**SEPARATION OF POWERS – THE 3 BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT**

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| **Branch** | **What is the main responsibility?** | **Who?** | **Powers (As mentioned in the Constitution)** | **Term Limits** |
| Legislative | Make the laws | Upper House or Senate (2 senators per state) and the Lower House or House of Representatives (# reps per state is based on state population) This is the so-called “Great Compromise)  | **Examples:** Collect taxes, regulate foreign and domestic commerce, coin money, declare war, support an army and navy, and establish lower federal court | 6 years (Senators)2 years (Representatives) \*While congressional members have term limits, they can in most cases run for reelection continually, meaning that, if they keep winning, they could effectively hold onto the seat for life.  |
| Executive | Execute/carry out the laws | PresidentVice President Cabinet (example of the unwritten constitution)  | - Make treaties- Veto laws - Presidential pardons  | 2 terms (each term is 4 years – so 8 years total)  |
| Judicial  | Interpret the law  | 9 Justices – one of whichserves as the Chief Justice)  | **Judicial Review –** the power to determine if a law is constitutional or unconstitutional.  | Life  |