



# Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

# News

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## Supreme Court to Hear Cases in Raleigh County as Civics Education Program for High School Students

For immediate release

BECKLEY, W.Va. – The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia will hear arguments in four cases on Tuesday, October 18, in the auditorium of Woodrow Wilson High School in Beckley.

High school students from Fayette, Raleigh, and Wyoming Counties have been invited to attend.

Chief Justice John Hutchison and Justice William R. Wooton are from Raleigh County, and Justice C. Haley Bunn is from Wyoming County.

The LAWS (Legal Advancement for West Virginia Students) program was established in 1999. Since then, more than 6,000 students in 35 counties have participated. For more information on LAWS, see <http://www.courtswv.gov/public-resources/student-resources/LAWS/laws-program.html>.

The LAWS program allows high school students to study cases on the docket ahead of the argument day. Local attorneys or judges visit the schools and help explain the cases and the West Virginia court system.

This year, Tenth Judicial Circuit (Raleigh County) Judges Robert A. Burnside, Jr.; H.L. Kirkpatrick III; and Darl W. Poling; Twelfth Judicial Circuit (Fayette County) Judge Thomas H. Ewing; and Twenty-Seventh Judicial Circuit (Wyoming County) Judge Micheal Cochrane are visiting high schools in their counties.

On the day of LAWS, students will attend the argument for the case they studied and then will have an opportunity to meet with and question the attorneys who argued that case.

The schedule will be as follows:

10 a.m. *State of West Virginia v. Micah A. McClain*, No. 21-0873

Students from Wyoming East and Oak Hill High Schools will attend.

11 a.m. *Harlee Beasley v. Mark A. Sorsaia*, No. 21-0475

Students from Shady Spring, Midland Trail, and Westside High Schools will attend.

1 p.m. *Joey J. Butner v. High Lawn Memorial Park Company and High Lawn Funeral Chapel, Inc.*, No. 21-0387

Students from Liberty and Woodrow Wilson High Schools will attend.

1:30 p.m. - *Adam Goodman and Paul Underwood v. Blake Auton*, No. 21-0578

Students from Liberty High School will attend.

Documents filed in the cases are available on the West Virginia Judiciary website at <http://www.courtswv.gov/supreme-court/calendar/2022/Dockets/Oct-18-22ad.html>. The LAWS docket will be recorded and will remain on the West Virginia Judiciary YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/c/wvsupremecourt>) so all West Virginia students have the opportunity to watch during their normal class times.

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