

CHAPTER 5 ACTIVITY
Researching and Analyzing

GLENCOE
STREET LAW
A Course in Practical Law

Directions: Research the names and types of cases that can be heard in the federal and state courts in your state. Then read the facts below and identify by name which federal or state court would make the decision for events 1–10. Assume these events occurred in your state.

Jerry is charged with hiring a hit man to kill his wife while she is at home one night. Tom, the hit man, killed Jerry’s wife but was caught and confessed. Tom indicated that Jerry had hired him for \$5,000 to do the killing. Jerry was convicted of premeditated murder based partly on the evidence given by Jerry.

1. _____ Jerry is convicted of premeditated murder and is sentenced to die.
2. _____ Jerry appeals his conviction on the grounds that the confession given by Tom was unconstitutional and should not have been used against him. This court ruled that confession was admissible.
3. _____ Jerry asks a higher court to reverse the appeals court, which it refused to do.
4. _____ Jerry asks an even higher court to reverse that decision.
5. _____ Legal precedent from this court applies to all death penalty cases in the United States.
6. _____ Jerry’s wife had a will. Her estate will go through this court.
7. _____ Jerry’s three children who are under the age of 18 are placed in foster care. The state files a case to terminate Jerry’s parental rights.
8. _____ One of Jerry’s three children is caught shoplifting from a local store.
9. _____ The mother of Jerry’s wife sues Jerry for wrongful death.
10. _____ Jerry has many creditors suing for money, but he cannot pay his bills and goes through bankruptcy.

Copyright © by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.