

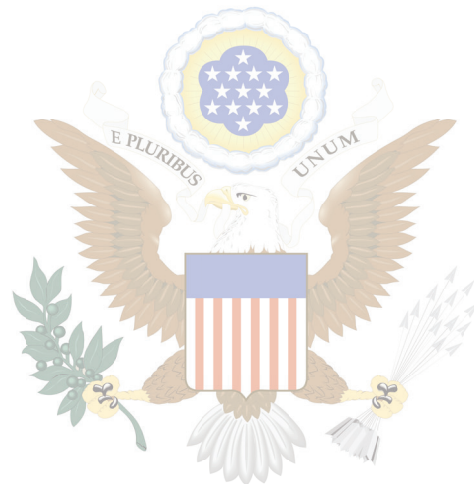


# JUSTICE FOR ALL: COURTS AND THE COMMUNITY



A PROJECT OF THE FEDERAL COURTS OF THE SECOND CIRCUIT

ANNUAL REPORT | SEPTEMBER 2021



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, then-Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann 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. In June 2021, *Justice for All*, the Second Circuit, and all who knew him suffered a tremendous loss with Judge Katzmann's untimely passing. This year's annual report begins with a tribute to Judge Katzmann. Judge Katzmann's legacy will endure, and *Justice for All* will continue to pursue its mission "to 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." Circuit Judge Joseph F. Bianco and Judge Victor Marrero of the Southern District of New York will co-chair the project.

*Justice For All* encompasses two principal approaches: we seek to bring the communities to the courts, and the courts to the communities. To that end, and 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
- Visits to schools by judges and lawyers
- Moot courts and mock trials for students
- Learning centers and library labs
- Curriculum support for law and justice system content
- Teacher professional development
- Constitution Day and Citizenship Day
- Law Day
- Virtual learning experiences
- On-demand educational resources
- Reenactments of historic cases
- Financial literacy programs

This annual report describes the enormous efforts that so many have devoted to the project, and the impressive progress that the initiative has achieved in its activities to date. To develop and expand *Justice For All*, the Circuit's Civic Education Committee works through nine subcommittees, whose members include judges; representatives from the circuit executive's office, clerks' offices, 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>

<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 to *Justice for All: Courts and the Community*.



# IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE HON. ROBERT A. KATZMANN, FOUNDER OF JUSTICE FOR ALL: COURTS AND THE COMMUNITY



Robert A. Katzmann, former Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the founder of its acclaimed civics education program, and a highly esteemed member of the federal judiciary who, before joining the bench, had advised on judicial-legislative relations and served as special counsel on the confirmation of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a cherished friend, died on June 9, 2021 after a long illness. Judge Katzmann was 68 years old.

Speaking on behalf of the Court, Chief Judge Debra Ann Livingston, who succeeded Judge Katzmann as Chief Judge in September 2020, said, “Judge Katzmann led our Court through historic challenges, from budget sequester and governmental shutdowns, at the beginning of his tenure as Chief, to the pandemic which upended our Court’s operations only last spring. Throughout it all, Judge Katzmann provided sure and steady leadership. And more than this, Judge Katzmann, with his commitment to civic education, also had a vision for the Circuit – that the judiciary might lend a steadying hand to our democracy by helping to educate the citizenry about the rule of law and the role of judges. His quiet confidence, determination, exceptional leadership, and strong sense of justice inspired us all. We will miss him profoundly.”

Judge Katzmann was the Walsh Professor of Government, Professor of Law, and Professor of Public Policy at Georgetown University, and a fellow of the Governmental Studies Program at the Brookings Institution when he was nominated by President Bill Clinton to serve as a judge of the Court of Appeals. At the time of his nomination, Judge Katzmann, author of *Courts and Congress*, among other books, was one of the nation’s leading scholars on the subject of judicial-legislative relations. He had already worked collaboratively with Judge Frank M. Coffin, then chair of the United States Judicial Conference Committee on the Judicial Branch, who sought his assistance in examining interbranch relations. Judge Katzmann had helped to found the Governance Institute to explore pragmatic issues arising from the separation of powers between the judiciary and Congress.

Judge Katzmann was nominated on March 9, 1999 to serve on the Second Circuit. This Court hears appeals from the federal district courts of New York, Connecticut, and Vermont and is especially well-known for its significant criminal docket and for its important civil cases, which emanate from the Circuit’s corporate and financial centers. The Senate confirmed Judge Katzmann by voice vote on July 14, 1999. When Judge Katzmann received his commission on July 16, only two days later, he became the first judge of the federal courts to take the bench with not only a law degree, but also a doctorate in government. Judge Katzmann, whose twin brother, Judge Gary Katzmann, is a judge on the Court of International Trade, was born on April 22, 1953, in Manhattan, and grew up in Queens, a



The Justice For All: Courts and the Community Learning Center opening ceremony. Judge Robert A. Katzmann, then-Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Judge Victor Marrero, District Judge for the Southern District of New York, along with the circuit-wide Committee on Civic Education and Public Engagement, welcomed 100 members of the public and legal community to celebrate the Learning Center’s official launch in the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse. Judge Katzmann spoke of the ongoing need to inform Americans about the role of courts in our government. December 10, 2018.

proud graduate of New York City’s public schools. He was the son of John Katzmann, a refugee from Nazi Germany and an engineer, and Sylvia Katzmann, a homemaker and the Brooklyn-born daughter of Russian immigrants. Judge Katzmann received his A.B. degree summa cum laude from Columbia College before proceeding to Harvard University for his A.M. and Ph.D Degrees, where he studied with and worked for then-professor Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who became a mentor. Judge Katzmann attended Yale Law School, where he served on the Yale Law Journal. After law school he clerked for Judge Hugh H. Bownes of the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit before joining Brookings.

