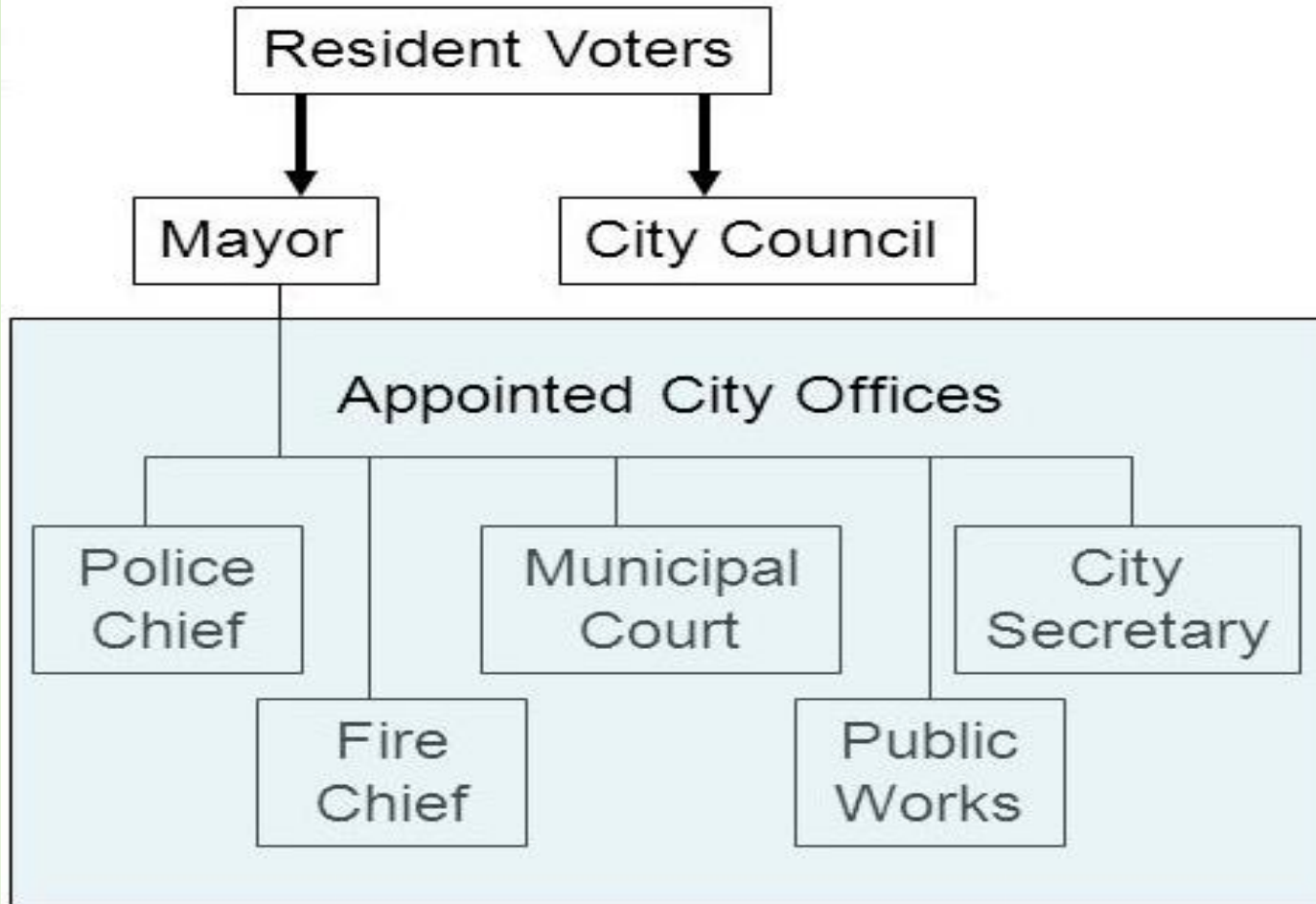
Each county has a “county seat” where the government offices and business are held.



# PULASKI COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION



# Local Governments



## Types

County  
City  
Town  
Township  
Village

### 3 Major forms of City Government:

- ❑ Mayor-Council Form
- ❑ Council-Manager Form
- ❑ Commission Form

\*Villages are the smallest form of organized government!