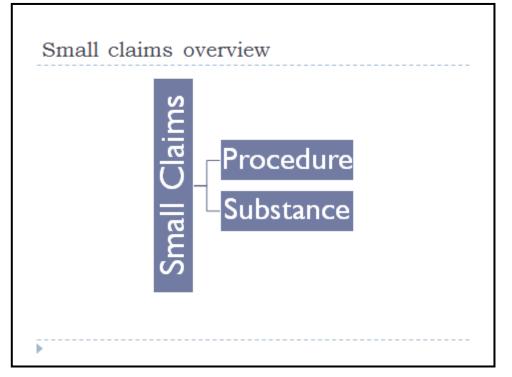
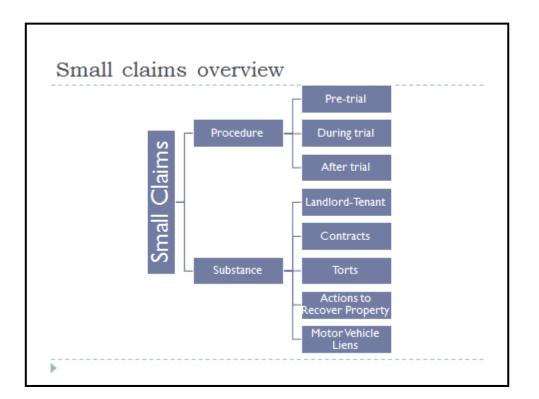
Overview of Small Claims Law





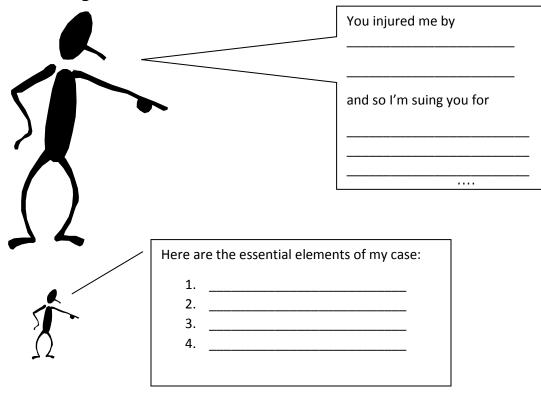
Judicial Decision-Making: How the Law Works

A cause of action is _____

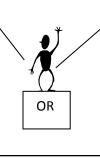
Before we allow a plaintiff to use the force of law to take away property belonging to another, we require every plaintiff to establish specific facts. We call these facts



Every cause of action has its own particular elements. Only after a plaintiff has introduced enough evidence to **prove** each individual element do we require a defendant to either rebut the evidence against her, or introduce additional evidence establishing an affirmative defense.



I am not responsible for your injury, because one of your essential elements is not true:



Even if everything you say is true, I'm STILL not responsible for your injury, because

Begin every case by asking yourself "What is π claiming Δ did wrong?" Only after determining liability should you begin to consider the remedy.