In 1993, while Judge Katzmann was still at the Brookings Institution, Senator Moynihan asked then-Professor Katzmann to serve as his special counsel on the confirmation of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. In Justice Ginsburg’s words, “When President Clinton nominated me . . . Senator Moynihan thought it would be useful for me to have a savvy, sympathetic counselor as I made my way from one Senator’s office to another’s. Bob Katzmann was that counselor.” Thus began a deep friendship. Judge Katzmann described Justice Ginsburg as “a friend for all seasons, an incomparable friend, to me and to my wife, Jennifer.” And the admiration was reciprocated: It was Justice Ginsburg who administered the oath of office to Judge Katzmann in 1999, noting that this “insightful scholar of governance and interbranch relations,” who had “studied federal courts closely for many years,” would bring “an enormous store of knowledge to his new commission, along with intelligence and personal qualities important in

sound judging: an inquiring mind, extraordinary diligence, patience, and a readiness to learn and listen.”

Justice Ginsburg’s forecast was apt. Judge Katzmann was a ranking member of the federal judiciary throughout his tenure. His expertise in judicial-legislative relations made him a natural for early service on the Judicial Conference Committee on the Judicial Branch, which he later chaired, appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts. In addition, Judge Katzmann served on the Executive Committee of the Conference, an important leadership role, and as Chair of the Supreme Court Fellows Commission. In



Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of the United States, visited the Justice For All: Courts and the Community Learning Center. Pictured with Judge Katzmann and Judge Marrero. September 27, 2017.

2014, Judge Katzmann’s most recent book, *Judging Statutes*, was published to widespread acclaim. *Judging Statutes*, as described by Justice Ginsburg, “addresses a subject of vital importance to the judiciary and the public: when Congress enacts laws lacking clarity, as it often does, how should a judge determine what lawmakers meant?” Judge Katzmann defended the proposition that “a fair examination of legislative history,” in Justice Ginsburg’s words, helps judges in this task. One reviewer noted that “[w]hichever side of the purposive/textualist divide



# IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE HON. ROBERT A. KATZMANN - CONTINUED

one is on, Judge Katzmann performs a service by examining how legislative history is developed and why some types of it are more credible and helpful than others.”



Judge Katzmann spoke at the morning plenary session at the first National Conference on Civic Education and the Federal Courts at the Thurgood Marshall United States Courthouse in New York City, October 31, 2019. Photo credit: New York Law Journal

Judge Katzmann served as Chief Judge of the Second Circuit from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2020. He took senior status on January 21, 2021. During his tenure as Chief Judge, Judge Katzmann spearheaded the Second Circuit’s initiative, *Justice for All: Courts and the Community*, a civic education program involving all the Second Circuit’s courts and aimed at, in Judge Katzmann’s words, “increas[ing] public understanding of the role and operations of the courts.” Under Judge Katzmann’s leadership, students and their teachers trekked to courtrooms across the Circuit to learn more about the rule of law. They participated in moot courts, attended and participated in reenactments of important cases, did legal research, and visited the gleaming new Learning Center, inaugurated by Judge Katzmann, which is located on the fifth floor of the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, home of the Court of Appeals.

Judge Katzmann identified *Justice for All* as his most beloved and important project, vital to promoting basic literacy about our institutions: “Together, we

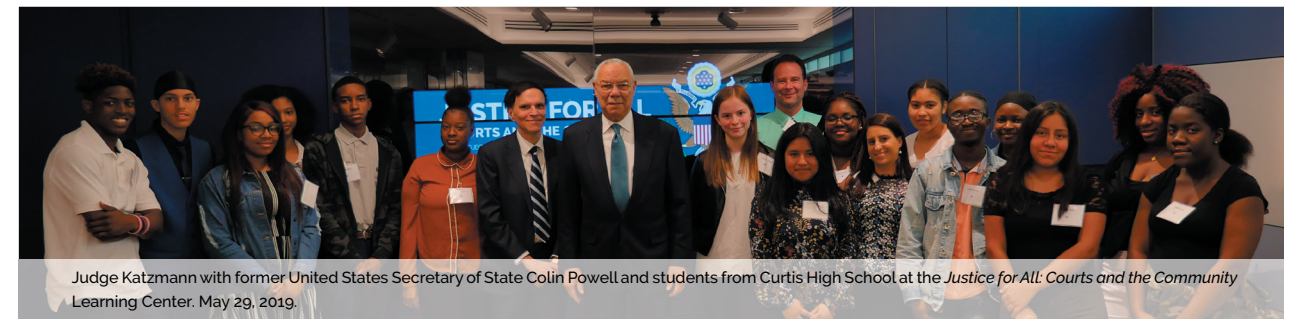
have a collective responsibility to promote civic education,” he said, “so that our Constitution and government remain vital for generations to come.” As his dear friend, Justice Sonia Sotomayor noted, in a tribute to him, “Bob has opened the doors to the courthouse to students, teachers, and the broader community with the goal of increasing public understanding of the courts and bringing the courts closer to the community.”

During his early years on the bench, Judge Katzmann witnessed firsthand the inadequate legal representation of non-citizens in immigration proceedings and the adverse impact of inadequate representation on the fair and effective administration of justice. In 2007, he delivered the Marden Lecture at the New York City Bar Association, “The Legal Profession and the Unmet



Judge Katzmann administered the oath of allegiance to new citizens on Ellis Island at the biggest off-site naturalization ceremony in history. September 16, 2016.

Needs of the Immigrant Poor,” drawing attention to the profound lack of quality legal representation for the immigrant poor. As he put it, some immigration attorneys “do not even meet with their clients to flush out all the relevant facts and supporting evidence, or prepare them for their hearings.” Taking money from those with meager resources, he



Judge Katzmann with former United States Secretary of State Colin Powell and students from Curtis High School at the *Justice for All: Courts and the Community* Learning Center. May 29, 2019.

said, such lawyers “undermine trust in the American legal system, with damaging consequences for the immigrants’ lives.” Judge Katzmann thereafter organized an interdisciplinary Study Group on Immigrant Representation in 2008 to address the challenges of inadequate counsel. The Study Group brought together key actors from advocacy groups, the private bar, and the government, including immigration judges, and its efforts led to the institution of the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project, which launched in 2013 to provide representation to non-citizens in New York who are detained, indigent, and facing deportation, and also to the creation, in 2014, of the non-profit Immigrant Justice Corps, a fellowship program for recent law school and college graduates directed at meeting the need for quality representation. The Study Group’s efforts and the Immigrant Justice Corps have led to much improvement in terms of access to justice in New York and across the nation for detained and other indigent immigrants.

