



CONNECTING JUDGES AND CLASSROOMS

Since 1996, the Judges in the Classroom program has made judges available to educate and empower students in K-12 classrooms. The program, along with the companion program, Street Law, was awarded the Colleen Willoughby Youth Civic Education Award by Seattle CityClub in 2014. Former Program Director Margaret Fisher was awarded the 2013 Sandra Day O'Connor Award for the Advancement of Civics Education.

ABOUT JUDGES IN THE CLASSROOM

The Judges in the Classroom program, coordinated by the Administrative Office of the Courts, allows K-12 teachers to request that a judge visit their classrooms. Judges present age-appropriate lessons featuring Washington state law and practice.

The interactive lessons provide students with a unique opportunity to learn about the legal and judicial systems as well as the basic concept of fairness.

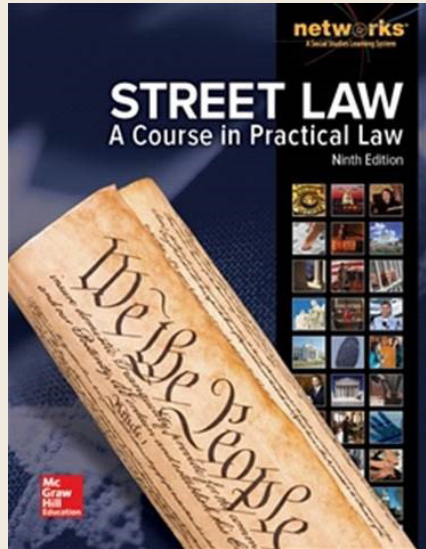
The Judges in the Classroom curriculum leads to active discussions, courtroom simulations and role-playing. Students use critical-thinking and reasoning to observe and analyze situations. Lesson plans and supporting materials are free for both teachers and judges and are easily accessible online for download.



Visit www.courts.wa.gov/education to find out more about the Judges in the Classroom program and to request a judge for your classroom.

ABOUT STREET LAW

The Street Law program is geared for high school classrooms, where a judicial officer commits to teach the curriculum once per week. A one-day training in the summer prepares the judicial officer/teacher partners on how to implement the program. Each team is provided with a classroom set of the national textbook, *Street Law: A Course in Practical Law*. The Washington Judges Foundation and the U.S. District Court for Eastern Washington support this effort. There are more than 30 pairings active around the state.



SAMPLE LESSONS

Creating a Bill of Rights in Space Younger students find themselves in outer space with the task of identifying what rights they need.

Herschel C. Lyon Mock Trial

A sea lion is charged with the murder of a steelhead trout at the Ballard Locks. This trial exposes students to conflicting perspectives of environmentalists, Native Americans, sports fishers, and marine biologists.

Claim Your Jurisdiction

After mastering which federal and state courts can hear which cases, students play a game in which they are assigned in groups to a particular court and asked to “Claim” or “Not Claim” specific cases they are presented with.

Landlord/Tenant

Students begin with an opinion poll in which they agree or disagree about the legality of various actions taken by tenants or landlords. In the debriefing, they learn the landlord tenant law of Washington.

“The opportunity to participate in a local high school classroom turned out to be the highlight of my career.”

JUDGE SUE DUBUISSON (RET.), THURSTON COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

