



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS ADVISORY:

**100th anniversary of Building Housing the Connecticut Supreme Court &
Connecticut State Library**

The Connecticut Judicial Branch and State Library on Tuesday, Nov. 30, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the building that houses the Connecticut Supreme Court and Connecticut State Library, located at 231 Capitol Ave. in Hartford.

To mark the occasion, oral arguments before the Supreme Court will be held at the Old State House, the Old Judiciary Room in the State Capitol, and the Supreme Court courtroom – the three places where the Court has heard cases in Hartford. Local students will attend the arguments, which will be broadcast on the Connecticut Network (CT-N) later that day.

“This is a very important occasion for the Supreme Court, the State Library and the people of the state – to whom this beautiful building belongs,” Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers said. “I hope that the public takes this opportunity to attend one of our arguments and learn about the Supreme Court.”

“I want to thank Associate Justice Peter T. Zarella, Justice C. Ian McLachlan and State Librarian Kendall Wiggin for their work on the event, and also the Supreme Court Historical Society, the Old State House, and the legislative leadership of the General Assembly for their support,” the Chief Justice added.

State Librarian Wiggin said the opening of the building “marked a new era in the development of the state library.”

“This state of the art structure provided the proper storage, study and work areas for George S. Goddard, Connecticut’s third state librarian, to amass the collections that today form the core of the

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library, archives and museum,” he added.

“The Supreme Court Historical Society congratulates the Supreme Court on the 100th anniversary of the beautiful building it has been housed in,” said Attorney Wesley Horton, president of the historical society. “Much important history has been made in this building. May it continue for another 100 years!”

Special displays commemorating the Supreme Court’s history have been placed in all three locations. A schedule for the day is attached and includes brief descriptions of the cases to be heard by the Supreme Court. The first argument will occur at the Old State House, which served as the State Capitol from 1796 to 1873. The Connecticut General Assembly currently operates the Old State House.

“Connecticut’s Old State House is pleased to welcome the Connecticut Supreme Court back to its original Courtroom in the building,” Sally Whipple, director of education and community programming at the Old State House, said. “The Court’s return is a powerful reminder to all of us that our system of justice and democracy today is built upon the lessons and the precedents of the past.”

The Supreme Court has heard arguments in the Old State House in each of the past four centuries.

CT-N will serve as pool camera for all three cases. For further information regarding the pool, please contact Joe Patriss at (860)240-8317 by noon on Monday, Nov. 29. In addition, one still camera is allowed, also in compliance with the rules governing cameras in the Supreme Court and the court’s protocol, which is available on the Judicial Branch’s web site, at http://www.jud.ct.gov/external/supapp/protocol_sup_oral_argu.htm.

People attending the arguments will need to go through a metal detector. Weapons, bladed or pointed items, or food and beverages will not be allowed. To facilitate the screening process, it is recommended that guests not bring in briefcases, backpacks or bags.

For further information, please contact the External Affairs Division at 860-757-2270.

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