During his judicial tenure, Judge Katzmann also served as an adjunct professor at New York University Law School, teaching a seminar on the administrative process and serving on the advisory body of the Law School’s Institute of Judicial Administration and as a faculty member of its New Appellate Judges Seminar. In 2012, Judge Katzmann received the Federal Bar Council’s Learned Hand Award for excellence in federal jurisprudence. He was also the recipient of the Edward Weinfeld Award of the New York County Lawyers Association, the Stanley H. Fuld Award of the New York State Bar Association,

the Green Bag award for legal writing, the Charles E. Merriam Award of the American Political Science Association, and the Thurgood Marshall Award of the American Bar Association. He was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and held several honorary degrees.

In addition to *Courts and Congress* and *Judging Statutes*, Judge Katzmann also authored *Regulatory Bureaucracy: The Federal Trade Commission and Antitrust Policy* and *Institutional Disability: The Saga of Transportation Policy for the Disabled*. He was co-editor of *Managing Appeals in Federal Court*; editor and contributing author of *The Law Firm and the Public Good*; and editor and contributing author of *Daniel Patrick Moynihan: The Intellectual in Public Life*.

Judge Katzmann is survived by his wife, Jennifer, a noted filmmaker and writer/editor. He is also survived by his brothers, Gary and Martin, by his sister, Susan, by in-laws Stacey and Neil, and by many nephews and nieces.



Judge Katzmann, Judge Marrero, and Phil Weinberg, Deputy Chief Academic Officer for Teaching and Learning at the New York City Department of Education, at the *Justice For All: Courts and the Community* Learning Center opening ceremony. December 10, 2018.

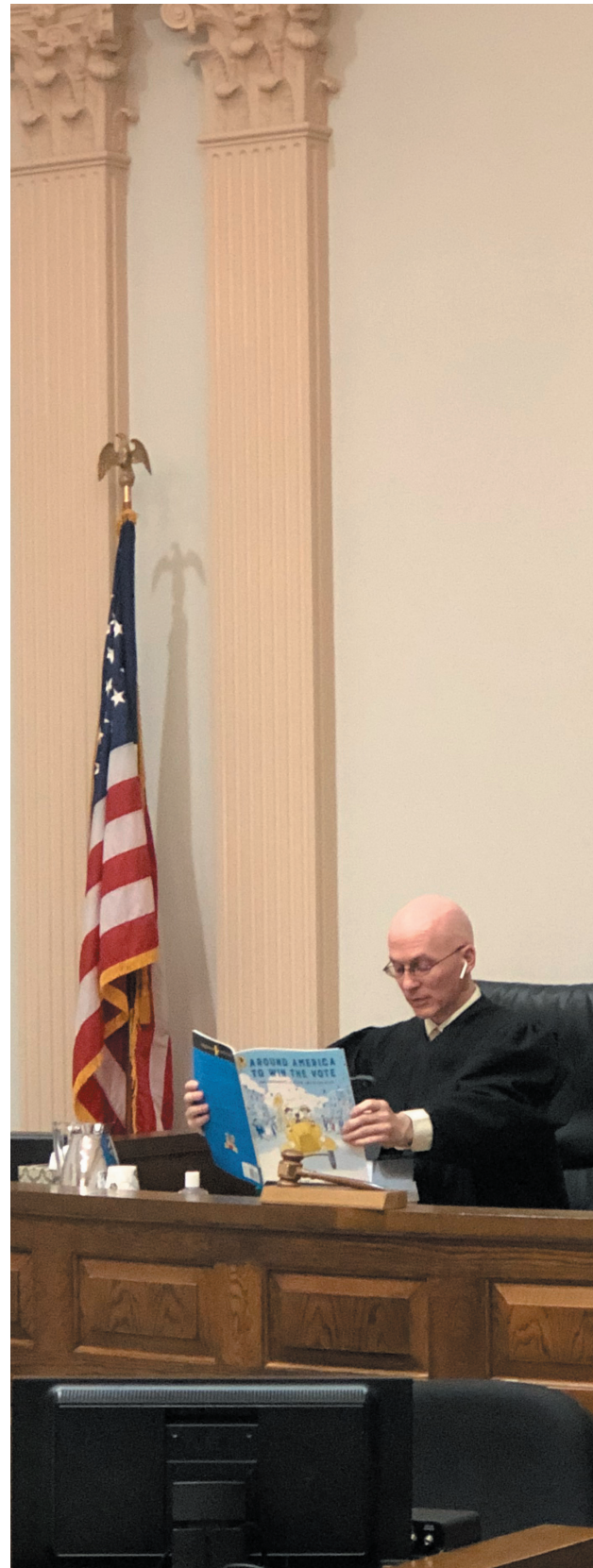


# DISTANCE LEARNING INITIATIVES

The *Justice for All: Courts and the Community* project is committed to adapting and expanding its civic education efforts during the COVID-19 crisis. Through the implementation of virtual library labs, virtual courthouse field trips, and distance learning initiatives, *Justice for All* was able to educate and connect with thousands of students throughout the Circuit over the past year. *Justice for All* also hosted virtual teacher professional development sessions, including a four-session series in the spring of 2021, and a four-day Teachers Institute in June 2021.



Above: Professor James Boyle and Professor Jennifer Jenkins from Duke University School of Law present "Law, Music, Justice and Creativity" to high school teachers participating in the virtual teacher professional development series. January 14, 2021. Right: Judge Robert M. Spector, United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Connecticut, read *Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists*, *a Kitten and 10,000 Miles* by Mara Rockliff and part of *Turning Pages: My Life Story* by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor to second grade students in Glastonbury Public Schools via Zoom, and participated in a Q&A session with the class of approximately 15 students. May 3, 2021.



