1. **Modern Judicial Structures and Practice**
   1. **Federal Court System**
      1. **Supreme Court**
      2. **Courts of Appeal – 12 Circuits**
      3. **District Courts – 94 Districts**
   2. **State Court Systems**
      1. **State Supreme Courts**
      2. **State Courts of Appeal (Large States)**
      3. **Superior Courts – Criminal Cases**
      4. **Municipal Courts**
   3. **Getting a Case to SCOTUS**

**a. Original Jurisdiction**

**i. State or Federal Courts**

**b. Right to an Appeal**

**i. Appellate (“Circuit”) Courts**

**c. Supreme Court – Writ of Certiorari**

**i. “Rule of Four”**

**ii. Ripeness**

**iii. Mootness**