



This year, the Institute for Justice marks its 30th anniversary litigating to limit the size and scope of government power and to ensure that all Americans have the right to control their own destinies as free and responsible members of society. IJ has litigated more than 300 cases, including 10 before the U.S. Supreme Court. Here is an overview of what we've achieved thanks to your support.

	1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 3, 1991 IJ opens with Chip Mellor, Clint Bolick, Scott Bullock and two other staff members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 1, 1991 IJ files first lawsuit, <i>Uqdah v. Board of Cosmetology</i>, challenging D.C.'s oppressive cosmetology regime. 	1991	
	1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 16, 1992 IJ hosts first annual Law Student Conference.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 2, 1994 IJ breaks open Denver's taxi monopoly; Freedom Cabs still serve the city. 	1994	
	1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 30, 1996 IJ publishes first "city study" examining over-regulation of New York City businesses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 3, 1997 Syndicated columnist George F. Will first refers to IJ as "a merry band of libertarian litigators." 	1997	
	1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 10, 1998 Wisconsin Supreme Court upholds Milwaukee's school choice program in IJ-litigated case.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 11, 1998 IJ Clinic on Entrepreneurship opens at the University of Chicago Law School. 	1998	
	1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 21, 1999 IJ represents online publishers; victory extends First Amendment protections to the internet.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 27, 2002 IJ earns landmark <i>Zelman</i> Supreme Court victory; Cleveland's school choice program is constitutional. 	2002	
	2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 6, 2002 IJ economic liberty victory in <i>Craigsmiles</i> breaks up Tennessee's casket-selling cartel; first federal appellate decision since the New Deal striking down an occupational licensing law under the 14th Amendment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 23, 2003 IJ releases <i>Public Power, Private Gain</i>, which documents nationwide abuse of eminent domain; Mike Wallace features the report on 60 Minutes. 	2003	
	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 16, 2005 IJ's <i>Swedenburg</i> U.S. Supreme Court victory strikes down laws forbidding direct interstate shipping of wine to consumers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 23, 2005 U.S. Supreme Court issues infamous <i>Kelo</i> ruling, gutting private property protections. Within one week, IJ launches "Hands Off My Home" Campaign to protect private property. 	2005	
	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 7, 2006 IJ launches Strategic Research department to enhance IJ litigation with impeccable research—a first of its kind in public interest law.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 24, 2011 IJ launches the Center for Judicial Engagement, urging courts to strike down laws that exceed government's limited powers. 	2011	
	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 27, 2011 U.S. Supreme Court declares matching funds provision of Arizona's "Clean Elections" Act unconstitutional and cites IJ strategic research showing how matching funds chilled political speech.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 1, 2011 IJ wins <i>Flynn v. Holder</i> in the 9th Circuit; compensation for most bone marrow donors allowed. 	2011	
	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 24, 2013 IJ protects the Motel Caswell from local and federal government efforts to take it through civil forfeiture.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 20, 2013 IJ scores a victory for the monks of Saint Joseph Abbey; Louisiana had barred them from selling their caskets to compete with funeral homes. 	2013	
	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 26, 2013 IJ wins <i>Meredith v. Daniels</i> when the Indiana Supreme Court upholds the Choice Scholarship Program as constitutional.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 20, 2015 IJ takes on structuring laws through which the government can take the entire bank accounts of innocent people; feds return everything they seized from IJ client. 	2015	
	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 26, 2015 In the landmark <i>Patel</i> ruling, the Texas Supreme Court strikes down arbitrary and excessive government-imposed requirements on eyebrow threaders represented by IJ.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 30, 2015 In a major First Amendment victory for IJ, a federal court rules Kentucky's Board of Examiners of Psychology can't censor a nationally syndicated newspaper columnist. 	2015	
	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 1, 2016 After 25 years as IJ's one and only president, Chip Mellor is elevated to IJ Board Chairman, succeeding Dave Kennedy, who had held that post since IJ's founding. IJ's very first employee—IJ Senior Attorney Scott Bullock—takes over as IJ's new President & General Counsel.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 19, 2018 The movie <i>Little Pink House</i>—based on IJ's fight to save Susette Kelo's home—hits the big screen. 	2018	
	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 27, 2018 IJ victory clears the way for Wisconsin home bakers to sell their goods to consumers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 18, 2018 IJ dismantles Philadelphia's forfeiture machine; ensures due process and establishes \$3 million compensation fund for victims of city's forfeiture practices. 	2018	
	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 20, 2019 IJ earns landmark unanimous U.S. Supreme Court victory in <i>Timbs</i>; Court rules states cannot impose excessive fines.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 2020 IJ launches our Project on Immunity and Accountability to tackle qualified immunity and other unfounded doctrines that make it very difficult to hold government officers and agents accountable, even when they egregiously violate the Constitution. 	2020	
	2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 25, 2020 In midst of the pandemic, IJ Clinic on Entrepreneurship creates free website to help entrepreneurial businesses with consumers and provides important legal information for small businesses operating during the crisis.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 30, 2020 IJ earns landmark <i>Espinoza</i> U.S. Supreme Court victory, which allows parents to elect religiously affiliated schools and effectively strikes down the bigoted Blaine Amendments in state constitutions. 	2020	
	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> July 2, 2021 U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear IJ's Maine school choice case, which will be argued in the coming term.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 2, 2021 For the 20th year in a row, IJ earns Charity Navigator's top 4-star rating, which puts the Institute for Justice in the highest 1% of the more than 9,000 nonprofits ranked each year by Charity Navigator. 	2021	
	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 3, 2021 The Institute for Justice marks its 30th anniversary with a staff of 139, a budget of nearly \$33 million, offices in Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, Texas, Arizona and Washington state, and a clear mission-driven vision for its future to limit the size and scope of government power.