### Big Idea Questions

What is a Federal Regulatory Agency? (Video #34 for reference)

### Guided Notes

#### 3 Major Courts

- District Courts
- Courts of Appeals
- Supreme Court

#### District Courts

- 94 - including territories; 89 in the 50 states; 1 for D.C.; 1 for Puerto Rico
  - At least one per __________
- Each court has an attorney appointed by the ____________________ - confirmed by Senate
- MOST __________________ cases are heard here - roughly ______%
- These are courts of ____________________ - no appeals
- Most cases end in plea deals

#### Courts of Appeals

- 12 District Courts - 1 in D.C.
- 1 court for at least 2 states
- _____ judges hear cases
- Review cases from District Courts
- Can review orders and decisions of Federal Regulatory Agencies
  - ____________________ (FTC)
  - Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
- No trials or ____________________ - reviewing decisions by District Courts

#### The Supreme Court – One’s Last Hope For Appeal

- Most cases NEVER make it here
  - About ________/year
- They decide which cases to hear
  - ____________________:
    - 4 judges agree? Your case is heard!
- Interpret Constitution and how it applies to laws
- Judicial Review:
  - Most significant power
  - Established in ____________________
    - Court can declare a law unconstitutional
- 8 Associate Justices, 1 Chief Justice
- Justices are nominated by the President, approved by Senate
- Can hear cases from ____________________
  - Usually only after states’ appeal process is exhausted
- Presidents' legacies can be cemented through Supreme Court nominees

**Test Tips**

- **Multiple-Choice**
  - ________________________________

- **Free Response:**
  - ________________________________
  - ________________________________