



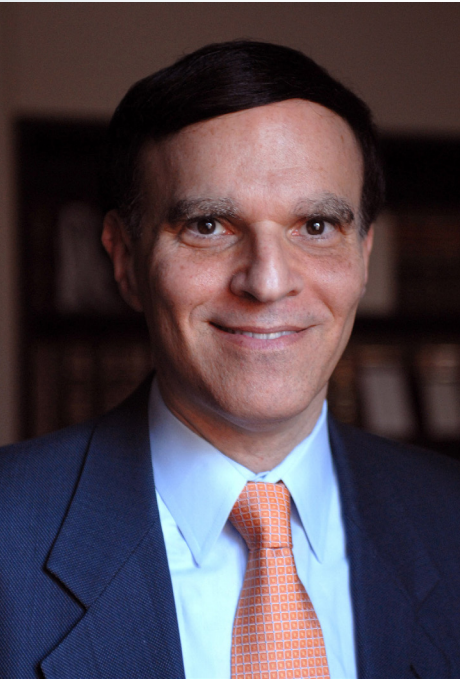
# JUSTICE FOR ALL: COURTS AND THE COMMUNITY

A PROJECT OF THE FEDERAL COURTS OF THE SECOND CIRCUIT

ANNUAL REPORT  
June 2018







**Robert A. Katzmann**

*Chief Judge,  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
Second Circuit*

The pages that follow report on the wide-ranging activities during the preceding year of *Justice For All: Courts and the Community*, a civic education initiative of the federal courts of the Second Circuit. In 2014, I launched this circuit-wide project to increase public understanding of the role and operations of the courts and to bring courts closer to the community. Judge Victor Marrero of the Southern District of New York co-chairs the project. *Justice For All* encompasses two principal approaches: we seek to bring the communities to the courts, and the courts to the communities. In the words of the project's mission statement: "we seek to encourage, develop, and support programs in civic education for all members of the public, especially students, and to engage the community through outreach efforts."

With the active participation of judges, court staff, educators, members of the bar and community organizations, *Justice For All* encompasses a variety of programs:

- Student and community field trips to courthouses;
- Moot courts and mock trials for students;
- Learning centers and library labs;
- Support for school curriculums about the law and justice system;
- Teachers' institutes;
- Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, and Law Day programs;
- Essay contests;
- Reenactments of historic cases;
- Financial literacy programs;
- Jury service; and
- A speakers' bureau: judge and lawyer visits to schools.

This annual report describes the enormous efforts that have been devoted to the project by so many people, and the impressive progress that the initiative has achieved in its activities to date. Judge Marrero and I are profoundly grateful to all those who have given so generously of their time to make this project such a vibrant reality. It is a great privilege to work together with such dedicated persons. We welcome the participation of those not yet involved who, on reading the report, find areas of engagement. You can always follow the activities of the project on the *Justice For All* website at

[www.justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov](http://www.justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov).



*Justice For All: Courts and the Community* is a civic education initiative conceived and implemented by the federal courts of the Second Circuit (the federal appellate, district, and bankruptcy courts within the states of New York, Connecticut, and Vermont). To thrive, democracies need an informed citizenry. *Justice For All* strives “to increase public understanding of the role and operations of the justice system” by forging closer ties between the courts and the communities they serve.

To develop and expand *Justice For All*, the Circuit’s Civic Education Committee works through nine subcommittees, whose members include judges; representatives from the offices of the circuit executive, clerks of court, probation and pretrial services, and circuit library; attorneys and educators; and professionals of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the Federal Judicial Center, and interested non-profit organizations. Many judges have substantially aided the *Justice For All* endeavor through their participation in our programs. *Justice For All* also partners with numerous civic and educational institutions within the Circuit, including bar associations,

law firms, law schools, universities, government agencies, and private non-profit organizations, most notably the Justice Resource Center (JRC).<sup>1</sup> We also very much appreciate the contributions of Rebecca Fanning, National Outreach Manager for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and Russell Wheeler of the Brookings Institution and the Governance Institute.<sup>2</sup>

The *Justice For All* initiative is an integrated, circuit-wide, multi-faceted, multi-purpose effort. It builds on established civic education activities, develops new programs, and provides prototypes and pilot projects that can be replicated. Its mission “encompasses two principal approaches: to bring the communities to the courts, and to bring the courts to the communities.” This annual report presents the committee’s activities under those two overlapping headings.