## VIRTUAL LIBRARY LABS

With the use of technology, law librarians worked with students on information literacy skills by teaching students how to find reputable legal resources. Students voted on a topic to research, conducted legal research on the selected topic, and then participated in a structured debate about the topic.

## VIRTUAL COURTHOUSE VISITS

Although students were unable to visit the courthouses of the Second Circuit in person in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, *Justice for All* developed a virtual courthouse visit program, giving students an overview of the judiciary and our system of government, including information about the history of our courts, our judges, and our courthouses. 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 provided visiting students with an overarching view of the judiciary, including how it manages so many cases, buildings, courtrooms, and people.

## VIRTUAL CLASSROOM VISITS

Judges and volunteer attorneys conducted live programs on a range of topics, including the everyday impact of the rule of law, and the role of the independent judiciary.



Top: Judge Alvin W. Thompson, United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, read *Just Ask* and *Turning Pages: My Life Story*, both by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor to third grade students at Charles Wright Elementary School in Wethersfield in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. The Judge spoke about what judges do, weaving in information regarding Law Day, the 19th Amendment, and women's rights. May 3, 2021. Bottom: Judge Pamela Chen, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, hosted "Reading and Robes" at the United States Courthouse in Brooklyn for students from Success Academy Cobble Hill. The class virtually met Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Associate Justice for the United States Supreme Court, who read to them from her book, *Just Ask*, and spoke to them about being a Supreme Court Justice. The class also participated in a mock trial based on the story of Cinderella. September 25, 2020.





# PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

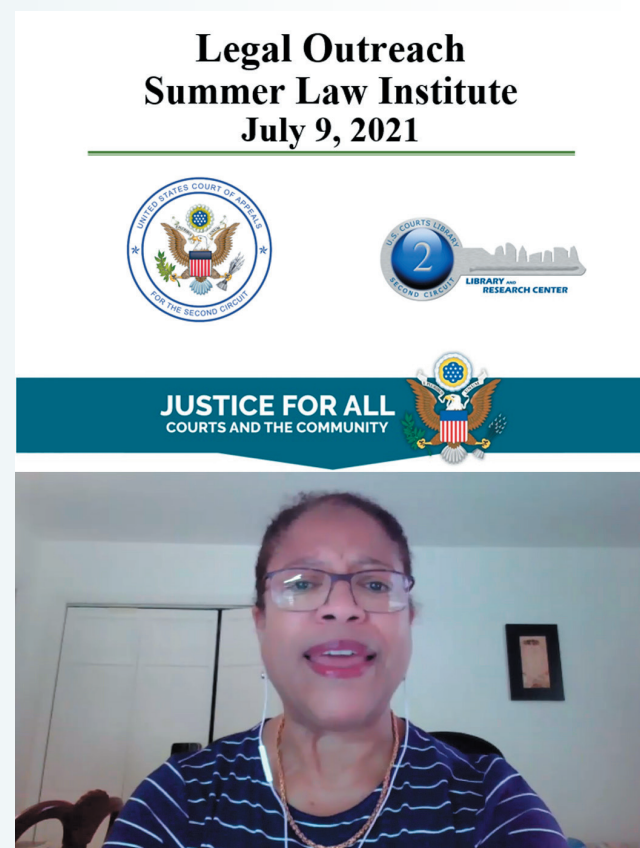
*Justice for All: Courts and the Community* partnered with local bar associations and community organizations to promote civic education programming for students across the Second Circuit. *Justice for All* is eager to continue to partner with community-based organizations to expand its reach and to bring the courts closer to the communities that the Second Circuit serves.

## LEGAL OUTREACH – SUMMER LAW INSTITUTE FIELD TRIP HOST

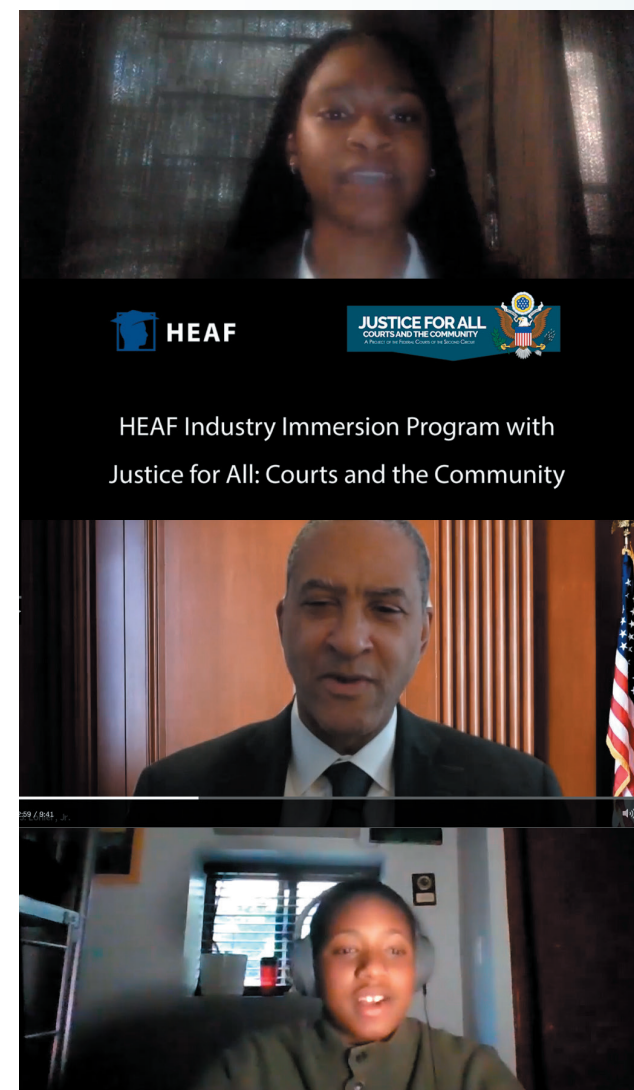
*Justice for All: Courts and the Community* hosted rising ninth graders participating in the Legal Outreach NYC Summer Law Institute for virtual field trips to the Thurgood Marshall United States Courthouse. The visits included an introduction to legal research, an interactive presentation about BIPOC federal judges, and a conversation with a federal judge.

