Background Information for the First Class

An introductory memo and syllabus are posted on Classes. Please read them before the first class so you will be familiar with the requirements of the course.

As those documents set out, the materials for the course are: (1) Richard H. Fallon, et al., Hart and Wechsler’s The Federal Courts and the Federal System (7th ed. 2015) (NOT the 2017 Supplement); (2) “Materials” posted on Classes; and (3) online versions of the United States Constitution and selected sections of Title 28 of the United States Code, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

As background, please read Casebook, pp. 1–47. For Classes 1 and 2, please read pp. 49–101. Focus on:

- Correspondence of the Justices (1793), pp. 50–52
- Hayburn’s Case (1792), pp. 82–84
- United States v. Johnson (1943), pp. 95–96
- § 13 of the 1789 Judiciary Act, Materials

If you decide to stay in the class, please sign the seating chart after Class 1. The class will be divided into a “Monday” and a “Wednesday” panel; the names for each panel will be posted on Classes. Starting with Class 3, from time to time I will call on students based on the panel designation. I also welcome volunteers.

Thank you for enrolling in the course.