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<sup>1</sup> JRC is a New York-based non-profit group funded by the New York City Department of Education that develops law-related curriculum and other programs for public schools and units of public education departments. <http://jrcnyc.org/>

<sup>2</sup> A grant from the Leon Levy Foundation has supported Russell Wheeler’s contributions on *Justice for All: Courts and the Community*.



Courts welcomed over **60,000** new citizens at more than **350** naturalization ceremonies throughout the circuit.

**125** eighth graders observed a naturalization ceremony at **Sagamore Hill** in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

At the **Vermont Statehouse** **60** candidates were naturalized on the September 11th anniversary

**102** floors above New York, **30** candidates were naturalized from **19** countries at the first ever naturalization ceremony held at

**300** candidates were naturalized from **60** countries at the **U.S. Coast Guard Academy**

**One World Trade Center** observatory



Fifty new American citizens are joined by federal judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York after a naturalization ceremony at the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in celebration of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day on September 18, 2017. (Credit: Newsday/Alejandra Villa)





# NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

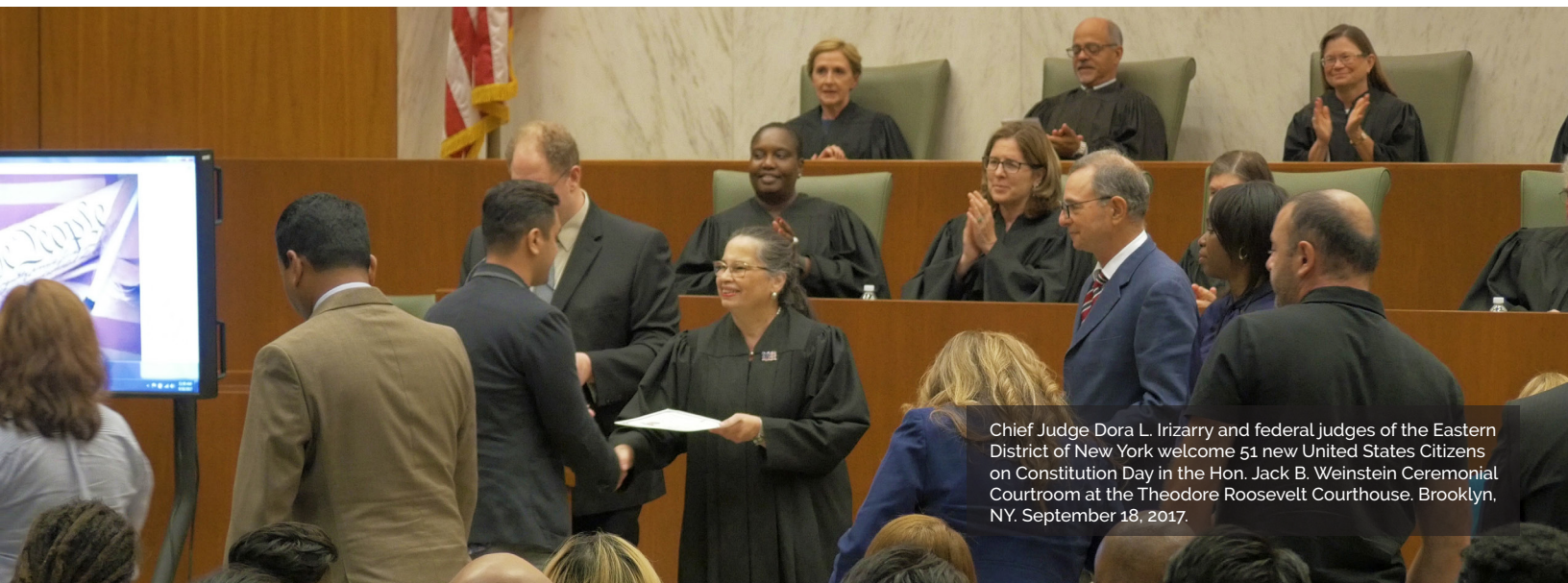
Naturalization ceremonies are a staple in the life of every district court throughout the year. However, Constitution Day and Citizenship Day provide a special opportunity to reflect on the import of welcoming new citizens to our country. Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is observed each year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787, and to recognize all naturalized citizens. On September 18, 2017, naturalization ceremonies were held throughout the Second Circuit in celebration of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York held a Special Session of Court to celebrate Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. Fifty-one new citizens gathered inside the Honorable Jack B. Weinstein Ceremonial Courtroom in the Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse. The new citizens were welcomed by Eastern District Chief Judge Dora L. Irizarry. Magistrate Judge Vera M. Scanlon introduced the keynote speaker, Brooklyn College Professor Paul Moses. Magistrate Judge Sanket Bulsara administered the Oath of Allegiance to the new citizens, and Judge William F. Kuntz performed God Bless America. Students from Fort Hamilton High School performed the Pledge of

