

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT • EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

is sponsoring a

2-day, Expense Paid, Continuing Education Course

in Spokane, Washington

October 29-30, 2015



Judicial Institute for High School and Middle School Teachers

The Court will hold its 7th annual Judicial Institute for High School and Middle School Teachers in October. The Institute is for high school and middle school teachers in counties* in the Eastern District of Washington who have not previously attended. The general theme of the course is the Constitution – how it works, how it has been interpreted, and how the Judiciary evolved to where it is today.

The interactive program will include –

- Attendance at actual hearings
- Discussion about judicial review, judicial philosophies, the Constitution and amendments to the Constitution
- Sentencing Scenarios – the teachers are asked to determine the appropriate sentence for fictitious defendants;

and information about:

- 12 Million Undocumented Aliens: How did we get where we are and where do we go from here?
- Civil Rights – Selma, 1965 and The Right to Vote and An Overview of Women’s Rights in America
- Federal Court Civil Motion: So Your Constitutional Rights Were Violated – Now What?
- Role of the Judiciary in “Interpreting” the Law; Significant Contributions the Judiciary has made to our Form of Government
- Panel Discussion and Q & A Session

Participants will hear from and interact with attorneys and judges from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States District Court.

Course participants will receive materials that can be used in classes and with colleagues.

* Counties in the Eastern District of Washington are: Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the attached application. Send it in early as enrollment is limited to twenty-five teachers from counties in the Eastern District of Washington and to teachers who have not previously attended.

Contact Leslie Downey at the U.S. District Court for further information:
Leslie_Downey@waed.uscourts.gov

Travel expenses (hotel, food, mileage) will be paid for teachers traveling to Spokane. There is no fee for the Institute; however, the Court does not cover the expense for substitute teachers.

Teacher evaluations from previous programs follow:

“It has opened my eyes to the impact the judicial system can and does have on our society. At the end of the program when the panel was sitting up there I was in absolute awe of the amount of power and knowledge before me. Being an athlete all my life I grew up idolizing celebrities and star athletes. However, being around and hearing all those people speak made me feel like a kid again getting to meet these wonderfully influential people. I have always been very interested in the law and thought of possibly becoming a lawyer while I was growing up, so this experience was invaluable to me. Now I can take this great wealth of information and knowledge from this program and apply it to my classroom and share it with my students.”

“The topics were fabulous. It was obvious that a lot of thought and deliberation went into them.”

“I can better field questions about the judicial branch and better explain its role in our democracy. . . . Without a doubt – the best teacher inservice I have ever attended. What a pleasure to visit with the judges and pick their brains about so many interesting issues our society faces.”

“. . . I will tell you that in 20 years of teaching and learning it is the single most significant conference I have ever attended. That is to say that the people working at that level in our government are the most talented, compassionate, and moral people I have ever met. It makes me proud to be a part of this system and has inspired me to be a better teacher and man - in an important way this conference has reaffirmed my faith in the country - I know the Constitution is in good hands and I intend to pass that on to my students and attempt to instill in them the beauty that is the Constitution, and that this challenge will become theirs. I hope too, that they will manage the nation in as humble and intelligent a manner as the men and women that I met last week. Thank you so much.”

“. . . this was the first time in my life that I have had actual firsthand contact with “my” federal government. Before the institute I would have said “the” federal government. I have been in 3 of our 4 administrators’ offices already extolling the institute and the great information that I

learned there. I pretty much have told anyone who would listen about the experience that I had at the institute. You people put a face on the judicial system and the federal government. It was very refreshing to see the compassion, thoughtfulness and passion with which everyone performed their duties.”

“I loved the fact that each presenter was open to the other judicial officials in the room to comment/interject. It brought such a sense of unity to the entire institute. Thank you so much for the opportunity!”

“The content of the material presented was appropriate to the academic rigor of my school and my knowledge base as a 15-year teacher...”

“Incredible – I learned more at this institute than any I have attended over the past 18 years of teaching. I am so excited to start putting all of the information together in to a teaching unit!”

“The content, topics, etc I would rate a 20 out of 10. Truly! Every topic was necessary, interesting, and I could see my students really getting involved in the information I will definitely present to them. The court system, court cases, civil rights, immigration, women’s movement, becca, truancy, emancipation, at-risk youth petition, child in need of services, etc. Are you kidding me? I’ve never been so enthusiastic or impressed by any other conference I’ve attended. EVER.”

“... The continual references back to the Constitution were very helpful.”

“... The caliber of people there was amazing!”

“I will be specifically using materials from several of the sessions in my own classroom presentations. . . Judicial Interpretation, Landmark Cases, Women’s Rights, Civil Rights, etc. Along with East Valley and Rogers my school, Gonzaga Prep, will be financing a trip to Spokane for Tom Roach to speak at our schools on the topic of immigration. Much of the information . . . will enhance my own teaching of the judiciary and the constitution . . . I will take advantage of other speakers that I made contact with through the Institute, as well as participate in bringing my students to the Federal Courts.”

“I already have used the information on the application of the Bill of Rights and our discussion of Griswold v. CT.”

“Because of the Institute, I will be looking at the school curriculum through the role of the judicial system. . . It caused me to think more about how and why our democracy works the way it does.”

“Thank you, thank you for your hard work! It was an incredible Institute. Please know that your efforts have touched hundreds of lives.”

Judicial Institute for High School and Middle School Teachers

sponsored by the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington

The United States District Court, Eastern District of Washington, is offering a 2-day course for high school and middle school teachers in counties* in the Eastern District of Washington. The Judicial Institute will be held in Spokane, Washington Thursday and Friday, October 29-30, 2015. Travel expenses (hotel, food, mileage) will be paid for teachers traveling to Spokane. There is no fee for the Institute; however, the Court does not cover the expense for substitute teachers.

The number of teachers who participate is limited to twenty-five in order to accommodate more interaction with the presenters. Accordingly, we will cut off enrollment when we have enough teachers. Please apply early and send your completed application to:

U.S. District Court
Attn: Leslie Downey
P.O. Box 1493
Spokane, WA 99210 or send by email to: Leslie_Downey@waed.uscourts.gov

APPLICATION

Name: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____ City: _____, WA Zip: _____

Phone Numbers: Work _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address: _____

Name of High School _____ School Dist./Employer: _____

School Address: _____ City: _____, WA Zip: _____

Washington Teaching License # _____

Current Teaching Assignment: _____

If selected, will you be able to secure the necessary release time from your teaching position to participate the full two days of the Institute? _____

- Please secure a statement of support from your immediate supervisor or other school administrator; and
- Provide a brief statement of intent – no more than 300 words – as to how you will use the Eastern District of Washington Judicial Institute experience in your teaching assignment and share your experience with teaching colleagues.
- The program is open to teachers who have not previously attended.

Thank you. If you have questions, please email: Leslie_Downey@waed.uscourts.gov or Jaime_White@waed.uscourts.gov

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