## FEDERAL BAR COUNCIL - “A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ATTORNEY” CLASSROOM VISITS

*Justice for All: Courts and the Community* partnered with the Federal Bar Council for a “A Day in the Life of an Attorney” virtual classroom visits. Attorneys visited classrooms to discuss their career paths, law school experiences, day-to-day responsibilities, and most memorable cases.



Students participating in Legal Outreach's Summer Law Institute attended a virtual courthouse visit and met with now-Chief Judge Laura T. Swain, United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York. July 24, 2020.



Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF) Industry Immersion students Nyla Mackins (above) and Brian Callwood (below) interviewed Judge Raymond J. Lohier, Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, via Zoom, on May 13, 2021.

## HARLEM EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FUND (“HEAF”) – INDUSTRY IMMERSION PROGRAM PARTNER

HEAF’s mission is to “change[] the lives of young people beginning in middle school and continuing in college and beyond through a youth development approach that includes rigorous year-round academic enrichment, social and cultural exposure and constant individual attention.” *Justice for All: Courts and the Community* was a partner organization for HEAF’s Industry Immersion Program and met with a group of HEAF students monthly to provide learning experiences about careers in the judiciary. The students produced a recorded oral history interview of a circuit judge for their culminating project.

## EDNY FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION – BENCH IN YOUR BACKYARD VIDEO MODULES

*Justice for All: Courts and the Community* partnered with the EDNY Federal Bar Association and the Eastern District of New York to produce a series of virtual learning modules designed to engage students in learning about the federal courts from federal judges as well as other participants in the federal judiciary including attorneys, probation officers, and federal agents. These video modules can be accessed here: [https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/bench\\_in\\_your\\_backyard.html](https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/bench_in_your_backyard.html).

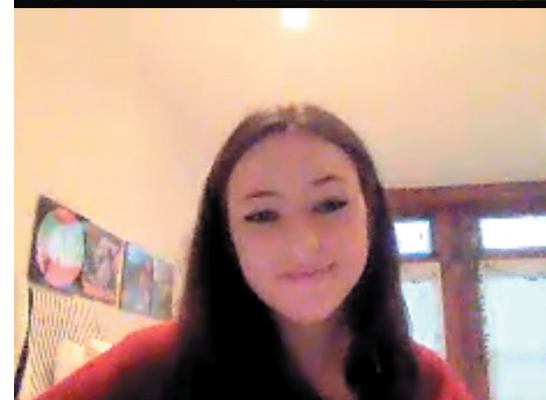


66 schools participated in the 2021 New York City Mock Trial Competition. In the New York City finals, Dalton High School was the first-place champion and High School of American Studies at Lehman College came in second place, with both schools advancing to compete at the New York State level. The High School of American Studies at Lehman College won the New York State Competition.

## MOOT COURTS & MOCK TRIALS

Throughout the Second Circuit, there have been longstanding moot court and mock trial competitions operated through bar associations and non-profit organizations.

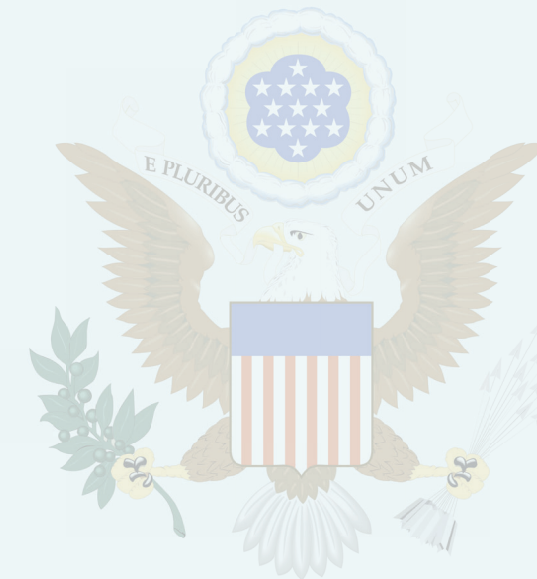
The New York State High School Mock Trial Program is a joint venture of the New York Bar Foundation, Justice Resource Center, and the Second Circuit. This year the mock trial and moot court competitions were held virtually. High school students have the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of civil/criminal law and courtroom procedures through these programs, and thousands of students participate each year. Objectives of the tournaments include: teaching students ethics, civility, and professionalism; furthering students' understanding of the law, court procedures, and the legal system; improving proficiency in communication skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and reasoning; promoting better communication and cooperation between the school community and members of the legal profession; and stimulating interest in law-related careers.



Judge Richard J. Sullivan, Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, presided over the virtual New York City Mock Trial Tournament. The trial included opening arguments, direct and cross examination of six witnesses, and closing arguments. May 11, 2021.



Ruth Bader Ginsburg by A.H., 11th Grade, Millennium High School, New York, NY.



## JUDICIARY AND THE ARTS

Judiciary and the Arts is a project with the Justice Resource Center and the New York City Department of Education Office of Arts and Special Projects. The Matisse Foundation has provided support to the Justice Resource Center for this project. The goals of the project are to introduce students to the organization and functions of the federal judiciary, and to encourage students to learn about the historic and present-day role of the federal courts in the development of the law in the United States through the visual arts.