Allegiance and members of the New York State Police presented the colors of the United States.

Fifty new citizens took the Oath of Allegiance to the United States at the historic Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. Presiding over the ceremony was Eastern District Magistrate Judge A. Kathleen Tomlinson who was joined by various members of the Eastern District bench. The entire 8th grade class from the Oyster Bay East Norwich School District assisted with the ceremony. The National Anthem was performed by the Oyster Bay High School Chambers Singers and Wind Ensemble. Welcoming remarks and greetings were given by Kelly Furman, Superintendent, Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, and Dina T. Miller, President, Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of New York Chapter.

Three hundred new citizens took the Oath of Allegiance at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's Leamy Hall in New London, Connecticut. Representing approximately sixty countries, the nation's newest citizens were welcomed and offered words of wisdom by District of Connecticut Judge Warren G. Eginton and the Academy's Rear Admiral Jim Rendón. Also in attendance were many of the Academy's cadets.



Chief Judge Dora L. Irizarry and federal judges of the Eastern District of New York welcome 51 new United States Citizens on Constitution Day in the Hon. Jack B. Weinstein Ceremonial Courtroom at the Theodore Roosevelt Courthouse, Brooklyn, NY, September 18, 2017.



# LAW DAY 2018

Law Day is held on May 1st every year to commemorate the role of law in our society and to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession. This year, during the entire first week of May, our judges partnered with volunteer attorneys to visit New York City public high schools. There, they met with students and discussed this year's Law Day 2018 topic: "Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom." Their conversations centered on the 1952 Supreme Court case, *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, which affirmed that the separation of powers is essential to American government.

The celebration culminated with students from New York City public schools visiting the Thurgood Marshall United States Courthouse in downtown Manhattan. Within the court's historic courtrooms, judges and volunteer attorneys engaged the students with examples of how the separation of government power works in reality. The students were also treated to a reenactment of the Susan B. Anthony trial.

In preparation for these activities, our Speaker's Bureau and Civic Education subcommittees

collaboratively developed teaching materials for use by our participating judges and attorneys. The offices of the Circuit Executive and Circuit Librarian assisted in this project, with the cooperation of the New York City Department of Education and the Justice Resource Center.

Federal judges and attorney volunteers visited **10** New York City Public Schools. Over **300** students visited federal courthouses to discuss topics related to the separation of powers.

In the District of Connecticut, Law Day activities included students visiting the Connecticut federal courthouses for a mock trial. Students played the roles of judges, counsel, courtroom deputies, witnesses, and jurors. To prepare students for the mock trial, volunteering attorneys, chambers staff, and Clerk's Office staff visited schools to coach and prepare students for their oral arguments.

"Law Day is an opportunity to build bridges and forge connections between courtrooms and classrooms, and among judges and teachers and students. Every year, it's challenging, inspiring, and fun. At Brooklyn Tech, the students were as well prepared as any law students, and they participated in a high-level discussion of our Law Day theme, the Separation of Powers, with enormous insight. And their teacher David Schepard is simply a superstar. I'm already looking forward to next year."

– Hon. Elizabeth S. Stong, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of New York



A volunteer attorney speaks to students at the Brooklyn Technical High School for Law Day 2018. May 2, 2018.



# COURT VISITS TO SCHOOLS

For many years, our judges have visited schools to explain their work to students of all grade levels. *Justice For All* builds upon these outreach programs to connect with more students in the community.

