

Marbury v. Madison / How the Case Moved Through the Court System

Supreme Court of the United States

The U.S. Supreme Court declared that Marbury was entitled to the commission. However, the Court determined that it cannot issue the writ because the Judiciary Act of 1789, which granted the Supreme Court original jurisdiction to issue a writ of *mandamus*, was unconstitutional. The Court also found that the Supreme Court of the United States has the power to review acts of other branches of government and determine the constitutionality of their acts. This power is called judicial review.

Marbury v. Madison (1803)



William Marbury brought his case directly to the Supreme Court because the Court had original jurisdiction over the case. He asked the Court to issue a writ of mandamus to order James Madison to deliver his commission.