



Administrative Office of the Courts

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Supreme Judicial Court to Hold Court at Marshwood High School On October 26, 2016

Portland, Maine, October 19, 2016. For immediate release.

On Wednesday, October 26, 2016, beginning at 9:00 a.m., the Maine Supreme Judicial Court will hold oral arguments at Marshwood High School, South Berwick, at the invitation of State Representative Roberta Beavers. A second case will be heard at 9:45 a.m., and the third case at 10:30 a.m. Students from Traip Academy and Berwick Academy have also been invited to attend. There will be limited seating for the public at the high school on a first-come, first-served basis.

Earlier this year, the Court held court at Washington Academy in East Machias at the invitation of Senator David Burns, and at the University of Maine Fort Kent for all of the St. John Valley high schools, at the invitation of Rep. John Martin.

Since 2005, the Court has held oral arguments in actual appellate cases in 34 schools around the state and has heard over 100 appeals at the schools. Last year the Court heard oral arguments at Mt. Blue, Hermon, and Scarborough High Schools. In each school, the gymnasium or auditorium is turned into a real courtroom for the morning so that the students can observe the appellate process live. Students receive copies of the parties' legal briefs in advance of the oral arguments, and after the oral arguments the lawyers stay to answer questions from students. When the cases are decided, the schools receive a link to the court's written decision to provide to the students.

The press is welcome to attend. The case schedule and legal briefs can be found at:
http://www.courts.maine.gov/maine_courts/supreme/oral_arguments_schedule.shtml

Live audio streaming of these cases, and all other Supreme Judicial Court oral arguments is available at:
http://www.courts.maine.gov/maine_courts/supreme/stream.shtml

For press interviews, video recording, or photographs of the Court, while the court is at the schools, please contact Mary Ann Lynch, at least 24 hours in advance, at the above e-mail. Photographs, interviews, and video of students are subject to the rules of the high school, and the press is requested to contact school officials directly.