One long-standing success is at the Anderson School, a K-8 New York City public school for intellectually gifted students. There, our judges teach a weekly course on law and trial practice, culminating in full, unscripted mock trials, which are held every spring in the Southern District courthouse with our federal judges presiding.

Over the course of the last year, *Justice For All* expanded its efforts in jury education. In the District of Connecticut, district judges and the court's jury administrator visited schools to teach students the important role that jury service plays in our system of law and government. The jury administrator explained jury reporting and selection procedures, as well as jury service excuses that are acceptable and not acceptable. Judges spoke about the fundamental duty that all American citizens share to serve as jurors.

Our judges also continue to visit schools to discuss the role of the judiciary as the third branch of government, and the necessity for an independent judiciary. The sessions conclude with a question and answer period, after which the judges present pocket constitutions for each student to keep.

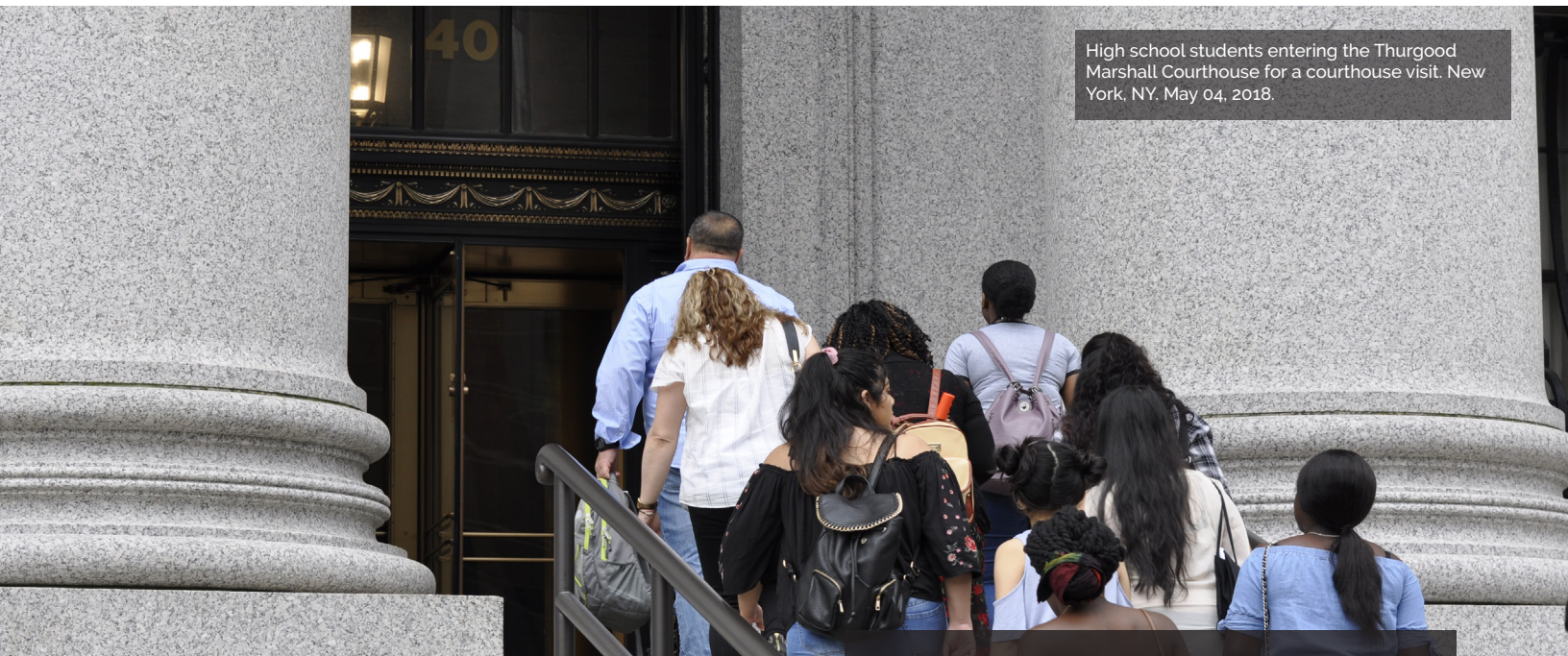
In the Eastern District of New York, our judges visited public libraries to participate in the "An Inside Look at the Federal Court" program. During the program, federal judges talked to members of the public about the role and operations of the judiciary.





