

# Court Hierarchy and Jurisdiction - QLD

## The High Court of Australia

- Original: matters arising under the Constitution, conflicts between states and conflicts between Commonwealth and state/territory laws.
- Appellate: from state and territory courts of appeal and decisions of Federal Courts on matters arising in states under federal law.
- **All decisions are final and binding on all lower courts throughout Australia.**

## The Supreme Court (Appeal Div.)

- Hears appeals from the District and Supreme courts in criminal and civil matters.

## The Supreme Court (Trial Div.)

- Hears the most serious of indictable criminal matters such as murder.
- Holds unlimited civil jurisdiction.

## The District Court

- Hears the majority of serious indictable criminal matters, such as sexual assault, as well as appeals from the Magistrate's Court.
- Hears civil disputes between \$150,000 and \$750,000.
- Includes a Children's Court division for serious offences and the Planning and Environment Court.

## The Magistrate's Court

- Hears most summary and minor indictable criminal matters, such as traffic offences and burglary, civil matters less than \$150,000, minor family matters and some Commonwealth matters e.g. offences under the *Customs Act 1901* (Cth).
- Includes Murri Court, the Children's Court, Youth Murri Court, the Coroners Court and the Drug and Alcohol Court.