This year, students prepared a visual representation of one of four subjects:

1. The life and pre-judicial career of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was born in Brooklyn and was the Supreme Court justice for the Second Circuit.
2. The life and career of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, for whom the Second Circuit Court of Appeals courthouse in Manhattan is named.
3. One of four famous trials for which the Reenactments Subcommittee has created reenactment scripts:
  - Meredith v. Fair;
  - Susan Russo v. Central School District No. 1;
  - The Heart Mountain Draft Resisters;
  - The Amistad.
4. A courthouse or courtroom of the future.



Painting A Brighter Future by C.K., 11th Grade, Millennium High School, New York, NY.



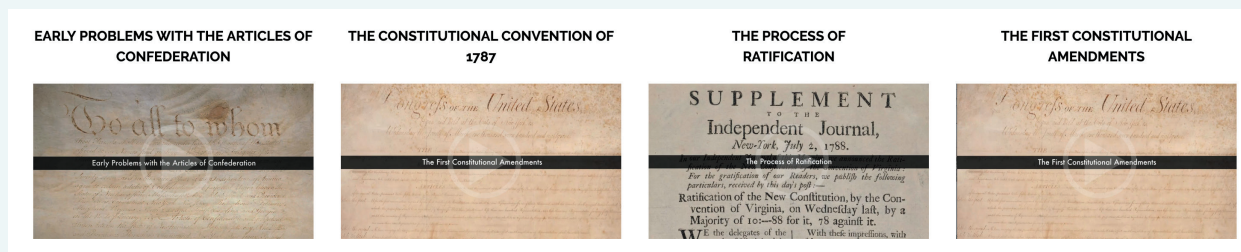
# CONSTITUTION AND CITIZENSHIP DAY



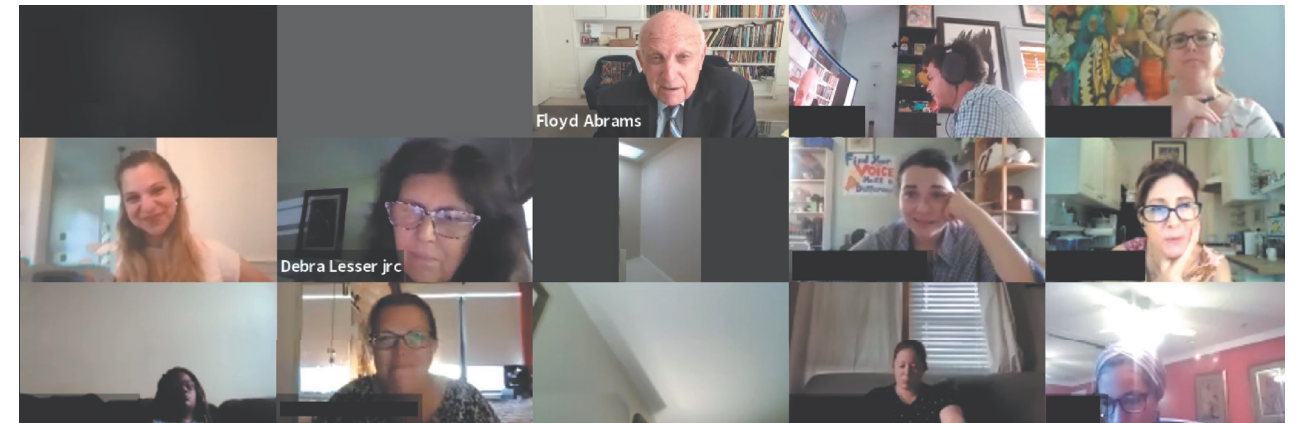
Judge Vera M. Scanlon, Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York, presides over a naturalization ceremony via Zoom. July 29, 2020.

Constitution 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. In lieu of in-person activities in courthouses, which were on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual materials were created, and made available on the *Justice for All* website, to support distance and classroom learning throughout the month of September. A video about the naturalization process and naturalization ceremonies across the Second Circuit, introduced by United States Magistrate Judge Vera M. Scanlon, is available here: [https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/constitution\\_and\\_citizenship\\_month\\_2020.html](https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/constitution_and_citizenship_month_2020.html).

A video series about the history of the United States Constitution is also available on the *Justice for All* website. In the videos, Professor Christopher Riano, Executive Director of the Civic Education Center and Lecturer in Constitutional Law and Government at Columbia University, describes early problems with the Articles of Confederation, the Constitutional Convention of 1787, the ratification process, and the first constitutional amendments.



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Middle and high school teachers in New York attended a four-day virtual summer Teachers Institute where they heard from several experts in the legal field, including First Amendment attorney Floyd Abrams. June 28, 2021.

*Justice for All* offered several teacher professional development opportunities this year as part of its ongoing commitment to providing teachers with resources and ideas to bring civic education into their classrooms.

*Justice for All* hosted a four-session virtual teacher professional development series throughout spring 2021 for middle and high school teachers around the Circuit. District and circuit judges, law professors, and attorneys presented on numerous topics, including copyright law, federal criminal sentencing, employment law, and federal jurisdiction.

## Teacher Professional Development

**Hosted 8 Teacher Professional Development Days for over 200 New York City public school teachers.**

(with the exception of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic), provides a comprehensive high school civic education program that can be brought into the classroom. This year's virtual Teachers Institute was based on "The Constitution Works: Denver Dispatch" civic education program. Featured speakers at the Institute included renowned First Amendment attorney Floyd Abrams and leading appellate advocate Kathleen Sullivan. The Institute concluded with a mock Supreme Court argument, argued by the teacher participants and judged by United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York John P. Cronan, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York Diane Gujarati, and United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York Lewis A. Liman.

The Institute included renowned First Amendment attorney Floyd Abrams and leading appellate advocate Kathleen Sullivan. The Institute concluded with a mock Supreme Court argument, argued by the teacher participants and judged by United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York John P. Cronan, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York Diane Gujarati, and United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York Lewis A. Liman.