## COURTHOUSE TOURS

Thousands of students visit our courthouses each year to learn about the judiciary and our system of government. Our visitors hear not just about the rule of law, but the history of our courts, our judges, and our courthouses. Numerous courts of the Second Circuit date to our country's founding in 1787. Some of the most influential judges in the nation have been members of our bench. Many of our courthouses were designed by famous architects of their day. These historic buildings have housed landmark trials and groundbreaking legal disputes. Our judges, staff attorneys, probation officers, clerks of court, and professional staff provide visiting students with an overarching view of the judiciary, including how it manages so many cases, buildings, courtrooms, and people.



High school students entering the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse for a courthouse visit. New York, NY. May 04, 2018.

## COURTHOUSE VISITS

We hosted over **12** Library Labs in which high school students learned about legal research in the context of their constitutional rights.

Approximately **10,000** students from **250** schools visited our courthouses.



***This class has shown me many ways that the law can evolve over time and I find that so interesting.***

*- High School Student*

***I like that I learned more about the Fourth Amendment. This made me understand more about how our rights actually work.***

*- High School Student*

***If you remember your own high school experience, you were dying to get your hands on something real. Here it is.***

*- High School Teacher*



Students from the Bronx High School for Law and Community Service participate in a Library Lab at the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, New York, NY. April 27, 2018.



“America is known as a country that welcomes people to its shores. All kinds of people. The image of the Statue of Liberty with Emma Lazarus’ famous poem. She lifts her lamp and welcomes people to the golden shore, where they will not experience prejudice because of the color of their skin, the religious faith that they follow.”

*- Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg*



## CONNECTED CLASSROOM

This versatile space can accommodate many groups and purposes. Here, students will participate in our Library Labs to learn new research skills in the context of their legal rights; judges and court staff can host videoconference meetings; civic education teachers can participate in professional development programs; and much more.





Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States, visits the *Justice For All: Courts and the Community* Learning Center with Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Judge Victor Marrero, U.S. District for the Southern District of New York. New York, NY. September 27, 2017



# VIRTUAL EXHIBIT GALLERY

This gallery features interactive multimedia kiosks that allow an immersive virtual experience. Participants will investigate curated exhibits that will explore the many facets of civics and what it means to be an engaged, informed citizen.







125th Anniversary  
1888-2013

125th Anniversary  
1888-2013



"It is important for all of us to appreciate where we come from and how that history has really shaped us in ways that we might not understand."

- Justice Sonia Sotomayor

# JUSTICE FOR ALL



A model judge's bench will be featured in the Learning Center.



# CREATE SPACE

Students can experiment with ideas in our maker space. They can record their thoughts and opinions at our podcast station. They can film interviews with our video equipment. The space will also feature a model judge's bench on which students can get a taste of the responsibility that comes with wearing a robe.





JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL  
Retirement Press Conference  
U.S. Supreme Court



Several small framed posters or notices are displayed on the wall, including one with the text "U.S. Supreme Court" and another with "Retirement Press Conference".





The *Justice For All: Courts and the Community* Learning Center is open to all, including students, the public, and members of the bench and bar.

The Learning Center is a product of *Justice For All: Courts and the Community*, a civic education initiative of the federal courts of the Second Circuit, launched by Circuit Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann. Co-chaired by Judge Victor Marrero, District Court Judge of the Southern District of New York, it aims to:

- ▣ Increase public understanding of the role of the courts in our democracy;
- ▣ Bring our courts closer to the communities they serve;
- ▣ Ensure that the courts are accessible and effective public institutions;
- ▣ Increase awareness of the history of the judiciary, courts, outstanding judges, and major controversies in American history in which the courts played a vital role.





citizenship  
affirm  
BENCH  
defendant  
oath  
judiciary  
LEGISLATIVE  
sentence  
LAWYERS  
congress  
peers innocent  
Vote  
DUTY  
TESTIMONY  
REJECT  
PANEL

**FOR ALL THE COMMUNITY**

**MARSHALL**



The Learning Center will allow visitors to explore our judicial system and their advocacy skills via:

- ▣ Interactive touch-screen kiosks;
- ▣ Fascinating exhibits on the law, the court, and our judges;
- ▣ Model judge's bench;
- ▣ Digital recording equipment for video and podcasts;
- ▣ Projection screens;
- ▣ Lecture space.









## ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS/CARE

Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) was founded by now-retired Bankruptcy Judge John Ninfo of the Western District of New York. It is a national non-profit financial education outreach program with which we partner.

For several years, bankruptcy judges from within the Second Circuit, attorneys, and financial experts have joined together with CARE to educate adults about financial responsibility and improve their financial literacy. In coordination with schools and community organizations, our judges and colleagues empower financial responsibility, raise awareness of financial obligations, and teach the basics of credit. Attendees include:

- Senior citizens
- Veterans
- Domestic violence survivors
- Students
- Persons with intellectual challenges
- Persons newly arrived in the United States

In recognition of Financial Literacy Month this past April, we offered two special events. First, in association with the Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) Program, our judges talked with adult students about student loan obligations and repayment options. Second, in cooperation with a women's shelter, our judges gave a presentation on credit responsibilities, how to budget money, and basic principles of financial literacy.



# CURRICULA & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Working with the Justice Resource Center and its executive director, Debra Lesser, *Justice For All* brings elementary, middle, and high school teachers to federal courthouses to let them see firsthand how the judicial process works, meet judges and court staff, and learn from judges and scholars about the nation's constitutional foundations.

Our judges collaborated with law school professors and practicing attorneys to design and implement a week-long summer professional development program for New York City and Albany, NY, teachers. Held each summer since 2016, the program provides a comprehensive high school civics education curriculum ("We the People") that can be taught in classrooms. Teachers who are accepted into this special program are from schools located in economically challenged areas. The program will once again be offered this coming summer.

This spring, we hosted two separate Teachers' Professional Days for New York City public high school teachers. Each was held at the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse and focused on criminal and constitutional law. Judges, law professors, and attorneys presented in panels on numerous topics, including: a review of the current Supreme Court term, an exploration of search and seizure under the Fourth Amendment, social media and the First Amendment, and selecting a jury of one's peers.

In March, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, in conjunction with the Justice Resource Center, offered a pilot professional development workshop for New York City high school social studies teachers. Participating teachers attended a naturalization ceremony, met law enforcement personnel, and learned about the history of the Eastern District of New York. They participated in an interactive workshop led by Second Circuit librarians, where they were introduced to advanced online research strategies, legal research standards, and how to transfer these concepts into the classroom. The teachers also had lunch with Eastern District of New York Chief Judge Dora L. Irizarry.

We continue to work with the New York City Department of Education to enhance representation of judicial and law-related topics in the social studies curriculum. This is accomplished through commentary on draft materials, as well as development of new teaching components. We are also developing a Probation Explorers Program in the Southern District of New York for students interested in law enforcement careers.

Teachers' Professional Development  
Hosted Teachers' Professional Days for over 75 New York school teachers.



New York City Public High School social studies teachers participating in a Pilot Professional Development Workshop at the Theodore Roosevelt Courthouse, Brooklyn, NY. March 22, 2018.



February 2018

Approximately **85** students participated in the Civics First High School Mock Trials hosted by the District of Connecticut.







## MOOT COURTS AND MOCK TRIALS

Throughout the Second Circuit, there have been longstanding moot court and mock trial competitions operated through bar associations and non-profit organizations. The Student Contests and Advocacy Skills Subcommittees are expanding upon these programs.

In the fall, a new Mentor Moot Court Competition was hosted by the Eastern District of New York. This competition mirrors the JRC Moot Court Program in New York City, in which local attorneys mentor high school students, training them in the law and preparing them for the moot court experience.

Last winter, the District of Connecticut in conjunction with Civics First CT, hosted the quarter final and semi-final rounds of the Civics First High School Mock Trials at the Abraham A. Ribicoff Federal Building. Presiding over the Quarter Final Round were federal and state judges.

In the spring, the second annual Statewide High School Mock Trial Program in the District of Vermont was held in alliance with the Vermont Bar Association, the Snelling Center for Government, Vermont Law School, and the law school chapter of SPEAK, Inc., a student-run organization that promotes public speaking. The competition was hosted at the Vermont Law School with federal and state judges presiding.

Federal judges from the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York presided over the final four rounds of the 2018 New York City Mock Trial Competition at the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse in Manhattan.

This year, the Northern District of New York will once again host the New York State Mock Trial State Finals in Albany, New York.

A one-week summer advocacy program offered in the Central Islip Federal Courthouse will once again be hosted in July. This continues the project launched during the summer of 2016 in cooperation with Touro Law School and the Federal Bar Association.



2017 Student Contestant participating in the Eastern District of New York Mentor Moot Court Competition at the Alfonse D'Amato Courthouse, Central Islip, NY. November 11, 2017.



The courts hosted more than **14** reenactments of historical court proceedings for groups of all ages.

## REENACTMENTS

Reenactments of historic court proceedings constitute an effective and popular teaching tool. The Reenactments Subcommittee has made eight scripts available on the *Justice For All* website. Scripts are based on actual court transcripts and have been successfully performed for different audiences in a variety of settings. Accompanying the scripts are slides of historic photographs, drawings, and documents, which can be projected during the performances and contextualize the trial. The website provides instructions for using the scripts, additional resources about the cases, and lists of prior reenactments.

In November, the Second Circuit celebrated the 100th anniversary of its landmark case, *Masses Publishing Co. v. Patten*, 245 F. 102 (2d Cir. 1917), with an historical reenactment at the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse.

In April, over 200 people attended our historic reenactment of the Trial of Susan B. Anthony, who was convicted for voting as a woman in violation of federal law. In collaboration with the District Court for the Northern District of New York and the New York Federal Court Bar Association, the roles of the accused, attorneys, judges, jurors, and witnesses were performed by members of the community as well as state and federal judges and attorneys.



Reenactment of the Susan B. Anthony Trial at the James M. Hanley Federal Building, Syracuse, NY, April 19, 2018





# JUSTICE FOR ALL WEBSITE

The *Justice For All* website provides information about the federal judicial system, the courts of the Second Circuit, and *Justice For All's* components and activities. These resources are made freely available to teachers, students, lawyers, journalists, judges, court staff, and all others interested in civics education. The website is a project of the Civic Education Committee's Media and Public Outreach Subcommittee, working in close collaboration with the Second Circuit Library and Research Center.

*Justice For All* continues to develop and refine the website. Our latest enhancements include:

- Embedded video and multimedia content; and
- Improvements to the interactive calendar of events, now featuring event color coding.

April 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Courthouse Visit Theodore Roosevelt US Courthouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Law School Host Court Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Court Visit Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>3:30pm - 5:30pm Law School Mock Trial U.S. District Court, Rutland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am - 12:30pm Mock Court Competition Multiple Locations</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Court Visit Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>School Visit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Naturalization Ceremony</li> <li>Onondaga County Bar Association Mock Trial Final</li> <li>9:00am - 2:00pm Court Visit Theodore Roosevelt US Courthouse</li> <li>9:00am - 1:00pm Student Courthouse Visit Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>2:00pm - 7:00pm New York State Mock Trial Tournament (Round of 16) Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constitutional Law: Teachers Professional Day Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>Court Visit Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>Naturalization Ceremony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BOCES Student Loan Obligation Presentation</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00pm - 7:00pm New York State Mock Trial Tournament (Round of 8) Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Law Day 2018 Training Session Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criminal Law Teacher's Professional Development Day Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>Law School Host Court Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>School Visit</li> <li>2:00pm - 7:00pm New York State Mock Trial Tournament (Round of 4) Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00pm - 8:00pm Susan B. Anthony Trial Re-enactment James M. Hanley Federal Building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Court Visit Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>Legal Outreach Debator of the Year Competition Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>9:30am - 1:00pm Library Lab Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> <li>11:00am - 11:30am Naturalization Ceremony Federal Building, Burlington</li> </ul>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:30pm - 3:00pm The Constitution Workal Conrad B. Zuberstein US Courthouse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:30pm - 3:00pm The Constitution Workal Conrad B. Zuberstein US Courthouse</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am - 1:00pm Library Lab Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse</li> </ul>	