United States District Judge Mary Kay Vyskocil and United States Magistrate Judge Sarah L. Cave coordinated a virtual four-day Teachers Institute for New York City and Syracuse teachers. The Teachers Institute, held annually since 2016





# LAW DAY 2021

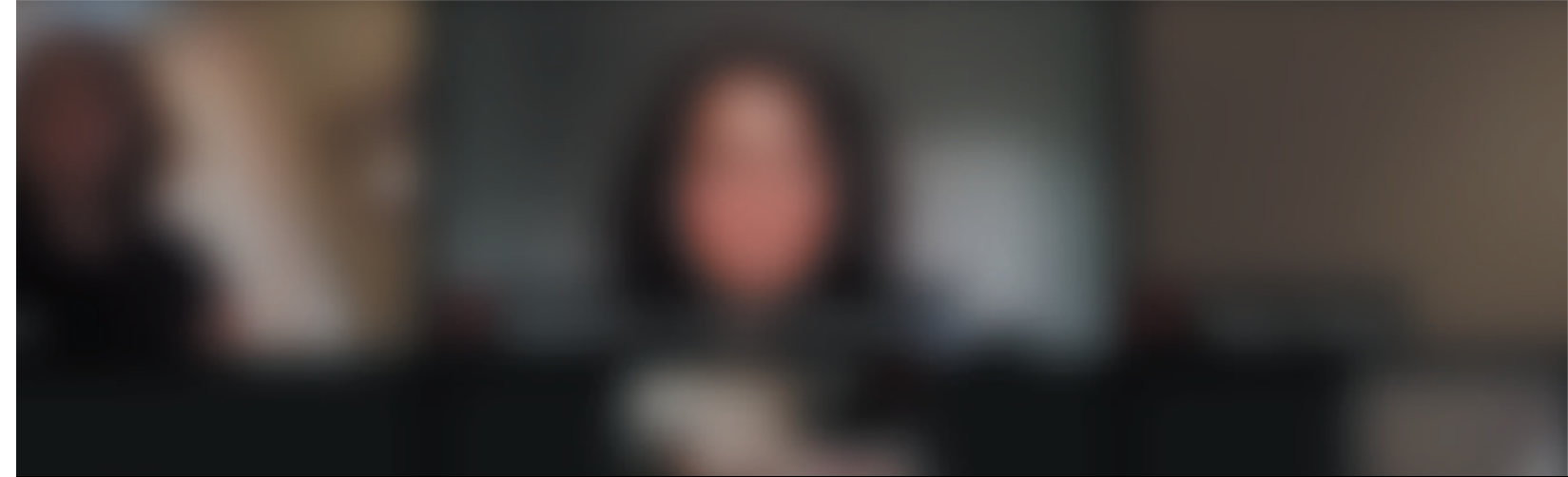
Law Day, celebrated annually on May 1, is a national day designated to celebrate the rule of law. Law Day provides an opportunity to understand how the law and the legal process protect our liberty, strive to achieve justice, and contribute to the freedoms that all Americans share. Each year, *Justice for All: Courts and the Community* sponsors Law Day programs and creates educational content for students and teachers aligned with the national Law Day theme. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Law Day 2021 activities were conducted virtually and adapted to the distance learning environment.

The 2021 Law Day theme was “Advancing the Rule of Law Now.” Several events were held virtually around the Second Circuit to celebrate the 2021 national Law Day theme:

In Connecticut, District Judge Michael P. Shea participated virtually in a Law Day program with tenth grade comparative government students at the CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies in Bloomfield. Judge Shea spoke about Law Day and different aspects of the rule of law, using materials prepared by the American Bar Association and *Justice for All: Courts and the Community*. Judge Shea participated in a Q&A session with the class of approximately 20 students.

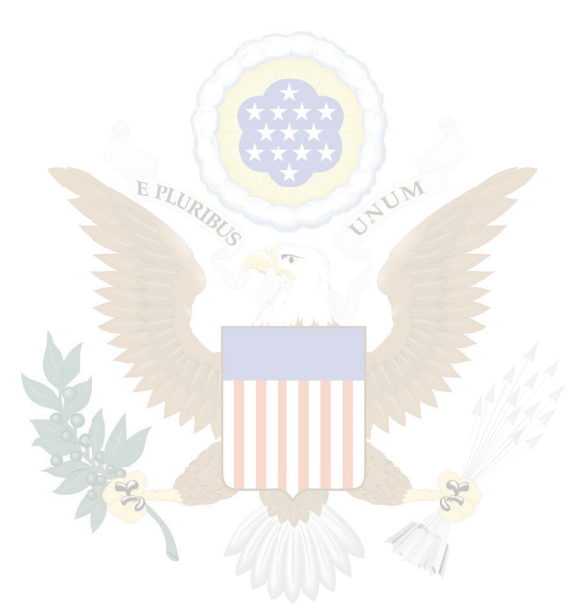
In New York, William Cullen Bryant High School, located in Queens, New York, hosted a special Law Day program featuring a virtual conversation with alumna Thursday Williams, who performed in the Broadway show, “What the Constitution Means to Me.” During high school, Ms. Williams extensively studied the rule of law through the Justice Resource Center curriculum, and as a participant in Legal Outreach and the Sonia and Celina Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program. Luke Young, Assistant Principal of William Cullen Bryant, said, “getting the chance to have a conversation with my former student, Thursday Williams, makes me truly see the impact that civics-related education has on our students. I know that she is going to have a profound, positive impact on world. She is putting all things we learned ‘in the classroom’ into action. As we continue our work with students, it’s important to foster these amazing partnerships and see that they flourish. This collaboration is producing a new generation of civic-minded young people who will lead us well into the mid-21st Century.”

Throughout the Second Circuit, teachers brought real-life civics into their virtual classrooms when federal judges and volunteer attorneys teamed up to discuss this year’s Law Day theme, “Advancing the Rule of Law Now.” Members of the Subcommittee on Civic Education and Speakers’ Bureau, together with the Second Circuit Library, developed online teaching materials and resources to support distance learning that were used during virtual school visits. These materials can be found here: [https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/law\\_day2021.html](https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/law_day2021.html).



Luke Young, Assistant Principal of William Cullen Bryant High School and alumna Thursday Williams discussed the rule of law and advice for high school students via Zoom. April 29, 2021.





## PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES

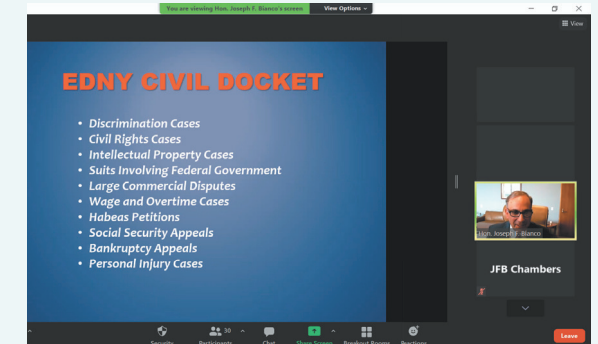
The U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office for the Southern District of New York is responsible for conducting pre-trial investigations of individuals charged with federal crimes and preparing pre-sentence reports of individuals convicted of federal crimes. They also supervise individuals sentenced to probation or those released under supervised release. The Office serves the following counties in New York State: Manhattan, Bronx, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, and Dutchess.

The S.D.N.Y Office produced an educational video series about the work of probation officers. *Justice for All* has posted these videos to the *Justice for All* website so that the public can learn about probation work by watching videos of probation officers describing what they do and role-playing common scenarios that arise in their work. The videos can be found here: [https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/probation\\_in\\_the\\_federal\\_courts.html](https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/probation_in_the_federal_courts.html).

## ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### VIEWS FROM THE BENCH: AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE FEDERAL COURTS

Second Circuit Judge Joseph F. Bianco discussed the selection process for federal judges, cases and issues litigated on Long Island, and the challenges facing our criminal justice system in this program that has been offered at public libraries in Nassau and Suffolk Counties since June 2018. During the COVID-19 pandemic, several public libraries virtually hosted the program on Zoom.



Judge Joseph F. Bianco, Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, presented "Views from the Bench: An Inside Look at the Federal Courts" to patrons of the Deer Park Public Library. July 9, 2021.



## FINANCIAL LITERACY

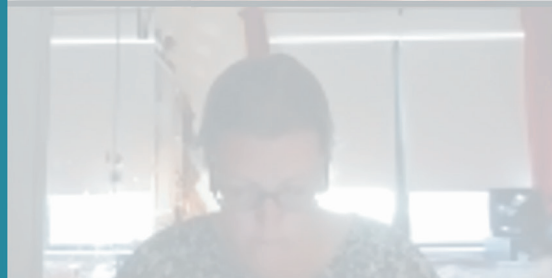
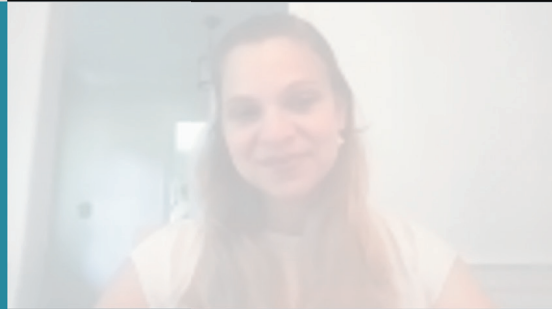
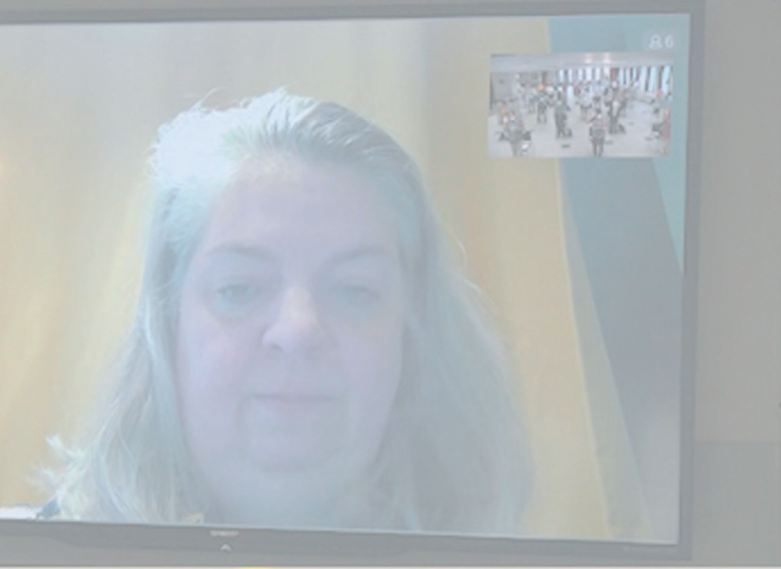
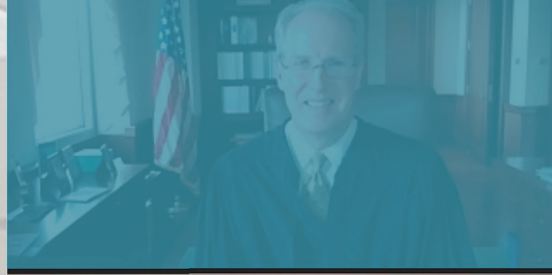
Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) was founded by now-retired Bankruptcy Judge John Ninfo of the Western District of New York. It is a national non-profit financial education outreach program with which *Justice for All* partners.

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. Attendees include:

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

Members of the Subcommittee on Adult Education Programs/CARE also offered financial literacy programs for people living in a Syracuse halfway house and as a component to the Northern District of New York's re-entry program. The program focused on budget, credit, and student loan obligations.





# JUSTICE FOR ALL: COURTS AND THE COMMUNITY

A PROJECT OF THE FEDERAL COURTS OF THE SECOND CIRCUIT

[HTTP://JUSTICEFORALL.CA2.USCOURTS.GOV](http://JUSTICEFORALL.CA2.USCOURTS.GOV)

